

REFERRED TO (NAME OF) COMMITTEE <i>PS&RS</i>
DATE <i>2/1/2002</i>

**RESOLUTION
of the
CITY OF
MINNEAPOLIS**

Biernat, Zerby, Ostrow, Johnson, Johnson Lee, Zimmermann, Goodman, Lilligren,
Schiff, Niziolek, Benson, Colvin Roy and Lane

By _____

Requesting Northern States Power Company to convert the Riverside plant to natural gas.

Whereas, Minnesota generates 68 percent of the state's electricity by burning coal;

Whereas, coal-fired power plants are the largest industrial source of air pollution in Minnesota, emitting

- 40 percent of Minnesota's total smog-forming nitrogen oxide emissions per year, which is the emission equivalent of over 4 million cars;
- 78 percent of Minnesota's total sulfur dioxide emissions per year, which contribute to particulate pollution associated with premature deaths and acid rain;
- 38 percent of Minnesota's total carbon dioxide emissions per year, which contribute to climate change;
- 30 percent of Minnesota's total mercury emissions, which damage neurological systems, especially in children; and

Whereas, most older coal-burning power plants are exempt from meeting the pollution control standards that new plants must meet under the Clean Air Act and are permitted to emit nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide pollution at rates 5 to 10 times greater than that of new plants; and

Whereas, air pollution from coal-burning power plants can travel great distances, adversely impacting the health of both local residents and residents in neighboring states; and

Whereas, extensive reliance on coal-fired power plants represent intolerable health and environmental costs to society; and

Whereas, Northern States Power Company (D/B/A Xcel Energy) announced plans last year to convert two boilers at its Black Dog power plant from coal to natural gas; greatly reducing the amount of harmful emissions and increasing generation capacity; and are undertaking feasibility studies to do the same at the Riverside plant in Minneapolis and the High Bridge plant in St. Paul through the Metro Emissions Reduction Project;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis calls on Northern States Power Company to convert the Riverside plant from coal to natural gas to reduce the environmental and public health impacts that coal burning presents to the community.

Certified as an official action of the City Council:

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE (X INDICATES VOTE)													
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	NOT VOTING	ABSENT	VOTE TO OVERRIDE	VOTE TO SUSTAIN	COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	NOT VOTING	ABSENT	VOTE TO OVERRIDE	VOTE TO SUSTAIN
President							Goodman						
Ostrow							Lilligren						
Zerby							Schiff						
Biemat							Niziolek						
Johnson							Benson						
Johnson Lee							Colvin Roy						
Zimmernann							Lane						

PASSED _____
DATE

APPROVED NOT APPROVED VETOED

ATTEST _____
CITY CLERK

MAYOR DATE