At a meeting of the Scott County Board of Supervisors begun and held in the Supervisors’ meeting room at the Scott County Administrative Offices in Gate City, Virginia on Wednesday the 4th day of June, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Darrel W. Jeter  
D. Joe Horton  
K. Landon Odle (excused from the meeting at 11:30 a.m.)  
Joe W. Herron  
Danny P. Mann - Chairman  
Beryl E. Maness - Vice-Chairman  
Chad E. Hood

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by K. Landon Odle, this Board hereby adopts the following:

RESOLUTION NO: 2014 - 12

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE LEAD ROLE OF STATES IN THE REGULATION OF CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS FROM EXISTING POWER PLANTS

WHEREAS, A reliable and affordable coal supply is vital to Scott County’s economic growth, jobs, and the overall interests of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Scott County supports an all-the-above energy strategy because it is in the best interest of Virginia and the Nation; and

WHEREAS, The United States has abundant supplies of coal that provide economic and energy security benefits; and

WHEREAS, Coal provides affordable, and reliable electricity to the citizens of Scott County and
WHEREAS, Carbon regulations for existing coal-fueled power plants could threaten the affordability and reliability of Virginia's electricity supplies and, therefore, threaten the wellbeing of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Carbon dioxide emissions from U.S. coal-fueled power plants represent only 3 percent of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Energy Information Administration projects that U.S. electric sector carbon dioxide emissions will be 14 percent below 2005 levels in 2020 and that carbon dioxide emissions from U.S. coal-fueled power plants will be 19 percent below 2005 levels in 2020; and

WHEREAS, On June 25, 2013, the President directed the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue standards, regulations, or guidelines to address carbon dioxide emissions from new, existing, modified, and reconstructed fossil-fueled power plants; and

WHEREAS, The President expressly recognized that states "will play a central role in establishing and implementing carbon standards for existing power plants;" and

WHEREAS, The Clean Air Act requires EPA to establish a "procedure" under which each state shall develop a plan for establishing and implementing standards of performance for existing sources within the state; and

WHEREAS, The Clean Air Act expressly allows states, in developing and applying such standards of performance, "to take into consideration, among other factors, the remaining useful life of the existing source to which such standard applies;" and

WHEREAS, EPA's existing regulations provide that states may adopt "less stringent emissions standards or longer compliance schedules" than EPA's guidelines based on factors such as "unreasonable cost of control," "physical impossibility of installing necessary control equipment," or other factors that make less stringent standards or longer compliance times "significantly more reasonable;" and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of electricity consumers in Scott County to continue to benefit from reliable, affordable electricity provided by coal-based electricity generating plants; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Scott County urges EPA, in developing guidelines for regulating carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants, to respect the primacy of Virginia and other states and to rely on state regulators to develop
performance standards for carbon dioxide emissions that take into account the unique policies, energy needs, resource mix, and economic priorities of Virginia and other states; and be it further

RESOLVED, That EPA should issue guidelines and approve state-established performance standards that are based on reductions of carbon dioxide emissions achievable by measures undertaken at fossil-fueled power plants; and be it further

RESOLVED, That EPA should allow Virginia and other states to set less stringent performance standards and longer compliance schedules for power plants within their jurisdiction; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Virginia and other states should be given maximum flexibility by EPA to implement carbon dioxide performance standards for fossil-fueled power plants within their jurisdiction.


Voting nay: None.

Attest: [Signature]

The Honorable Barack Obama
The Honorable Mark Warner
The Honorable Morgan Giffith
Mr. Andrew Vehorn
Environmental Protection Agency