Resolution supporting Clean Energy Choice for Wisconsin.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse has set sustainability goals for the City through planning, operations and policymaking and has implemented many projects, initiatives and policies that save energy, reduce waste and conserve natural resources while supporting a healthy economy; and

WHEREAS, recent initiatives include annually monitoring City energy use, accomplishing Silver status recognition in the State Electronics Challenge, continually upgrading building and wastewater/water systems with more energy efficient options, converting gasoline vehicles to propane; and

WHEREAS, Clean Energy Choice will expand market opportunities for the City of La Crosse and Wisconsin companies and their employees who are part of the state's vast renewable energy supply chain by integrating locally available renewable energy into our economy and by engaging local manufacturers, distributors and installs, farmers, builders, entrepreneurs, and related professional workers; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse urges the State of Wisconsin to adopt a policy expressly allowing customers to enter into contracts with third parties who install, own, and operate a renewable energy system at the customer's premises by supporting Clean Energy Choice, which will help households and businesses overcome the diminishing supply of renewable energy incentive dollars available from Wisconsin's Focus on Energy program and utilities at no extra cost to ratepayers and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, current ambiguities in state law make it difficult for customers to access directly clean renewable energy produced on their premises from systems owned by third parties, and more than 20 states have adopted policies expressly authorizing these types of arrangements with third parties; and

WHEREAS, the businesses, residents and schools in the City of La Crosse desire to exercise responsibility over their long-term energy choices and integrate clean energy into their daily lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of La Crosse Common Council joins the other Wisconsin citizens, businesses, and local governments to endorse Clean Energy Choice as a policy for Wisconsin residents and that the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the City's state legislative delegation.