## **RESOLUTION 150-19**

## RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF CLAYTON EXPRESSING INTEREST IN THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY RESIDENTIAL ENERGY COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has been engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through deregulation and restructuring of the electric utility market; and

WHEREAS, the Government Energy Aggregation Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq. governs the establishment of a Government Energy Aggregation ("GEA") program, which is a government-operated purchasing cooperative through which multiple energy consumers purchase energy together, under the auspices of a government aggregator, thereby, increasing competition for the provision of electric power to residential and non-residential users, and the likelihood of lower electric rates without interruption in service; and

**WHEREAS**, by resolution adopted June 19, 2019, the County of Gloucester established a GEA program pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et. seq. and N.J.A.C. 14:4-6, and designated the County as a government aggregator for the purchase of electric generation service; and

WHEREAS, the GEA program, to be known as the Gloucester County Residential Energy Cooperative, will increase competition for the provision of electric power and create the opportunity for significant cost savings for residents and non-residents; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Clayton realizes that it is in the interests of the health, safety, and welfare of its residents and non-residents to provide such an opportunity for reduction in the cost of energy, and acknowledges the benefits of joining in an energy cooperative.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough of Clayton publicly declares its interest in joining the Gloucester County Residential Energy Cooperative on behalf of residential and non-residential users of electricity, in accordance with the Government Energy Aggregation Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq.; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough of Clayton will utilize the County of Gloucester's energy agents of record to seek bids from licensed and appropriate third-party suppliers. Upon award of a bid and execution of an agreement, individual residential consumers shall retain the option to opt-out and to choose any alternatives they desire, and non-residential ratepayers shall have the right to opt-in; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents necessary to carry out the objectives of this Resolution for the purposes set forth hereinabove.

**ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the governing body of the Borough of Clayton, which was held on July 11, 2019.

BOROUGH OF CLAYTON

TOM BIANCO, Mayor

ATTEST:

CHRISTINE NEWCOMB, Clerk