

# Texas Democratic Party Fossil-fuel Resolution

**WHEREAS:** As Texas Democratic Party leaders plan for the 2018 State Convention, responsible Texans must call for the same accountability on climate and the environment that they demand from the Trump administration, no more business-as-usual, no more excuses. We oppose Trump's efforts to boost fossil-fuel profits at the expense of the planet, and we see the absolute necessity for the Texas Democratic Party, at every level, to be the leader in this struggle.

**WHEREAS:** The 2016 state party convention featured sponsorship by TXU, Luminant, Atmos Energy and CenterPoint Energy, all of which own natural gas or coal production, or distribute electrical power created by those methods—and all of which contribute to climate change as well as pose health risks to nearby residents. This past relationship between the Texas Democratic Party and fossil fuels must end.

**WHEREAS:** As the Democratic Party looks to the future, it seeks to win over millions of younger voters, voters whose worldview is generally more focused on the environment', and less tolerant of injustice; in particular, they will not abide inaction on climate change. If the Party wants young voters, quite simply—it *must divest* from fossil fuels.

**WHEREAS:** Other benefits that would follow are 1) increased support from environmental voters, regardless of age 2) support from younger voters whose party loyalty has not been established 3) opportunities for socially responsible companies to support the Party's efforts, once the irresponsible sponsors are out of the picture and 4) cementing the Democratic Party as the party of the future.

**WHEREAS:** The Texas Democratic Party must choose now—will they support our future or will they continue their past relationships with fossil-fuel companies whose activity threaten our future.

## **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The Wimberley Democrats strongly supports the Texas Democratic Party cease taking any money from companies in the fossil fuel industry which are engaged in the sale, transfer, generation or dissemination of fossil fuels, and fossil fuels make up fifty-one percent or more of their product.

The Texas Democratic Party will have completed this shift away from fossil fuel donations by the year 2020, giving it sufficient time to replace that funding with donations from, among others, the wind and solar companies which have made fortunes in West Texas, national companies which opposed U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Accords like Google, Tesla and Amazon, companies focused on energy efficiency, solar installation services and local electric vehicle dealers, and those who are sympathetic to the necessary economic transition from fossil fuels to renewables.

**Enacted by the Steering Committee of the Wimberley Democrats on June 28, 2017.**

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