JENKINTOWN BOROUGH
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL ADDRESSING AND SUPPORTING CLEAN ENERGY AND 100 PERCENT RENEWABLE ENERGY INITIATIVES

WHEREAS, climate change poses a long-term global threat to civilization and Earth's ecosystems and causes or contributes to increasingly frequent and severe weather events; and

WHEREAS, the continued use of fossil fuels by individuals, businesses, and government agencies contributes to climate change; and

WHEREAS, clean energy addresses not only climate change but also air quality and other public health impacts from the present and past use of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change will stress our infrastructure, emergency and social services; threaten our access to food, water, and energy supplies; heighten the disruption of services and commerce; and negatively affect the quality of life and human health; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection published the Pennsylvania Climate Action Plan 2024, which identifies 22 strategies to reach Pennsylvania's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, Montgomery County published a draft Climate Action Plan to reach a 40% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and to reach 100% emissions-free energy use by 2050 in all sectors; and

WHEREAS, More than 45 municipalities in Southeastern PA, including the municipalities of Abington, Cheltenham, Lower Gwynedd, Lower Merion, Lower Providence, Montgomery, Plymouth, Springfield, Upper Dublin, Upper Merion, West Norriton, Whitemarsh and Whitpain Townships and Ambler, Bridgeport, Conshohocken, Hatboro, Lansdale, Narberth and Norristown Boroughs in Montgomery County and Phoenixville, West Chester, Downingtown along with others in Bucks County, Chester County and Delaware County have stepped up as regional leaders in setting goals for the transition to renewable energy in their communities; and

WHEREAS, collaborating with other Montgomery County energy leaders and participating in aggregated procurement agreements, sometimes called Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), for regional wind and solar energy can support a cost-effective and potentially cost-saving transition to renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, a renewable energy initiative can produce energy cost savings for residents and local businesses while stimulating new economic activity and local jobs, all while simultaneously mitigating the risks from climate change; and

WHEREAS, PACleanEnergy.com is an online platform, not affiliated with any lobbying or mission-based organization, for PA municipalities and counties to share best practices and establish a network of representatives from communities that are taking climate action; and

WHEREAS, Jenkintown Borough is committed to being a community characterized by equality, health, safety, livability, prosperity and equity; and

WHEREAS, Jenkintown Borough recognizes the importance of developing a working relationship with its electric energy supplier(s) to create the most advantageous and mutually beneficial plan for integrating locally generated and renewable power; and

WHEREAS, Jenkintown Borough has demonstrated a commitment to reducing its energy usage by implementing energy efficiency improvements in multiple areas; and

WHEREAS, Jenkintown Borough recognizes that it has a responsibility to future generations to take an active stance to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases within the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it, and it is hereby **RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Jenkintown that the Borough and Borough staff consider, pursue, encourage, and implement as may be feasible or permitted by law the following:

1. Joining other towns and cities across the Commonwealth and the United States that have set Ready for 100 goals to transition to 100% clean, renewable energy for all, and complete this transition, community-wide, to 100% clean, renewable electricity by 2035 and 100% clean renewable energy when replacing heating systems and transportation equipment by 2050.

2. Transitioning the Jenkintown Borough vehicle fleet to 100% renewable energy sources as vehicles are replaced.

3. Prioritizing locally produced and distributed energy for the many advantages it provides to the community.

4. Calling upon or encouraging the local electric utility company, PECO to work to achieve local generation goal(s) and set similar goals for the region, and collaborating with PECO's "Path To Clean" platform, helping communities reach their climate goals - https://www.peco.com/safety-community/environment/our-path-to-clean.

5. Calling upon or encouraging the Commonwealth and state elected officials to:
    a. set a goal to use 100% renewable energy for all purposes no later than 2050;
    b. adopt codes and standards to increase the efficiency of buildings and appliances;
    c. increase the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS) to levels that put us on track to meet 100% renewable energy goals as recommended in the 2021 Climate Action Plan for Pennsylvania;
    d. adopt a Community Solar bill to allow Pennsylvania residents without the ability to install solar to subscribe to solar produced in Pennsylvania; and
    e. support pending legislation addressing AEPS (HB501) and community solar (HB504).

6. Calling upon or encouraging the Montgomery County and County officials to:
    a. consider the creation of an energy planner or similar position or consultant within the Montgomery County Planning Commission to develop, propose, advise and recommend renewable energy strategies for Montgomery County municipalities, residents, businesses, and institutions; and
    b. work with neighboring counties to form or create a collaborative purchase program for electricity that would allow local municipalities like the Borough to participate.

7. Sharing the "Resources for Community" on the online platform PACleanEnergy.com with Borough residents and businesses to help others to make informed decisions about reducing, electrifying, and transitioning to clean energy sources in their homes, schools, and businesses.

8. Directing the Jenkintown Environmental Advisory Committee to:

a. provide guidance to municipal officials for commissioning a committee, task force, and/or consultant to draft an energy transition plan or climate action plan ("Plan") for achieving these goals within one year after the adoption of this Resolution, to include interim milestones, financial impacts, equity metrics, potential financing mechanisms, and the percentage of 'renewable energy' that is locally produced; which Plan may include conducting an energy audit for municipal buildings and vehicle fleets as a baseline, with ongoing monitoring and tracking usage through energy benchmarking and the term 'renewable energy' shall mean carbon-free and pollution-free energy generated sustainably from renewable sources such as wind, solar, small hydro, tidal, fuel cells, and geothermal;
b. allow Jenkintown Borough stakeholders to have the opportunity and be encouraged to participate in the planning process.

9. Continuing to decrease energy usage strategically by implementing energy efficiency improvements.

DULY ADOPTED by Jenkintown Borough Council, Borough of Jenkintown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, in a public meeting held this 23rd day of September 2026.

BOROUGH OF JENKINTOWN

Jay Conners
Borough Council President

ATTEST: _____
George Locke
Borough Manager/Secretary