

10 East Church Street Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

July 10, 2018

Dear Mayor Donchez and Honorable Members of City Council,

On June 8, hundreds of mayors gathered in Boston for the 86th U.S. Conference of Mayors. This brings to mind the commitment many of our mayors have made to climate action, which includes transitioning their cities to 100 percent renewable energy by 2035. The City of Bethlehem has embarked on an ambitious path to meet these goals, including the use of 50 percent renewable energy for municipal operations, the Three City Proclamation in 2006 and the Resolution endorsing the creation of a Climate Action Plan in 2017. While waiting for the community-wide comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory to be completed and the subsequent Climate Action Plan to be developed and implemented, the City can continue the process of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by negotiating and securing a contract to purchase 100 percent renewable energy-generated electricity.

Recently it has come to our attention that the City of Easton successfully secured an agreement to purchase 100 percent wind-generated electricity for municipal services from Constellation Energy Group, under a bulk-purchase program through the Pennsylvania Municipal League. We recommend the City explore this option and other options that may be available to them to switch from 50 percent to 100 percent renewable energy generated electricity as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Lynn Rothman

Lynn Rothman, Chair

On behalf of the Bethlehem EAC: Elisabeth Cichonski Kathy Fox Jack Gambino Brian Hillard Mike Topping