

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, S. David Freeman, known as the “Green Cowboy” for his trademark Stetson hat and visionary advocacy of clean energy passed away on May 12, 2020 at age 94; and

WHEREAS, in a diverse career spanning seven decades, Mr. Freeman worked as an energy policy advisor for three U.S. Presidents with a resolute vision centered on the merits of energy efficiency and clean, renewable resources; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freeman was born in 1926 in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the son of Lithuanian immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freeman received electrical engineering and law degrees from Georgia Tech and the University of Tennessee, respectively; and

WHEREAS, after serving as an engineer and an attorney at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Mr. Freeman moved to Washington, D.C., where he served President Lyndon Johnson as an energy advisor and worked with the nascent Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freeman advised the Senate Commerce Committee on fuel-efficiency standards and oversaw the Ford Foundation report “A Time to Choose,” which advanced many of his views on energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, at the request of President Jimmy Carter, Mr. Freeman returned to his home state to serve as chairman of the TVA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freeman served for nearly four years as SMUD’s General Manager beginning in 1990, during a time of transition after the closure of the Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freeman implemented a strategy to replace the energy lost from the closure of the Rancho Seco Nuclear Power plant with three natural gas co-generation power plants and SMUD's first wind turbines in Solano County, which have helped diversify SMUD's power supply; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Freeman's leadership, SMUD initiated its unique partnership with the Sacramento Tree Foundation, which has risen to national prominence, continues to be one of SMUD's most popular customer programs, and has significantly improved local air quality with the planting of over 500,000 shade trees in the Sacramento region; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at SMUD, Mr. Freeman implemented innovative policies, such as paying customers to discard their old, energy-guzzling refrigerators, and actively encouraged energy conservation by championing the concept that the cheapest power plant is one that never has to be built; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freeman was a fierce advocate for solar energy and renewable energy resources, and climate change and under his visionary leadership, the SMUD PV Pioneer Program began the sustained commercialization of grid-connected, distributed solar and received international recognition;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. This Board honors S. David Freeman for his early and consistent environmental leadership and advocacy recognizing that energy efficiency and renewable power were imperative in creating a more sustainable future for the

Sacramento region and the nation and extends its heartfelt condolences to the Freeman family.

Section 2. This Board directs the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to collaborate with the Sacramento Tree Foundation to commission a bench made from reclaimed wood to be placed on the Headquarters Campus in honor of Mr. Freeman.

Section 3. This Board further directs the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to dedicate the 160 MW Rancho Seco solar installation, the largest solar array in Sacramento County, in honor of Mr. Freeman, in recognition of his visionary leadership in climate change and passion for advancing renewable energy.