To be discussed at the Safety & Well-being Committee 9-16-14

Proclamation No. CP14-0744

In Support of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan

WHEREAS, unchecked carbon pollution is increasing temperatures worldwide, causing climate change; and

WHEREAS, Denver is already feeling the impacts of climate change, including deteriorating air quality, threats to water resources and more extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS, Denver and its surrounding counties are currently at EPA non-attainment for ozone pollution, which is being exacerbated by climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Latino community and other communities of color are often the most impacted by climate change, with 68% of Latinos in Colorado living in counties at EPA non-attainment for ozone; and

WHEREAS, Latinos are three times more likely to die from asthma than other racial or ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, Colorado has been a national leader combating climate change by promoting renewable energy, increasing energy efficiency and moving towards cleaner sources of fuel; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency recently proposed the first-ever national limits on carbon pollution from power plants, the source of almost 40% of the nation's carbon pollution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council supports the EPA's Clean Power Plan and recognizes the importance of reducing carbon pollution and combating climate change.

Section 2. That the Council re-affirms the goals set in Denver's 2020 Sustainability Plan including reducing total CO2 emissions to below 1990 levels, attaining all National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and supplying at least half of Denver's energy from renewable sources.

Section 3. That the Clerk shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and transmit it to Hugo Palma, Conservation Colorado, and Shaun McGrath, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 8 office in Denver.

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