

# Town of Shutesbury

## Municipal Decarbonization Resolution

*ARTICLE xx: Decarbonization Resolution*

*To see if the town will vote to commit to a Municipal Decarbonization (defined as the elimination of all on site burning of fossil fuels in municipal buildings and vehicles) by 2050 in accordance with state climate goals or act relative thereto.*

WHEREAS, the predominant cause of climate change remains the combustion of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the reliance on fossil fuels in Massachusetts poses significant threats to environmental health by polluting air and water and exacerbating climate change impacts; and

WHEREAS, communities across Massachusetts are already experiencing adverse effects attributable to global climate change; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts has historically been at the forefront of combating climate change;

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050 underscores the imperative for state agencies and local governments to spearhead the transition towards clean energy;

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Energy and Climate Plan for 2050 establishes a target of achieving 100% net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel combustion in municipal operations by 2050;

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050 sets forth the ambition of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, wherein emissions are balanced by removal efforts;

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Net Zero Carbon Energy goal by 2050 will drive the adoption of cleaner energy sources, bolster energy efficiency and resilience, and mitigate adverse impacts associated with fossil fuel dependency;

WHEREAS, the Town of Shutesbury has the potential to transition to 100% clean, renewable energy sources while simultaneously enhancing energy efficiency, promoting conservation measures, and electrifying transportation, heating, and water systems;

WHEREAS, the Town of Shutesbury has the opportunity to apply for state technical assistance in developing a Decarbonization Roadmap

Be It Resolved, that the members of Shutesbury Town Meeting call on Town government to commit to, with appropriate support from the state and federal governments, to bring municipal net carbon emissions to zero as quickly as reasonably possible, with a target date of 2050.