

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE U.S.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IN SUPPORT OF COST EFFECTIVE
APPROACHES TO REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

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 of Columbia on the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC), have developed regional plans to improve air quality and meet federal health standards by reducing emissions that cause pollution; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency and Green Building programs were included in the regional air quality plans as local government voluntary initiatives to improve air quality; and

WHEREAS, on April 11, 2007 the Board adopted Resolution R31-07, creating a Climate Change Initiative and establishing the Climate Change Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Change Steering Committee, among other things, was charged with developing an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions; proposing regional greenhouse gas emission reduction goals; and evaluating regional impacts of climate change in the region; and

WHEREAS, the COG Climate Change Steering Committee has issued its report for comments, including recommendations supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy in the region to as a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency and renewable energy 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 US Environmental Protection Agency in the amount not to exceed \$257,384 for three years. In kind contributions of \$15,000 and \$12,773 have been identified from already budgeted regional environmental program funds and Arlington County funds, respectively. This program will be a unique partnership between MWCOG, Arlington County, and Virginia Tech to investigate the energy use characteristics of commercial buildings; develop county-sponsored commercial energy education incentive program; and investigate the feasibility of a regional carbon offset program.