

CLEARANCES	Initial	Date	Date Received in Council Office	Agenda Date	Assigned to:
<i>Originator:</i>	Pete Kreme	9/5/2007		9/11/2007	Council
<i>Division Head:</i>					
<i>Dept. Head:</i>					
<i>Prosecutor:</i>					
<i>Purchasing/Budget:</i>					
<i>Executive:</i>					

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:
 Res. & Presentation on Climate Protection and Energy Conservation Action Plan

ATTACHMENTS:

SEPA review required? () Yes () NO SEPA review completed? () Yes () NO	Should Clerk schedule a hearing? () Yes (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) NO Requested Date:
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SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE: *(If this item is an ordinance or requires a public hearing, you must provide the language for use in the required public notice. Be specific and cite RCW or WCC as appropriate. Be clear in explaining the intent of the action.)*

Resolution and Presentation requesting that the Council adopt the Whatcom County Climate Protection and Energy Conservation Action Plan. This document establishes formal goals and action steps to reduce greenhouse gas emisisions from both government operations and the Whatcom County community. (Wording changed to include "Resolution" - see original in AB File)

COMMITTEE ACTION:	COUNCIL ACTION: 9/11/2007: Council Amended and Approved 6-1 Nelson opposed Res. 2007-041
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Related County Contract #:	Related File Numbers:	Ordinance or Resolution Number: Res. 2007-041
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Please Note: Once adopted and signed, ordinances and resolutions are available for viewing and printing on the County's website at: www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council.

PROPOSED BY: Executive
SPONSORED BY: Executive
INTRODUCED: September 11, 2007

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-041

APPROVING TARGETS FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN WHATCOM COUNTY AND APPROVING A CLIMATE PROTECTION AND ENERGY CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN TO ACHIEVE THOSE REDUCTIONS

WHEREAS, the overwhelming scientific consensus is that climate change is occurring;
and

WHEREAS, a majority of climate scientists believe that human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels, are responsible for a significant portion of the pollution that is inducing climate change; and

WHEREAS, unmitigated climate change will bring about decreased agricultural output, increased catastrophic weather events, and displacement of entire populations due to rising sea levels; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 Whatcom County released 2.7 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, the standard for measuring greenhouse gas, and it is projected to emit 35% more in 2020 if current practices continue; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 Whatcom County passed Resolution 2006-033, resolving to participate in the Counties and Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, thereby committing to be a leader in efforts to promote awareness of the causes and consequences of climate change in Whatcom County communities; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Whatcom County approves the goal of reducing the greenhouse gas emissions of the Whatcom County community by 10% below 2001 levels by 2020 and approves the goal of reducing the emissions of government buildings and operations to 40% below 2000 levels by 2012.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Whatcom County will work toward removing obstacles to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Whatcom County adopts the Climate Protection and Energy Conservation Action Plan as the basis of efforts to achieve the targeted reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

ADOPTED this 11 day of September, 2007.

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY
STATE OF WASHINGTON
Dana Brown-Davis
Clerk of the Council
APPROVED as to form
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Carl Weimer, Council Chair