



**Proposed National Latino Congreso Resolution 7.03
Moratorium on Coal Production and on New Coal-Fired Power Plants
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WHEREAS coal is the largest, dirtiest source of electricity, air pollution and climate-changing greenhouse gases in the United States; and

WHEREAS the mining and development of coal promote destructive practices such as mountaintop removal and the degradation of ecosystems, communities, water, clean air and the climate generally; and

WHEREAS current technology render conventional coal-fired power plants extremely inefficient in the capture and storage of polluting toxins and climate-changing carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS conventional coal-fired power plants in the U.S. are also the single largest source of industrial mercury emissions which is causally linked to high rates of birth defects, breast cancer, asthma, lung and nervous system damage; and

WHEREAS the destructive impacts from coal mining, development and use as the primary energy source in the U.S. are tied to communities that are traditionally poor and marginalized; and

WHEREAS more than 150 new coal-fired power plants, none incorporating CO2 emission capture-and-storage technology, are currently in various stages of development across the U.S. at an estimated price tag of \$125 billion at completion; and

WHEREAS as the future of coal dependency will be one of stricter regulation and higher costs – economically, socially, environmentally and technologically – that will be borne by consumers; and

WHEREAS the federal government is currently relaxing laws in order to facilitate higher levels of coal production; and

WHEREAS coal production and energy dependency is the single biggest obstacle to curbing global warming;

1. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso urge the Federal Government to:
 - a. impose a moratorium on coal development and on the construction of new coal-fired power plants; and
 - b. provide economic and social safety nets for those communities and segments of the U.S. population that will be adversely affected by the policy-driven transition in the energy sector from coal to renewable and clean fuels; and
 - c. develop responsible energy policies that prioritize energy efficiency and that promote investment in the development of clean renewable energy sources and technologies; and
 - d. implement immediately an aggressive plan to phase out existing conventional coal-fired power plants operations in the U.S; and

2. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that organizations represented by delegates of the 2007 National Latino Congreso urge banks, investment firms, and private equity firms to:
 - a. stop funding new coal-fired power plant development, and enact comprehensive financial policies that address climate change; and
 - b. alternatively invest in efficient technologies and clean renewable energy plants and resources; and
 - c. aggressively finance the transition to a low carbon economy; and
 - d. play a substantial role in providing economic and social safety nets for those communities and segments of the U.S. population that will be adversely affected by the transition in the energy sector from coal to renewable and clean fuels.