Draft Motion – Gas Fired Electricity Generation Phase Out

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario is planning to increase greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from Ontario's gas-fired power plants by more than 300% by 2030 and by 500% or more by 2040, reversing more than 40% of the GHG reductions that were achieved by phasing out coal-fired power plants; and

WHEREAS GHG emissions are causing temperatures to rise in Canada at more than double the rate of the rest of the world, causing impacts to municipal operations and affecting City of Mississauga residents; and

WHEREAS, in June 2019, the City of Mississauga declared a climate emergency; and

WHEREAS, in December 2019, the City of Mississauga approved the City's first comprehensive Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) which sets out ambitious goals, including reducing GHG emissions 80% (as compared to 1990 levels) by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the latest Five Year Energy Conservation Plan (2019-2023) has a target of a 1% reduction per year in energy use and GHG emissions in our facilities, over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, if the City is to meet its targets under the CCAP and the Five Year Energy Conservation Plan (2019-2023), the Ontario electricity grid must remain low carbon; and

WHEREAS the Environmental Action Committee has reviewed the material from the Ontario Clean Air Alliance and supports the request to pass this motion; and

THEREFORE be it resolved that the City of Mississauga requests the Government of Ontario to place an interim cap of 2.5 megatonnes per year on GHG emissions from Ontario's gas-fired power plants and develop and implement a plan to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation by 2030 to ensure that Ontario meets its climate targets; and

THAT this resolution be sent to the Minister Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, all Mississauga MPPs, and Ontario Premier Doug Ford as proposed by the Ontario Clean Air Alliance.

PLASER