

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

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2009-100**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Councilor Calvert

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10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **RECOGNIZING THE URGENCY OF STABILIZING THE CLIMATE AS WELL AS**
12 **THE ROLE THAT THE CITY OF SANTA FE CAN PLAY IN SUCH AN ENDEAVOR;**
13 **AND IN SUPPORT OF U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT.**

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has found that "warming
16 of the climate system is unequivocal," and that "most of the observed increase in global average
17 temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in
18 anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations"; and

19 **WHEREAS**, New Mexico has experienced an average of 30% more warming compared
20 to the U.S. as a whole, according to "Hotter and Drier: The West's Changed Climate", Rocky
21 Mountain Climate Organization & Natural Resources Defense Council, March 2008; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in the next 50-100 years, New Mexico is projected to experience 6-12
23 degrees increased average temperatures, more extreme heat waves, more flooding, and water
24 shortages, according to "Potential Effects of Climate Change on New Mexico", State of New
25 Mexico, (http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/cc/potential_effects_climate_change_nm.pdf); and

1 **WHEREAS**, the costs of inaction on climate change are significant and are expected to
2 reach \$3,430 per year by 2020 (per household) representing approximately 8% of New Mexico’s
3 median household income, according to “An Overview of Potential Economic Costs to New
4 Mexico of a Business-as-Usual Approach to Climate Change”, The Program on Climate
5 Economics-University of Oregon, February 2009; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the impacts of climate change will most adversely affect low-income
7 communities that are least able to cope with the effects of a hotter and drier climate, according to
8 "Climate Change and Global Justice: Lessons from the Theory of Public Finance", Joseph
9 Stiglitz, speech at the International Economics Association Congress, June 29, 2008; and

10 **WHEREAS**, New Mexico possesses the resources to lead the country’s transition to a
11 low-carbon economy and can experience greater employment for New Mexicans in a low-carbon
12 economy, according to “The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy”, Political
13 Economy Research Institute-University of Massachusetts, Amherst & Center for American
14 Progress, June 2009.

15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
16 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that:

17 1. The City of Santa Fe recognizes the urgency of stabilizing the climate, believes
18 that the City of Santa Fe has a part to play in this endeavor.

19 2. The City Santa Fe encourages the U.S. Senate, and New Mexico’s Senators in
20 particular, to pass federal legislation that protects the climate and advances clean energy solutions
21 before the next round of international climate negotiations in December 2009. Legislation should
22 meet the following standards in order to maximize the environmental and economic benefits to
23 New Mexicans:

24 a. *Set Science-Based Targets & Timetables.* The emissions reduction
25 targets and timetables of any economy-wide global warming legislation must meet

1 scientific demands for effectively curbing global warming to prevent its most dangerous
2 impacts – viz., worsening drought, increased wildfires, rising temperatures, and the
3 spread of disease. For the United States, this will require reducing total greenhouse gas
4 emissions by at least 25% by 2020 from 1990 levels and at least 80% by 2050 from 1990
5 levels. The U.S. should establish a firm and enforceable declining cap consistent with
6 meeting these targets.

7 b. *Auction Emissions Permits.* In a cap-and-auction system, all emissions
8 permits should be auctioned or directed toward public purposes, rather than given away
9 for free. The proceeds of auctions are a public resource and should be spent to achieve
10 the highest public good, not generate windfall profits or other benefits for politically
11 powerful energy companies. The term “cap-and-auction” emphasizes the importance of
12 auctioning emission permits for public purposes.

13 c. *Pursue the Cheapest, Cleanest, Fastest, and Safest Solutions First.* The
14 revenue generated from auctioning emissions permits should be invested in the highest-
15 value solutions for emissions reductions first. Improving the energy efficiency of new
16 homes and commercial buildings should be complemented with raising the efficiency of
17 the existing building stock. Other measures include establishing a national Energy
18 Efficiency Resource Standard and directing the value of free allowances to electric and
19 natural gas utilities towards energy conservation and efficiency. The deployment of
20 clean, renewable energy sources – (e.g., solar, wind, and geothermal – should be hastened
21 through a bold, national Renewable Electricity Standard and market stabilization
22 measures (e.g., long-term tax incentives and financing assistance).

23 d. *Establish Mechanisms to Support Workers, Protect Vulnerable Groups,*
24 *and Induce World Action.* Auction revenue should be distributed to create new clean
25 energy jobs, revitalize and retain jobs in existing industries, and ensure fair treatment for

1 affected workers and their communities. Auction revenue should go to assist low- and
2 moderate-income households with rising energy costs and other economic impacts, and
3 provide adaptation assistance to communities in the U.S. and vulnerable nations around
4 the world. The U.S. should enact policies and provide incentives that encourage other
5 countries to limit greenhouse gas emissions, including providing auction revenue to
6 promote international technology transfer. Also, to prevent driving the U.S.'s energy
7 intensive industry out of the country, climate border adjustment mechanisms should
8 ensure that imported products reflect the same environmental costs as products produced
9 under domestic climate policy. This would reduce the economic incentive for companies
10 to move and increase the incentive for companies to start reducing emissions wherever
11 they are in the world

12 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe
13 County are urged to adopt a similar resolution.

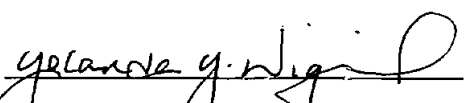
14 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Clerk is directed to forward this resolution
15 to Santa Fe's Congressional Delegation.

16 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 28th day of October, 2009.

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20 DAVID COSS, MAYOR

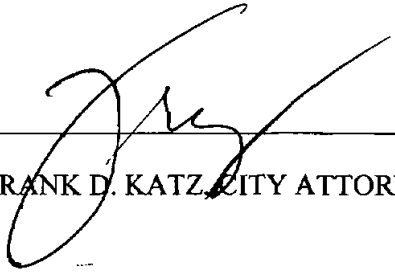
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22 ATTEST:

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25 YOLANDA Y. WIGIL, CITY CLERK

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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4 FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 Jp/ca/jpmb/2009 res/federal energy legislation