



10 East Church Street  
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

November 20, 2018

Dear Mayor Donchez and Honorable Members of City Council,

We commend the City of Bethlehem on its decision to purchase 100% of its electricity from renewable energy sources (as recommended in our letter of July 10) beginning in 2019. While waiting for the Climate Action Plan to be developed and implemented, the City is affirming its commitment to climate action and serving as a role model to others.

As the next step in the fight against climate change, we should strive to use renewable energy that is generated locally, rather than from third party suppliers. Examples of this include solar panels on City buildings and investments in solar farms, wind farms, hydropower or geothermal energy located in Pennsylvania. It is noteworthy that for power generated on site, the costs of generation, transmission and distribution do not apply.

Incentives and ordinances that encourage residents and businesses to use renewable energy, such as the recent amendments to the fire codes as they relate to solar panels, also help promote greater use of renewable energy.

We are proud and grateful that City Council and the Administration take the issue of climate change seriously and have been taking actions to lower the City's greenhouse gas emissions.

Sincerely,

*Lynn Rothman*

Lynn Rothman, Chair

On behalf of the Bethlehem EAC:

Elisabeth Cichonski    Brian Hillard

Kathy Fox                Mike Topping

Jack Gambino