

Ready for 100 Resolution Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Ready for 100 Resolution?

On March 9, 2021 the West Bradford Board of Supervisors unanimously passed Resolution 21-06, the Ready for 100 resolution. The Ready for 100 resolution sets a goal of transitioning to 100% clean, renewable electricity by 2035, to become carbon neutral by 2040, and to transition to 100% renewable energy for heat and transportation by 2050.

What are “renewable” and “sustainable” energy sources?

A renewable and sustainable energy source is one that is repeatedly available, without decreasing, and has minimal environmental impact, such as wind, solar, hydro and geothermal.

Will I be forced to move to renewable energy?

Absolutely not! The resolution very clearly states it is the township’s intent to promote the use of renewable, sustainable energy but not to mandate it. This commitment is meant to guide future decisions in West Bradford Township. We expect the township to make prudent fiscal choices that will also utilize renewable, sustainable energy. For example, when a township vehicle needs to be replaced, the hope is it will be replaced with a vehicle that runs on a renewable source of energy. The idea is that the township will help facilitate and create positive incentives for residents to follow the renewable path.

Why did West Bradford take this step?

West Bradford has always been a leader in environmental stewardship, beginning with the installation of geothermal heating and cooling in both our administration building and State police barracks. West Bradford was one of the first communities to use LED lighting in traffic signals as well as solar powered school and traffic signs. West Bradford also departed from traditional stream discharge sewer treatment, opting for spray irrigation as a much more environmentally sustainable option. In keeping with our tradition and values, we acknowledge the risks to our sustainability presented by climate change. By passing this resolution, West Bradford joins many communities in our area and around the world in doing our part to help solve a global challenge.

Have other townships in Chester County passed a Ready for 100 resolution?

Southeastern Pennsylvania has the largest number of active Ready for 100 communities in the country. Currently, 13 communities have committed to transitioning to a 100% renewable energy future in Chester County. In addition to West Bradford, the following Chester County communities have made similar commitments:

- Phoenixville Borough
- West Chester Borough
- Downingtown Borough
- Kennett Township
- East Bradford Township
- Uwchlan Township
- Schuylkill Township
- Pocopson Township
- West Vincent Township
- Tredyffrin Township
- East Pikeland
- East Fallowfield

What will West Bradford do next to act on this resolution?

West Bradford plans on working closely with our neighboring municipalities to achieve these goals. Some steps the township will be taking include:

- Developing an energy transition plan that includes identifying West Bradford’s current carbon footprint, measuring current costs of energy from every source, setting interim milestones, assessing financial impacts, identifying potential financing mechanisms.
- Providing opportunities for the public to learn more about renewable, sustainable energy.
- Prioritizing locally produced and distributed energy when economically feasible.
- Taking advantage of county, state, private, non-profit, and federal programs, grants, and incentives that can be used to meet our renewable energy goals.

How much will this cost?

There are no specific costs tied to this resolution. Instead it establishes a framework for our future that emphasizes sustainability and energy efficiency. The township will balance energy innovation with fiscal responsibility. Future expenditures by the township will be subject to the standard budgetary process.

What happens if we fall short?

If we reach 2050 and have only achieved, say, an 80% renewable target, then we have achieved 80% —and we continue toward our township goal of becoming 100% renewable as soon as we can.