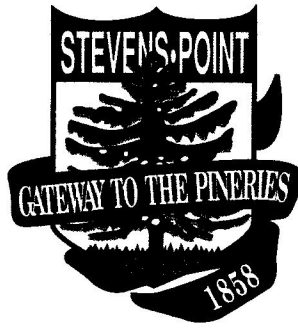


City of Stevens Point  
1515 Strongs Avenue  
Stevens Point, WI 54481-3594  
Fax: 715-346-1530



**Mike Wiza**  
**Mayor**  
mwiza@stevenspoint.com  
715-346-1570

## RESOLUTION

### RE: REQUESTING CONGRESS ENACT A REVENUE-NEUTRAL FEE ON CARBON IN FOSSIL FUELS

**WHEREAS**, nearly all climate scientists agree that the Earth is warming rapidly, which is causing the climate to change and that this will have negative effects on Earth's natural systems and human civilization; and

**WHEREAS**, a contributing effect to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) increase is human activity, especially through the combustion of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued use of fossil fuels is being supported by a market failure whereby the costs of carbon emissions are not included in the price of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, changing climate has an impact on Central Wisconsin's natural resources and has been identified in the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Plan, under section 4.4, stating "In the past 50 years, average statewide temperatures have increased by about 1.1°F. It is also likely that the state will see more extreme weather events"; and

**WHEREAS**, 25 Wisconsin Counties have already incorporated climate change into their approved Hazard Mitigation Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the urgent need to transition away from fossil fuels can best be accomplished with a market-based program, namely a revenue-neutral carbon fee on fossil fuel producers with a corresponding rebate or dividend to consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, using a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend to reduce carbon emissions would have the following benefits:

1. The carbon fee would incentivize the development and use of energy efficiency and low carbon energy sources.
2. The transition to low-carbon energy sources will provide a range of additional benefits including enhanced public health, job creation and strengthening of the U.S. Economy, increased energy security, and increased local energy development in rural areas.
3. Even though the carbon fee would temporarily increase energy costs including electric rates, and the cost of living, those costs would be offset by the revenue returned to households on an equal basis as a dividend.