

Resolution 7.05 - Resolution on Renewable Energy

WHEREAS the United States enters the 21st Century continuing its excessive and politically precarious dependence on fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS this dependence on fossil fuels exacerbates global warming and myriad forms of air pollution; and

WHEREAS advances in technology are making more viable and rational the use of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, geothermal and biomass; and

WHEREAS more than twenty states have enacted policies that require that a gradually increasing percentage of the state's electricity come from renewable sources;

1) THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso urge the Federal Government to:

- a. implement a Renewable Energy Standard to require that at least 40% of electricity come from renewable sources by 2025, including 20% from wind, 15% from solar, and 5% from geothermal; and
- b. establish a federal procurement policy to create a vigorous market for and drive down the costs of solar equipment and other renewable energy technologies; and
- c. institute standards for the incorporation of renewable energy technologies in all new federal buildings and major renovations; and
- d. extend and expand production-tax incentives and investment tax credits for wind power, solar power, geothermal power, and other existing and prospective renewable energy sources until the reductions in CO2 emissions are reached; and
- e. establish a viable scheme of feed-in tariffs as effective instruments to promote the generation of renewable electricity; and
- f. create federal incentives for liquid fuels from biomass so that by 2015 a robust domestic industry will have been created that does not depend upon corn and other grains for feedstocks; and
- g. That measures be taken by the regulatory community to mitigate adverse impacts to the Latino community in terms of potential higher energy costs, access to reliable power, and issues related to the location of new facilities as well as job impacts from the retirement of old

facilities.

2. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso urge State Governments to:

- a. continue to lead the nation in their commitment to instituting policies that promote increased utilization of renewable energy sources; and
- b. require that at least 40% of electricity come from renewable sources by 2025, including 20% from wind, 15% from solar, and 5% from geothermal; and
- c. commit to a state-wide procurement policy by 2015 that allows for an increasing percentage of the purchase of products and services that utilize renewable energy sources; and
- d. create and promote renewable energy policies that establish standards for new buildings and major renovations, and incentives for utility companies that promote the utilization of renewable energy sources; and

3. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso urge City Governments to:

- a. mandate the reduction of CO2 emissions by 20% through the use of renewable energy sources by no later than 2020 and establish comprehensive plans to achieve that goal; and
- b. commit to a city-wide procurement policy by 2015 that allows for an increasing percentage of the purchase of products and services that utilize renewable energy sources; and
- c. establish standards for the incorporation of renewable energy technologies in all new public-sector buildings and major renovations.