

COUNTY OF RICHLAND

Office Of

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

201 West Main - Sidney, Montana 59270

406-433-1706 FAX 406-433-3731

Chairman-Don Steppler

Member-Henry T. Johnson

Member-Mark Rehbein

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMPROVED NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Be it known, the **RICHLAND COUNTY** believes that the United States needs a responsible energy policy; and

Whereas, the links between economic growth, prosperity, energy security and environmental objectives are unbreakable; and

Whereas, the U.S. Department of Energy has concluded that worldwide energy supply from all sources will need to be increased to keep up with demand through the year 2030; and

Whereas, coal is a main source of energy throughout the world and provides half electricity used in the United States; and

Whereas, achieving energy independence and security for the United States can only be done by fully utilizing America's most abundant energy source - coal; and

Whereas, clean coal technologies, including carbon capture and storage, will play an increasing role in America's energy policy while still maintaining the essential pillar of economic growth - affordable energy; and

Whereas, future emissions related energy legislation must be synchronized with the availability of cost-effective emission control technology; and

Whereas, existing sources of energy such as coal and alternative sources of fuel like solar, wind, and nuclear power will all have to be part of a comprehensive approach to affordable energy; and

Whereas, continued funding, research, demonstration and deployment of carbon capture and storage and other clean coal technologies will secure hardworking American coal mining jobs in our state, and nationwide contribute to a more prosperous economy;
now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the **RICHLAND COUNTY** calls upon **SENATORS MAX BAUCUS AND JOHN TESTER** and the United States Congress to support the continued funding, research, demonstration and deployment of carbon capture and storage and other clean coal technologies with the goal of developing an effective energy policy that will protect and maintain America's economic vitality.

APPROVED BY RICHLAND COUNTY ON THIS 7th DAY OF OCTOBER 2008.

Max Baucus

Don Steppeler