



Resolution

Support for House Bill 4007 of 2025

WHEREAS, the City of Marquette, Michigan has responsibility for ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, the Marquette Board of Light and Power was established by City Charter, and is responsible for the light and power operations of the City; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 17,000 residents within the City of Marquette and parts of the nine surrounding townships receive electrical power from the Marquette Board of Light and Power; and,

WHEREAS, House Bill 4007 of 2025 aims to expand the definition of clean energy systems and promote alternative energy sources in Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the bill seeks to amend the "Clean and Renewable Energy and Energy Waste Reduction Act" (2008 PA 295) to include a broader range of clean energy technologies; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Marquette and Marquette County are home to two new, highly-efficient natural gas generating stations—the Marquette Energy Center and the F. D. Kuester Generating Station—that are critical to providing dependable power to our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Marquette Energy Center, constructed by the Marquette Board of Light and Power, and the F. D. Kuester Generating Station, constructed by Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation, have facilitated the transition from oversized coal-fired generating plants to efficient, clean, and right-sized natural gas generation, significantly contributing to the decarbonization of the Upper Peninsula; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Michigan Public Service Commission, the Upper Peninsula shuttered its last coal plant in 2019, reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the electric power sector by 71% from 2013 to 2022; and,

WHEREAS, these investments were developed in coordination with Upper Peninsula stakeholders and the State of Michigan to address an energy crisis and ensure grid reliability, representing a forward-thinking approach to energy generation; and,

WHEREAS, House Bill 4007 is essential to enable the continued operation of these Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine (RICE) units through their useful life, preserving reliable and affordable electric power in the Upper Peninsula; and,

WHEREAS, the RICE units were financed with significant outstanding debt, which will not be paid off until 2036, with a useful life through 2050; and,

WHEREAS, the failure to recognize these investments in Michigan's 2023 clean energy law may result in duplicate energy payments, increasing costs for ratepayers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Marquette City Commission, resolve to strongly support House Bill 4007 of 2025 and urge its swift passage through the Michigan Legislature.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2025.

Jessica Hanley
Mayor
City of Marquette