

League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION AGAINST CARBON & METHANE POLLUTION

WHEREAS, 88 years ago, the founders of the League of Latin American Citizens, (LULAC) joined together to establish an organization that would become the largest, oldest and most successful Hispanic civil rights and service organization in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Surveys of the peer-reviewed scientific literature and the opinions of experts consistently show a 97-98% consensus that humans are causing climate change; and

WHEREAS, Carbon pollution fuels climate change, the effects of which we are already experiencing by way of worsened air quality and more intense natural disasters. The former leads to more asthma attacks, respiratory disease and even premature death. The latter contributes to more frequent, destructive, costly and deadly extreme weather events including storms, floods and droughts; and

WHEREAS, Latinos are over represented in certain types of occupations, such as agriculture, construction and landscaping, putting them at increased risk of exposure to dirty air and increased temperatures associated with uncontrolled carbon pollution; and

WHEREAS, According to NRDC's January 2014 survey, 9 out of 10 Latinos, the nation's largest minority group at 50 million strong, want the federal government to take action on carbon emissions and the threat of climate change, and

WHEREAS, The Clean Air Act is the fundamental federal law protecting those who live in the U.S. from interstate and intrastate air pollution. Strong federal standards are needed to provide these protections because air pollution, including the pollution that is the cause of climate change, does not respect political boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Power plants are responsible for 40 percent of the carbon pollution in the United States, the single largest contributor to dangerous climate change; and

WHEREAS, We have a moral obligation to protect our children and future generations from the impacts of climate change and we can do so by maintaining and strengthening strict limits on carbon and methane pollution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC opposes all efforts to weaken or roll back environmental regulations that safeguard our communities health including but not limited to those regarding the clean air act, methane, pesticides and carbon pollution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it shall be national policy, and applicable to all national, state, and local LULAC councils and entities to oppose any projects or proposals for new oil and gas infrastructure or the expansion of existing infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if LULAC accepts sponsorship or funding from fossil fuel corporations or industry associations, the organization shall ensure such funding will not influence the policy positions on climate, the environment, or energy.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2017 LULAC National Convention on July 8, 2017.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.

LULAC National President

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