

## **Resolution in Support of Equal Access to Solar for Southwest Virginia Schools**

WHEREAS, The Tazewell County School Board recognizes the importance of an adequate and reliable supply of electricity at the lowest reasonable cost with minimal environmental impact;

WHEREAS, the Tazewell County Schools use electric power supplied by Appalachian Power to power their operations, and therefore have a strong interest in the contract negotiations underway by the Appalachian Power Virginia Municipal League (VML) / Virginia Association of Counties (VACO) Steering Committee;

WHEREAS, preliminary assessments of Tazewell County Schools show a potential of 2.5 MW of solar power, which could save the school district \$2.7 million over 25-years;

WHEREAS, power purchase agreement financing and net metering are important tools necessary for schools to be able to finance solar projects, and power purchase agreements allow schools to take advantage of the federal tax credit for renewable energy;

WHEREAS, the federal tax credit for renewable energy decreases at the end of 2020;

WHEREAS, Virginia law allows customers of Appalachian Power to finance up to 40 MW of solar with power purchase agreements and allows up to approximately 240 MW of net metered project;

WHEREAS, Appalachian Power currently blocks power purchase agreement financing and net metering for schools, meaning schools and local governments are missing out on opportunities to save taxpayer money.

WHEREAS, Tazewell County Schools supports locally-generated electricity that supports local jobs and economic development;

WHEREAS, Tazewell County Schools recognizes that solar power is a growing industry and desires to use solar power on its facilities as an educational tool;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TAZEWELL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD THAT:

1. The Appalachian Power VML/VACO Steering Committee is urged to negotiate a new contract with Appalachian Power that allows schools and local governments to have fair access to power purchase agreements and net metering.
2. The Appalachian Power VML/VACO Steering Committee is urged to expedite the contract negotiations for non-jurisdictional customers so that schools and local governments can take advantage of the federal tax credit;

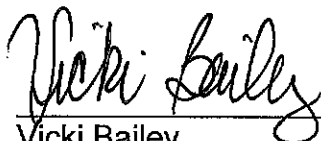
Adopted on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.



---

David Woodard  
School Board Chairman  
Tazewell County Public Schools

Attested to:



---

Vicki Bailey  
School Board Clerk  
Tazewell County Public Schools