

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002-4290

**RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE ADOPTION OF MEASURES TO REDUCE AIR POLLUTION BY
COG MEMBER GOVERNMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington region does not meet the federal health standards for ozone and fine particles, and contributes greenhouse gas emissions that cause adverse health and environmental effects from climate change; and

WHEREAS, the local jurisdictions in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) who participate with the states of Maryland, Virginia and the District on the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) are developing a regional plan to improve the air and meet federal health standards by reducing emissions that cause pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Washington, DC-MD-VA metropolitan region is classified as nonattainment area for the 8-hour ozone standard and fine particles standard and is required to submit a revision to the region's state implementation plan (SIP) by April 5, 2008; and

WHEREAS, COG has appointed a Climate Change Steering Committee to advise the Board on the development of a regional climate change program, including identification of specific activities to achieve greenhouse gas reduction and a method for measuring progress in meeting reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, MWAQC identified innovative approaches to reduce emissions through public policy initiatives such as purchase of wind power and environmental performance contracting and wishes to expand these approaches to include more Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) measures such as renewable portfolio standards and green buildings standards; and

WHEREAS, many air quality benefits of EERE programs are not quantified or fully recognized under current regulatory programs; and

WHEREAS, EERE measures adopted by local jurisdictions have the potential to provide additional emission reductions necessary to meet the ozone and fine particle National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and to reduce eight-hour ozone and fine particles levels which have been shown to produce detrimental human health effects;

WHEREAS, EERE measures have the potential to reduce greenhouse gases that can undermine the quality of life in our region and its economic and environmental sustainability.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to submit a grant application to the Virginia Division of Mines, Minerals and Energy for a U.S. Dept. of Energy Clean Energy and Air Quality Integration grant of \$125,000 for two years. Matching funds not to exceed \$25,000 will be identified from already budgeted regional environmental program funds. The proposed grant will support a regional project to develop tools for quantifying energy savings, increased renewable generation and reduced emissions of greenhouse gases and nitrogen oxides that results from energy efficiency and renewable energy measures.