



Resolution 34-3

RESOLUTION CONCERNING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

WHEREAS energy efficiency is a cost-effective method to reduce energy bills for consumers and businesses; and

WHEREAS energy efficiency programs are already creating long-term jobs for contractors and technicians installing insulation, upgrading heating systems, replacing windows, engaging in research and technology development, and are providing other economic benefits; and

WHEREAS energy efficiency can reduce energy use in homes, buildings, and vehicles, while yielding savings over time that exceed the initial costs of efficiency measures; and

WHEREAS energy efficiency reduces fossil fuel use, resulting in multiple benefits including: cutting our dependence on imported oil, reducing vulnerability to future price fluctuations, curtailing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and improving the quality of air we breathe; and

WHEREAS energy use in homes and buildings, both from electricity and on-site fuel consumption, is one of the largest sources of both energy use and GHG emissions in our region; and

WHEREAS attaining the NEG-ECP's 2020 and 2050 targets for reducing GHG emissions will require aggressive programs to promote energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS our provinces and states already have major programs underway to encourage the adoption of energy efficiency technologies and practices, which have yielded significant savings to date.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NEG-ECP members agree that our region should continue to support energy efficiency programs, construction energy codes, appliances standards and other energy efficiency policies. Through such policies the member provinces and states will strive to reduce overall energy use in, notably but not limited to, homes, buildings and industry by at least 20 percent in 2020, compared to "business as usual", as state and provincial resources allow.

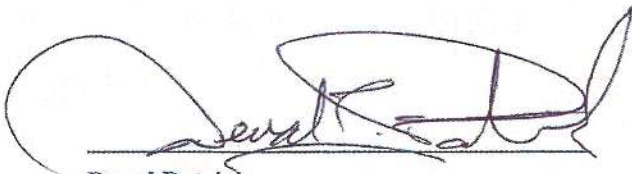
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the NEG-ECP members agree that these programs should target all cost-effective energy efficiency opportunities and agree that electric and gas utilities should follow these opportunities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in order to promote technological innovation and reduce energy costs by ensuring new and renovated structures meet minimum efficiency levels, the member provinces and states agree to propose for adoption the latest editions of strong international model energy codes for buildings, or national codes from Canada and the United States, at the earliest feasible dates. The provinces and states will also strive to improve compliance with the energy codes.

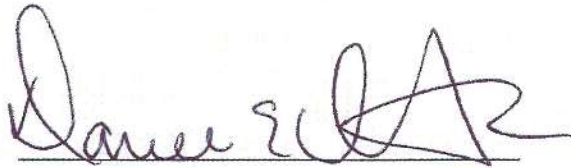
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the NEG/ECP members agree that to the extent allowed by state or provincial statute, it is desirable to provide an option for municipal or county governments to voluntarily adopt stricter energy efficiency standards for buildings than the province- or state-wide energy codes, in order to further reduce energy use.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the NEG-ECP members agree to convene a committee to initiate a study on setting energy efficiency standards in the region for heating systems, other appliances, and electronic devices, where those do not exist on the federal level or where stronger standards would be desirable.

*Adopted at the 34th Annual Conference of the New England Governors
and Eastern Canadian Premiers in Lenox, Massachusetts on July 12, 2010*



Deval Patrick
Governor of Massachusetts
Co-chair



Darrell Dexter
Premier of Nova Scotia
Co-chair