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(ITEM ) A resolution by Supervisor Haas expressing the County’s concern that We Energies’ 2015-2016 rate proposal will cause significant environmental and economic damage to the State and County and requesting that Governor Scott Walker publicly express his opposition to the rate proposal, by recommending adoption of the following:

**AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal to increase the flat rate 74% from \$9.20 per month to \$16 per month while reducing per kilowatt use rates will impact energy efficient and poor residents disproportionately, discouraging customers from improving energy efficiency or investing in renewable electricity generation sources; and

WHEREAS, solar energy generation shows signs of renewed vitality as evidenced by the fact that a new solar power facility was installed every four minutes in the United States during 2013; and

WHEREAS, the number of solar power projects is expected to increase 30-fold between 2010 and 2016 as a result of falling prices and improved technology to the point that by 2016, rooftop solar panels may provide one-third of the electricity generated by today's nuclear power plants; and

WHEREAS, other states have reduced the barriers of entry and made it easier for homeowners from a variety of income levels to supplement their electrical power needs with solar power by allowing customers to lease solar panels rather than buying them outright, and through policy measures to increase the diversity of solar products and availability to all citizens; and

WHEREAS, We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal to specifically bar customers from leasing solar power systems will hamper and slow the development of solar power electricity generation; and

WHEREAS, We Energies’ proposed reduction in payback rates for electricity purchased by the utility from customers who have invested in solar power or other alternative sources to generate their own electricity will repress competition and discourage development of alternatives to the utility's fossil fuel-generated electricity; and

WHEREAS, this proposed payback billing reduction reduces the savings to customers for using alternative energy sources by 64% to 79%, effectively tripling or quadrupling payback periods for customer investments in alternative electric power generation, and so acts as a disincentive for consumers to invest in alternative energy to reduce reliance on fossil fuel energy sources; and

47 WHEREAS, We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal further burdens customers  
48 using alternative electricity generation systems, lengthens investment payback, and  
49 disincentivizes customers interested in developing alternative electrical power sources  
50 by imposing an additional "capacity" charge of \$3.80 per kilowatt per month on  
51 customers with alternative electricity generation systems; and

52  
53 WHEREAS, We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal effectively "penalizes"  
54 Milwaukee County's environmentally and socially responsible efforts to generate  
55 renewable energy through General Mitchell International Airport; and

56  
57 WHEREAS, the overall impact of We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal will  
58 discourage and penalize customers from installing solar power or other alternative,  
59 renewable electricity generation sources including biodigesters and other forms of  
60 biofuels to reduce society's dependence on the fossil fuels used by We Energies for  
61 electricity generation; and

62  
63 WHEREAS, We Energies' discouragement of the use of solar power and other  
64 alternative, renewable electricity generation sources to substitute for the nation's  
65 unhealthy dependence on fossil fuels is not only environmentally and socially  
66 irresponsible, but threatens to seriously undermine Wisconsin's solar and alternative  
67 fuels industry; now, therefore,

68  
69 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby  
70 expresses its concern that We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal before the Wisconsin  
71 Public Service Commission (PSC) will cause significant environmental and economic  
72 damage to the State by discouraging the development of alternative, renewable sources  
73 of electricity generation and energy efficiency, eliminating energy options for utility  
74 customers of all incomes, and penalizing senior citizens and low-income households;  
75 and

76  
77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County calls upon the Wisconsin  
78 governor to publicly express his opposition to We Energies' 2015-2016 rate proposal on  
79 the grounds that the proposal represses healthy competition in the electricity generation  
80 sector, damages Wisconsin's economy by eliminating valuable jobs, and negatively  
81 impacts low-income households; and

82  
83 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County calls upon the governor to  
84 publicly urge the PSC to deny We Energies' 2015-2016 rate request, or to dispatch  
85 State administration representatives as appropriate to present the State's interest in this  
86 matter before the PSC; and

87  
88 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County calls upon the governor to  
89 propose in the 2015-17 Executive State Budget an exemption from property tax levy  
90 limits for costs arising from an approval by the PSC of We Energies' 2015-2016 rate  
91 request; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to the governor and file it with the PSC in connection to PSC Docket No.

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5-UR-107.

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