

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2015-56**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Councilor Patti Bushee Mayor Javier Gonzales
6 Councilor Peter N. Ives Councilor Signe Lindell
7 Councilor Joseph Maestas
8

9
10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **DIRECTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES STAFF TO IDENTIFY HOW THE CITY OF**
12 **SANTA FE MAY DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, OWN, AND OPERATE A COMMUNITY**
13 **SOLAR PROGRAM FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF SANTA FE.**
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Community Solar, also known as Community Shared Solar, is defined as a
16 solar-electric system that provides power and/or financial benefit to community members,
17 administered through a program that provides for either the ownership or lease of a portion of the
18 solar panels that comprise the solar-electric system; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Community Solar programs are voluntary, opt-in membership programs that
20 provide members with the benefits associated with solar power; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Community Solar programs expand access to solar power for renters, those
22 with shaded roofs, and those who choose not to install a residential system on their home for financial
23 or other reasons; and

24 **WHEREAS**, as a group, ratepayers and tax payers fund solar incentive programs, and, as a
25 matter of equity, solar energy programs should be designed in a manner that allows all contributors to

1 access the benefits of solar power; and

2 **WHEREAS**, according to the 2014 *Affordable Housing in Santa Fe* report, 4 out of 10 Santa
3 Fe residents rent their homes; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution 2013-14, the
5 Governing Body directed staff to work with the Public Service Company of New Mexico and the
6 New Mexico Public Regulation Commission to implement a Community Solar program for Santa Fe;
7 and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution 2013-19, declared its
9 support of state Senate Bill 394 that amended a section of New Mexico's Public Utility Act to provide
10 for Community Solar facilities to qualify as distributed generation facilities; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution 2015-12, the
12 Governing Body declared its support of state House Bill 111 providing for shared renewable energy
13 facilities to qualify as distributed generation facilities and requiring investor-owned utilities to allow
14 construction, connection and operation of renewable energy facilities within their operating
15 territories; and

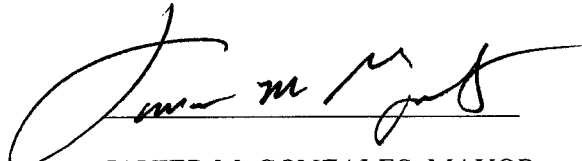
16 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, through the adoption of Resolution 2014-85, the
17 Governing Body declared its intention of having 50 percent of its energy come from renewable
18 sources by 2025 and becoming carbon neutral by the year 2040; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body desires to provide equal access to renewable energy
20 technologies to all members of the community; regardless of income.

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
22 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Public Utilities staff is directed to research and identify how the City
23 of Santa Fe may develop, implement, own and operate a Community Solar program for the benefit of
24 the citizens of Santa Fe.

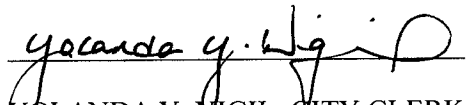
25 **PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 10th day of June, 2015.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25



JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

ATTEST:



YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



KELLEY BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY