

RESOLUTION 11—36

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING URANIUM MINING IN VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, the Henderson City Council (Council) conducted its Annual Planning Retreat in January 2010, and during said Retreat identified eight Key Strategic Objectives (KSO) and Goals; *and*

WHEREAS, this Resolution addresses two of the KSO's as follows: KSO 5: Provide Reliable, Dependable Infrastructure; *and* KSO 7: Expand Leisure and Cultural Services, Programs and Facilities; *and*

WHEREAS, a large uranium reserve, estimated to be over 100 million pounds, was discovered at the Coles Hill, Virginia site in Pittsylvania County; *and*

WHEREAS, mined uranium ore is normally processed by first grinding it into small uniform particle size (called milling) and then treated with chemical solutions to extract the uranium; *and*

WHEREAS, uranium milling and extraction produce vast quantities of waste material known as tailings; *and*

WHEREAS, tailings are typically stored behind containment structures such as dams; *and*

WHEREAS, tailings retain about 85 percent of the original radioactivity for hundreds of thousands of years due to other radioactive materials such as radium and thorium which are not extracted; *and*

WHEREAS, radioactive materials can adversely affect public health if not properly confined; *and*

WHEREAS, this area of Virginia is part of the Roanoke River Basin whose waters supply Kerr Lake; Buggs Island Lake and Lake Gaston; *and*

WHEREAS, climatic and geologic conditions surrounding ore deposits in Pittsylvania County make the area prone to extreme rainfall events (including tropic storms and hurricanes); *and*

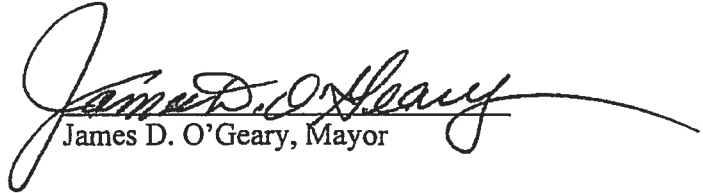
WHEREAS, failure of containment structures could result in contamination of the downstream drinking water supply sources along the Banister River, Roanoke River, Kerr Reservoir and Lake Gaston; *and*

WHEREAS, the City of Henderson operates the Kerr Lake Regional Water Plant, providing potable water to approximately 50,000 residents residing in Henderson, Oxford, Kittrell, and the Counties of Vance, Warren, Franklin and parts of Granville, *and*

WHEREAS, a preliminary assessment of potential impacts of uranium mining in Virginia on drinking water sources has been completed at the request of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, being more fully articulated in *Attachment A* to this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HENDERSON CITY COUNCIL THAT IT DOES HEREBY OPPOSE uranium mining in Pittsylvania County and the elimination of the existing moratorium until it can be demonstrated that there will be NO significant release of radioactive sediments downstream

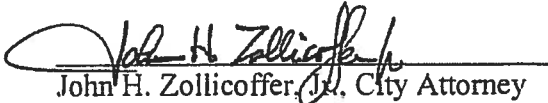
The foregoing Resolution 11—36 upon motion of Council Member Rainey and second by Council Member Peace-Jenkins, and having been submitted to a roll call vote received the following votes and was APPROVED on this the 28th day of March 2011: YES: Coffey, Rainey, Peace-Jenkins, Daeke, Davis, Daye, and Kearney. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Inscoc.


James D. O'Geary, Mayor

ATTEST:


Esther J. McCrackin, City Clerk

Approved to Legal Form:


John H. Zollicoffer, Jr., City Attorney

Reference: Minute Book 42, pp. 79.