

BLACK BELT ACTION COMMISSION RESOLUTION

Whereas, a commitment to improving the quality of life for all Alabamians must encompass protection of the economic basis that sustains the state's middle class, as well as providing for a clean, healthy environment; and,

Whereas, current legislation being considered by the United States Congress would require as much as 20 percent of electricity provided to consumers be generated from renewable fuel sources such as biomass, solar, geothermal, wind, and other renewable sources; and,

Whereas, such legislation explicitly disallows existing hydro generation and nuclear generation from counting toward the federally established requirement for generation from renewable sources; and,

Whereas, proposed federal renewable portfolio standard legislation would impose significant additional cost to Alabama industries and home owners through higher energy bills, while at the same time providing no guaranteed improvement in environmental quality; and,

Whereas, because federal renewable portfolio standards would have a disproportionate effect on the states, imposing a greater burden on states without readily available renewable fuel sources, Alabama would experience significant harm to efforts to attract new industries and businesses as well as expand existing operations; and,

Whereas, significant increases in energy costs would have the unavoidable effect of increasing further loss of jobs during a time of unprecedented economic hardship; and,

Whereas, proposed federal renewable portfolio standard legislation would diminish the social and economic well being of families and businesses throughout the state; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Black Belt Action Commission, that we call upon the state's congressional delegation to make known to federal policy makers that efforts to impose renewable portfolio standards that do not appropriately protect the economic as well as the environmental wellbeing of the state are unacceptable.

Be it further resolved that the Black Belt Action Commission calls upon federal policy makers to provide credit in any renewable portfolio legislation for electricity generated through existing hydro generation, existing nuclear generation, new nuclear generation, or clean coal technologies.



Hank Sanders-CoChair
Black Belt Action Commission



Margaret Bentley-CoChair



Sheldon Day, CoChair