



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Intergovernmental Relations

Date: January 23, 2014

To: Chair Elizabeth Glidden and Vice Chair Alondra Cano

Referral to: Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Subject: Membership in Clean Energy and Jobs campaign, a legislative coalition.

Recommendation: Authorize the city to be a member of the Clean Energy and Jobs campaign.

Previous Directives: City of Minneapolis' legislative agenda supports strong environmental policies focused on improving air, water, and soil quality. The agenda also state that the City will partner with county, state, federal and other jurisdictions to meet these objectives.

The city also supports additional resources for sustainable development including green manufacturing.

Prepared by: IGR

Approved by Gene Ranieri _____

Presenters in Committee: Gene Ranieri

Supporting Information

Minnesota Clean Energy and Jobs Campaign.

Established in 2013 the Minnesota Clean Energy and Jobs Campaign is a coalition of approximately 60 energy, labor, youth, faith, environment, conversation groups and clean energy businesses. The coalition was established to advance state legislation that creates jobs for Minnesotans and generates clean, local renewable energy while protecting our health.

The City of Minneapolis would be the first public entity to be a member of the coalition. During the 2013 session, the city worked closely with the coalition to pass the 2013 omnibus energy bill. The coalition's policies generally align with those of the city.

The coalition supports the following policy principles.

- Strengthen our state's commitment to clean, renewable energy by increasing the state's renewable energy standard (RES) to 40% by 2030.
- Create jobs that increase the state's energy independence and improve our economy by increasing the use of solar energy in Minnesota.
- Save money and energy by increasing energy efficiency.
- Make it easier to generate local power by cutting red tape and taking government out of the equation.

During the 2013 legislative session, the coalition was instrumental in the passage of the omnibus energy bill. The bill included several provisions that should increase jobs and improve the economy and save energy. Among the provisions is a Minnesota Made program that provides incentives to manufacture solar equipment in Minnesota. There are also sections that facilitate the installation of solar systems by individuals or groups and the selling of excess energy to a public utility. The legislature did not increase the present RES of 30% renewables by 2030.