

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2017 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-27-2017

Proposed by Council Member Lehman

Introduced by _____

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction May 2, 2017

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Support for the Clean Power Plan and Fossil Fuel Divestment

3 For the purpose of opposing President Donald J Trump’s Executive Order to dismantle the Clean
4 Power Plan, and directing county agencies to build on environmental leadership in Prince
5 George’s County through the development of a plan to divest the County’s pension and
6 investment holdings from fossil fuels by 2025 in a manner consistent with the fiduciary
7 responsibilities of the County Pension Trust Fund Board of Trustees.

8 WHEREAS, Executive Order 13783 issued by President Donald J. Trump is intended to
9 dismantle the Clean Power Plan regulations enacted by the Environmental Protection Agency on
10 October 23, 2015; and

11 WHEREAS, the Clean Power Plan was developed by the administration of former
12 President Barack Obama to require power plants to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect
13 the public health and welfare of Americans; and

14 WHEREAS, the continued extraction and burning of fossil fuels has negative impacts on
15 the health, economy, climate, and energy security of Prince George’s County residents; and

16 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County has consistently supported federal and state policies
17 that produce more clean energy and reduce pollution;

18 WHEREAS, Prince George’s County has demonstrated through actions its environmental
19 leadership in the region and nation through the adoption of green fleet, clean energy, and
20 environmentally friendly product procurement policies; and

21 WHEREAS, the County’s Clean Water Partnership Program is a model for the nation
22 demonstrating the ability to partner with the private sector to cost effectively comply with

1 environmental regulations while creating thousands of green jobs; and

2 WHEREAS, in the absence of federal leadership on climate change and environmental
3 protection, local and state mobilization is critical; and

4 WHEREAS, the divestment of government holdings in fossil fuels is an important strategy
5 for ensuring the public’s tax dollars are not financing the detrimental impacts on the
6 environment; and

7 WHEREAS, fossil fuel investments may become “stranded assets” in the ground if
8 companies are not be allowed by governments to extract or burn them; and

9 WHERAS, the University System of Maryland, District of Columbia, and over 688
10 financial institutions, universities, churches, municipalities, counties, states, and nations have
11 moved to divest their pension funds from fossil fuels, representing \$5 trillion in assets.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the County Council of Prince George’s
13 County, Maryland, that the Council opposes Executive Order 13783, and urges the
14 Environmental Protection Agency to maintain climate, clean air and clean water rules that
15 protect Americans and the environment they live in.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council directs the Chief Administrative
17 Officer to convene the County Pension Trust Fund Boards of Trustees to propose a plan to the
18 County Council by September 12, 2017 detailing the County’s current pension and investment
19 holdings in coal, oil, and natural gas companies, the financial performance of these holdings, and
20 a proposed schedule consistent with the fiduciary responsibilities of the County Pension Trust
21 Fund Boards of Trustees to divest 100% of the County’s investments in the world’s largest 200
22 publicly traded fossil fuel companies by 2025, as ranked in the Fossil Free Indexes US (FFIUS).

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2017.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council