

WHEREAS, smarter energy infrastructure is a critical part of today's modern communities and the 21st century economy,

WHEREAS energy storage is a critical component of smarter energy infrastructure

WHEREAS, energy storage, smarter energy infrastructure and grid modernization enable greater customer choice, improve the efficiency, reliability, and resiliency of the energy grid, and facilitate the integration of more clean energy and distributed energy resources, while maintaining reliability and affordability; and

WHEREAS, investments by electric companies to build and operate energy storage and other smarter energy infrastructure support communities for the purpose of creating a better quality of life for citizens; and,

WHEREAS, investments by electric companies to deploy energy storage technologies and systems and other smarter energy infrastructure contribute to maintaining the reliability of the electric grid and improved operations by electric companies to the benefit of all consumers,

WHEREAS, African American Mayors Association (AAMA) recognizes that a smart grid that includes energy storage is one component of a comprehensive effort to creating and maintaining access to clean, safe, reliable, and affordable energy options for all consumers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that AAMA urges city leaders to collaborate with regulators, policymakers and stakeholders to develop policies that remove barriers to energy storage and other smarter energy infrastructure deployment and help realize the full economic, environmental, and societal benefits of these resources; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AAMA supports a competitive market, where electric companies, businesses, governments, and other stakeholders are able to participate in the owning, leasing, operating, or maintenance of energy storage and other smart energy infrastructure; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AAMA recognizes the crucial role played by electric companies that integrate technology onto the electric grid in deploying smarter energy infrastructure,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that AAMA supports electric company investments in energy storage and other smart energy infrastructure to help ensure all citizens have access to, and may take part in the benefits of, a smarter electric grid, as well as spur innovation and technology deployment; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED That AAMA, while recognizing that building energy storage and other smarter energy infrastructure will evolve over time and additional principles may emerge, endorses the following foundational principles for the purpose of educating its members and identifying issues of interest to local policy makers, the federal government and others:

- 1) Energy storage and other smarter energy infrastructure investments provide benefits to customers;

- 2) To maximize the opportunities and benefits energy storage and other smarter energy infrastructure can provide to society, all electric companies should be able to invest in energy storage and other smarter energy infrastructure and have a clear path for cost recovery.

- 3) Energy storage, distributed energy resources, digital smart meters, power flow management technologies, distribution management and outage management technologies, and other innovative technologies are important components of smarter energy infrastructure;