WHEREAS, agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a positive effect on national security and trade imbalances, and will serve as a catalyst for rural development in Cascade County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Cascade County Commissioners support the vision of "25 by 25" whereby agriculture will provide 25 % of the total energy consumed in the United States by the year 2025, while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber.

IN WHITNESS WHEREOF, we hereunto set our hand and cause the Great Seal of Cascade Country to be affixed this 24th day of October, 2006.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISISONERS
OF CASCADE COUNTY

Peggy S. Beltrone, Chairman

Lance Olson, Commissioner

Joe Briggs, Commissioner

ATTEST:
Peggy Carrico, Clerk & Recorder

R0136895
Page: 2 of 3
10/27/2006 09:35A
CASCADE COUNTY, MT CRS 0.00 By: MDAILEY

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

RESLOLUTION **06-71**

IN THE MATTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE
"25 BY 25" INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, Cascade County supports the "25 by 25" initiative and, in connection therewith, promoting the increased production of renewable energy by the agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy supply is critical to our economy, as well as our national and international food supply; and

WHEREAS, current and future risks to U.S. energy security are mounting while domestic and global energy demands are growing exponentially; and

WHEREAS, Cascade Country, Montana have tremendous renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy sources, including wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters, ethanol, and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct economic benefit to agricultural landowners and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, rural communities and agriculture sectors will experience multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for agricultural commodities; increasing farm income; creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts; more productive use of marginal lands; the resolution of air, water, and soil quality problems that may arise from agricultural operations; improving wildlife habitat; and creating many new job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, solar and wind energy can be captured on the vast land areas managed by U.S. agriculture, and technology and production capabilities allow America's farmers and ranchers to play a major role in ensuring a fully sustainable U.S. energy system; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture is well positioned to play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions and with appropriate technological innovation incentives, and investments, America's farms and ranches can become the factories that produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's energy needs; and

WHEREAS, "25 by 25" is an agriculturally led initiative that envisions America producing 25% of its energy from agriculture by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber; and

Return to Commissioners

R0136895
Page: 1 of 3
CASCADE COUNTY, MT CRS
0.00 By: MDAILEY
10/27/2006 09:35A