

**MOTION  
OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION  
ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY  
POLICY COMMITTEE AND PROVIDING POLICY  
DIRECTION TO SAID COMMITTEE**

**ADOPTED  
JANUARY 26, 2016**

**TEXT OF THE MOTION**

The Port of Seattle is committed to efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while pursuing strategies to strengthen the region's competitive position and create new economic opportunities. The Port supports efforts by the international community, the United States, the State of Washington, King County, and Seattle to reduce the threat of climate change.

The Port of Seattle Commission hereby establishes an Energy and Sustainability Policy Committee and charges it to develop and propose to the Commission for consideration and adoption policy directives that include:

- (1) Incentivizing and supporting strategies for maritime and aviation industries and associations not included in the Paris Accord to hasten the reduction of greenhouse gas reductions;
- (2) Considering greenhouse gas emissions when evaluating Port projects and competing business proposals;
- (3) Providing guidelines to Port staff on consideration/inclusion of energy efficiency and on-site green energy generation for all Port major maintenance projects and capital improvements; and
- (4) Consulting with managing members of the Northwest Seaport Alliance to determine how such considerations can be applied to the jointly managed maritime assets of the Alliance.

**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION**

The 195 countries of the Conference of Parties (COP21) in Paris on December 12, 2015, reached a landmark climate accord that will, for the first time, commit nearly every country to lowering planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions to help stave off the most drastic effects of climate change.

The Port of Seattle, as a leader in international trade with a commitment to environmental stewardship, is uniquely positioned to support the international agreement and take actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Climate change will have disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged communities living in close proximity to industrial areas, transportation corridors, and other sources of greenhouse gas emissions. A transition to a clean energy economy can create jobs throughout the region, including within disadvantaged communities.

The Port of Seattle, as the “Green Gateway” for trade, can be a strong partner with other ports and Washington business, government, and community organizations to turn our world-renowned ingenuity and start-up culture toward boosting efficiency, increasing the share of safe, clean, and renewable energy sources and other new economy solutions.

Ports can serve as stewards of air and water resources by being powerful advocates – leveraging their economic and political resources to build and finance the infrastructure for a clean economy.

The Port of Seattle has taken many actions to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG), including adoption of the Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy, which has a goal to reduce GHG emissions by 20 percent per ton of cargo moved through our Seaport by 2020. At the Airport, the Port requires an all-green taxi fleet, electric ground support equipment, and provides preconditioned air to reduce airplane idling at the terminal. It is also working to evaluate the ability to provide biofuels for airlines and has joined the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG) commitment to improve air transport fuel efficiency and achieve carbon neutral growth from 2020.

While the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has taken steps to reduce GHG emissions, and the International Civil Aviation Organization is expected to adopt new carbon emission standards for aircraft in 2016, the Paris Accord does not include greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals from ships and airplanes.