

Draft  
Environmental Commission  
Resolution in Support of a Phase 2 Feasibility Study of Municipalization

November 30, 2023

January 25, 2023

Whereas the Ann Arbor Environmental Commission is charged with developing comprehensive, integrated environmental policies for implementation by the City to protect and enhance our air, water, land, and public health in the city of Ann Arbor, and

Whereas in 2019 the City Council acknowledged the urgency of the climate emergency and adopted the A2Zero program supported by the Office of Sustainability and Innovation, and

Whereas the A2Zero program is based on attaining a community-wide carbon neutral status for the City of Ann Arbor, and

Whereas in 2023, less than 13% of electricity for Ann Arbor rate-payers is sourced from clean, renewable energy, with the remaining 87% of electricity production resulting in significant pollution of air, land, and water; and attendant risk of compromise of public health, and

Whereas power outages resulting from extreme weather events due to the climate emergency have become more frequent and have extended over greater periods of time, affecting residents with loss of power for heating and cooling, for medical equipment and food storage; and with increased expenses for food, travel, and temporary housing, and

Whereas an initial feasibility study of both a Sustainable Electric Utility and a municipal utility has found both to be feasible and complementary, and

Whereas a Phase 2 study of details regarding costs for equipment, staffing, and assessing risks of making a shift to a different electric power sourcing model are necessary to understand how to provide the public with best information for decision making in order to meet the clean, renewable energy goals of the climate emergency, therefore let it be

advises

Resolved, the Ann Arbor Environmental Commission ~~requests that~~ the Ann Arbor City Council pursue a Phase 2 study for the municipalization of the power grid and all other means available to ease the burden of the currently unreliable source of electricity.