

## **Resolution 38-2**

## Sustainable Transportation Systems and Use of Alternative Fuel Vehicles: Continuing Commitment to Regional Initiatives

WHEREAS, the New England states and Eastern Canadian provinces are committed to reducing harmful air pollutants, including greenhouse gas emissions, in the region and to exploring opportunities to advance the clean energy economy through investments in clean, efficient, and sustainable transportation; and

WHEREAS, emerging transportation technologies such as vehicle electrification, the use of natural gas as a fuel, and various technologies designed to enhance the energy efficiency of vehicles and reduce emissions of harmful air pollutants generate significant benefits for users in terms of lower fuel consumption, and improved air quality, and at the same time contribute to the region's economic development and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the states and provinces recognize that reduction of transportation-related emissions requires actions to enhance vehicle technologies and efficiencies, provide lower-emitting vehicle fuels, and improve overall transportation system efficiencies; and

WHEREAS, several New England states are also partners in a U.S. Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Memorandum of Understanding and a Multi-State ZEV Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the New England governors and Eastern Canadian premiers recognize that regional cooperation, which is critical to incorporating complex changes into transportation systems and reducing transportation-related air emissions, must also take into account the financial and technical capacities and interests of their respective jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the governors and premiers adopted a regional Transportation and Air Quality Action Plan and two resolutions in 2013 to identify specific actions that address the deployment of advanced vehicles technologies and enhancement of a robust sustainable transportation system that provides citizens with energy-efficient and environmentally-sound options for travel throughout the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the governors and premiers do reaffirm their commitments made in 2013; recognize the initial steps taken by the Transportation and Air Quality Committee (TAQC) to advance these objectives; and call upon the TAQC to continue its work, in cooperation with the members of the Environment and Energy committees and other appropriate regional organizations, to:

- advance the infrastructure and policies necessary to provide transportation choices that will facilitate a more sustainable transportation future, including the robust deployment of advanced technology and alternative fuel vehicles;
- propose a regional framework for enhanced public transportation, biking and walking options for a sustainable transportation system;
- work toward achieving throughout the region a five percent fleet market share penetration of alternative fuel vehicles by 2020 and facilitate the availability of refueling stations to support those vehicles;
- propose a framework that will facilitate the emergence of interoperable electric vehicle charging and alternative refueling infrastructure;
- evaluate transportation corridors within the region where such infrastructure can be deployed to encourage the use of alternative fuel vehicles for travel throughout the region; and
- compile a regional profile of light duty fleets and alternative fuel vehicles in the states and provinces and such other information that can inform the development of policies and strategies for sustainable transportation and for alternative fuel vehicles and related infrastructure throughout the region.

Adopted at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, July 14, 2014

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