

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHG) are known to trap heat at the Earth's surface, leading to increased atmospheric temperatures; and

WHEREAS, recent historical planetary carbon dioxide concentrations were below 280 parts per million (PPM) but current planetary concentrations exceed 415 PPM and continue to rise rapidly; and

WHEREAS, there is overwhelming scientific consensus that planetary temperatures have risen more than 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit (F) above late 19th century levels and that climate-related problems exist worldwide including unstable weather, droughts, wildfires, flooding, extreme heat, species loss, sea level rise, food shortages, and human displacement; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, 194 countries and the European Union agreed in the Paris Climate Agreement to attempt to limit the planetary temperature increase to 2.7 F above pre-industrial levels; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that planetary carbon dioxide levels must fall 45 percent below 2010 levels by 2030 in order to meet the 2.7 F goal; and

WHEREAS, worldwide GHG emissions exceeded 49,000,000,000 tonnes in 2010, and California GHG emissions were 424,000,000 tonnes in 2017; and

WHEREAS, SMUD GHG emissions were 1,755,000 tonnes in 2018; and

WHEREAS, each 1.8 F increase in average annual temperature is projected to reduce the Gross Domestic Product of Sacramento County by 4%, resulting in significant economic and public health impacts;¹ and

WHEREAS, the physical impacts of climate change are already impacting frontline, vulnerable communities which bear little responsibility for the crisis, exacerbating societal injustice; and

WHEREAS, for more than 70 years, the community-owned, not-for-profit Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) has been the Sacramento region's committed energy partner and has led the way in providing environmentally responsible energy and environmental stewardship to benefit its customers and community; and

WHEREAS, the SMUD Board of Directors has a long history of environmental stewardship including: (1) Pioneering renewable energy programs and standards, (2) Setting an early GHG emissions reduction goal of 90% below 1990 emission levels by 2050, (3) Partnering to plant over 500,000 shade trees throughout the region that have significantly improved air quality, sequestered carbon and lowered energy bills since 1990; and (4) Helped grow the local market for solar development by providing \$130 million in customer incentives to install solar on over 15,000 rooftops; and

WHEREAS, the SMUD Board of Directors believes in creating a sustainable future for all of our customers and the community and has made significant investments in new technologies and progressive approaches to carbon reduction, which has resulted in

¹ Estimating economic damage from Climate Change in the United States. Hsaing et al, *Science* 30 Jun 2017: Vol. 356, Issue 6345, pp. 1362-1369

reduced GHG emissions of 50% from 1990 levels in 2018 (the equivalent of removing 377,000 vehicles from the road) and has reduced the carbon intensity of its power mix, which is now, on average, more than 50% percent carbon-free; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, SMUD's Board of Directors adopted SMUD's 2040 Energy Plan, which serves as an ambitious roadmap for how SMUD will achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2040. SMUD's regional approach will result in a 64% reduction in Sacramento County's GHG emissions (about 8,500,000 tonnes), improve local air quality for the community and maintain low rates and reliability for our customers; and

WHEREAS, SMUD's 2040 Energy Plan establishes an innovative and unique approach to GHG reduction that calls for nearly \$7 billion in investments over the next 20 years that prioritizes local investment in regional building and transportation electrification, significantly increases procurement of zero-emission generation resources and energy storage and, encourages energy efficiency and demand response programs, in order to achieve SMUD's GHG reduction goals while maintaining affordable rates and reliable electric service; and

WHEREAS, SMUD's 2040 Energy Plan recognizes that the people most likely to be disproportionately burdened by the adverse effects of climate change live in underserved and low-income communities; and

WHEREAS, through SMUD's Sustainable Communities Initiative, GHG emission reduction investments are leveraged by engaging our community partners to target and maximize the benefits to neighborhoods that are likely to be underserved or in distress by lack of community development, income, housing, education, employment opportunities and transportation. Together we strive to collectively promote, create and sustain diverse and healthy communities for all; and

WHEREAS, while SMUD has made significant progress in reducing GHG emissions associated with its power supply, the SMUD Board of Directors recognizes the risk of uncontrolled climate change and is committed to urgently do more to expand and accelerate the reduction of GHG emissions in pursuit of its 2040 Energy Plan and beyond; and

WHEREAS, SMUD, as a community-owned, not for profit electric utility, is uniquely situated to support and enable partner organizations and community members to reduce GHG emissions; **NOW, THEREFORE**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. The Board of Directors recognizes and acknowledges a planetary climate emergency and declares a climate emergency within its jurisdiction.

Section 2. The Board of Directors commits to work towards carbon neutrality by 2030 and to collaboratively find creative solutions to eliminate GHG emissions until a safe atmosphere is restored.

Section 3. The Board of Directors intends to involve the public in an open and transparent manner in planning for and reaching SMUD's climate goals.

Section 4. The Board of Directors encourages and promotes the expansion of policies and partnerships with local cities, counties, agencies, businesses and other community organizations to leverage opportunities to achieve rapid transformative reductions in regional GHG emissions.

Section 5. The SMUD Board of Directors affirms our commitment to environmental justice principals and SMUD's leadership through the Sustainable Communities Initiative.

Section 6. The Board of Directors directs staff to report within 180 days on clear, actionable and measurable strategies and plans to reach SMUD's climate emergency goals.

Section 7. The Board of Directors instructs the CEO and General Manager to report annually on the measures taken to reduce GHG emissions and the results achieved.