



City of Beverly, Massachusetts

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RE: BEVERLY COMMITS TO 100% CLEAN ENERGY

BEVERLY, MA – On July 7th, 2020, the Beverly City Council unanimously approved a resolution, from Mayor Michael Cahill and the Clean Energy Advisory Committee (CEAC), in support of transitioning the City to 100% clean energy sources. This commitment seeks to reduce dependence on fossil fuel and move toward the use of clean energy for municipal electricity needs by 2025 and for building and transportation needs by 2035.

“I am glad to join my fellow councilors in passing this resolution in support of 100% municipal clean energy. I’m pleased that I could play a small role in helping the City of Beverly work toward reducing its carbon emissions and transition to clean energy sources,” said City Council President Paul Guanci.

More than two hundred local companies, along with Massachusetts Institutions such as Partners Healthcare and Boston University have set 100% Renewable Energy targets. California, Hawaii, New Mexico, Washington, New York, and Maine have pledged to eliminate fossil fuel electricity, and other states are considering similar goals. Across the pond, Scotland committed to 100% renewable energy in 2011, and they will achieve that by November of this year. Massachusetts can also be a national and global leader by making similar commitments.

Mayor Michael Cahill commented, “In the city of Beverly, we are determined to drastically cut our greenhouse gas emissions in a responsible, economically sound way. My administration has built and sited over 8.5 megawatts of clean, renewable solar energy on city property; further, we will take delivery of our first electric school bus next week, we have greatly improved energy efficiencies across our building inventory, and next year will open a new police station to be powered by geothermal heating/cooling and solar generated electricity. We have commenced a process towards green municipal aggregation of electricity citywide, structured to save taxpayers money and increase the percentage of Beverly’s citywide electricity use provided by clean, renewable energy sources. This 100% clean energy resolution underscores the City of Beverly’s commitment to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our dependence on fossil fuels.”

“The CEAC is incredibly pleased that this resolution, championed by Mayor Cahill and our Committee, passed so enthusiastically by our City Council,” said CEAC Chair Julia Long. “This resolution heightens environmental standards in Beverly, of course, but more importantly it

sends a message to decision-makers in neighboring cities and at the state level. We owe it to ourselves and our planet to keep raising the bar with regard to clean energy."

As the end of this legislative session approaches, the Decker-Garballey 100% Renewable Energy Act (H.2836) is gaining significant support. On July 7th, Framingham Mayor Yvonne Spicer and Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria added their names to a list of over 150 city and town officials, including Beverly's Mayor Mike Cahill, who support 100% renewable energy targets for Massachusetts. With substantial and continued support from Mayor Cahill, the City Council, and the Clean Energy Advisory Committee, municipalities like Beverly can join other communities in making Massachusetts an economically and environmentally just commonwealth.