

RESOLUTION NO. 28

SERIES 2017

A RESOLUTION SETTING A GOAL TO REACH 100 PERCENT RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES COMMUNITY-WIDE BY 2035

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge wishes to promote the public health and safety of its residents and visitors, including access to clean air, clean water, and a livable environment; and

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change and the recognition that human activity, especially the combustion of fossil fuels that create greenhouse gases, is an important driver of climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change is locally expected to shorten our ski season, make our forests more prone to drought and wildfire, reduce snowpacks and water supplies, and present a variety of other threats on a global scale that could harm our economy, safety, public health, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge remains committed to its adopted goals to reduce energy consumption and increase renewable energy sources as outlined in the SustainableBreck Plan; and

WHEREAS, the transition to a low-carbon community reliant on the efficient use of renewable energy resources will provide a range of benefits including improved air quality, enhanced public health, increased national and energy security, local green jobs, and reduced reliance on finite resources; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge is committed to helping facilitate this transition alongside other national and international communities that have prioritized addressing climate change by investing in clean energy to enhance the well-being of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge's current stable economy is based on it being a highly-visited destination and we have an opportunity to broadly influence dialogue on climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge has already taken a variety of important actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to renewable energy sources in our community, including installing some 1,500 kw of solar gardens and solar arrays on Town property, undertaking numerous energy efficiency upgrades in municipal facilities, and implementing several programs designed to increase energy efficiency in Town residences and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge desires to work in partnership with its utility provider Xcel Energy to move towards 100 percent renewable energy sources in the future; and

WHEREAS, although it is the Town's desire to reach 100 % renewable electric energy by 2035, it is recognized that there may be obstacles that prevent the Town from reaching the full 100 % goal. If the efforts of Xcel Energy and the Town fall short of the 100 % target, nothing in this resolution suggests any penalty for not meeting the goal—and it should not be considered a failure, but merely a setback that delays the time when the Town ultimately reaches the goal, in a fiscally responsible manner for our citizenry; and

WHEREAS, "renewable energy" includes energy derived from wind, solar, geothermal, and other non-polluting sources that is not derived from fossil or nuclear fuel and does not adversely impact communities or the environment; and

WHEREAS, the public will continue to be provided opportunities and encouraged to participate in the process for planning and implementation of renewable energy initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO, as follows:

Section 1. The Town of Breckenridge establishes a goal to achieve 100 percent renewable electricity community-wide by the year 2035, and is committed to working in partnership with Xcel Energy towards this goal.

Section 2. On an annual basis, the Town Council will review progress towards the community-wide 100 percent renewable goals and other relevant information (e.g., utility rates). Should the Town Council determine that customer utility costs have or are projected to increase at an unacceptable rate because of a transition to renewable energy, the Town Council may repeal this resolution or modify the goal set in Section 1 (e.g., 100 % renewable energy community-wide by 2035).

Section 3. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

RESOLUTION APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of November, 2017.

TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE

By: _____/s/_____
Eric S. Mamula, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____/s/_____
Helen Cospolich, CMC,
Town Clerk

APPROVED IN FORM

_____/s/_____
Town Attorney Date