Resolution No. 57 - Passed Monday, June 23, 2008, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Miami, Florida, 76th Meeting

Submitted By:

The Honorable Kitty Piercy Mayor of Eugene, OR

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Mayor of San Francisco, CA

The Honorable Marty Blum Mayor of Santa Barbara, CA

The Honorable T.M. Franklin Cownie Mayor of Des Moines, IA

The Honorable Jennifer Hosterman Mayor of Pleasanton, CA

The Honorable Larry Nelson Mayor of Waukesha, WI

The Honorable Douglas Palmer Mayor of Trenton, NJ

The Honorable Roy Buol Mayor of Dubuque, IA

The Honorable Christopher Cabaldon Mayor of West Sacramento, CA

The Honorable Dan Coody Mayor of Fayetteville, AR

The Honorable Will Wynn Mayor of Austin, TX

The Honorable Beverly Johnson Mayor of Alameda, CA

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HIGH-CARBON FUELS

Whereas, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities, and the Federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and,

Whereas, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has declared that climate change could have severe economic and environmental impacts on U.S. cities in the coming decades; and,

Whereas, the production and burning of conventional fuel such as gasoline, and diesel by motor vehicles, contributes to air pollution, and increased carbon dioxide emissions that have been linked to global climate change; and,

Whereas, the health of the planet, including its oceans, wildlands, rivers, air, and climate, faces increasing threats from our continued dependence on fossil fuels; and,

Whereas, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong resolutions to encourage clean, renewable energy sources and discourage our dependence on fossil fuels; and,

Whereas, the production of fuels derived from unconventional sources, such as tar sands, liquid coal, and oil shale, emits even greater amounts of global warming pollution than conventional petroleum sources; and,

Whereas, the production of tar sands oil from Canada emits approximately three times the carbon dioxide pollution per barrel as does conventional oil production and significantly damages Canada's Boreal forest ecosystem--the world's largest carbon storehouse; and,

Whereas, the continued production and purchase of these higher-carbon unconventional or synthetic fuels slows the United States' transition to clean, renewable energy sources;

Be it resolved, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages the use of lifecycle analyses that evaluate the greenhouse gas emissions from the production—including extraction, refining, and transportation—of fuels, including unconventional and synthetic fuels.

Be it further resolved, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the creation of clear Federal and State guidelines for tracking the origin of various types of fuel in order to facilitate life cycle analysis.

Be it further resolved, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages mayors to track and reduce the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions from their municipal vehicles by preventing or discontinuing the purchase of higher-carbon unconventional or synthetic fuels for these vehicles.