



**RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING A STATE INVESTIGATION OF THE IMPACTS
OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROCKWOOL FACILITY IN RANSON, WEST VIRGINIA
AND THE TAKING OF ACTION TO PROTECT VIRGINIA'S RESIDENTS AS NECESSARY**

WHEREAS, according to published reports, the City of Ranson and the County of Jefferson, West Virginia, have approved the construction of a \$150 million insulation manufacturing plant located off Route 9; and,

WHEREAS, the approved location is approximately ten miles from the West Virginia/Virginia border and eight miles from the Harpers Ferry National Historic Park where the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers converge; and,

WHEREAS, the factory's smokestacks are anticipated to be twenty-one stories high and will be seen from several points of the Appalachian Trail, including three in Loudoun County; and,

WHEREAS, based on the predominant wind pattern, the majority of the pollutants from the smokestacks will travel towards Loudoun County, impacting air quality in our area; and,

WHEREAS, the air permit for this facility allows for the emission of known carcinogens that are directly associated with increased incidents of childhood and adult cancers; cardiovascular, pulmonary, reproductive and nervous system maladies; and, birth defects in humans, as well as ill effects on livestock and agricultural yields; and,

WHEREAS, the facility will sit on top of the densest area of Karst topography in Jefferson County, which is prone to sinkholes; and,

WHEREAS, if a sinkhole(s) develop and materials from the factory deposit into the breach, even if by accident, this could contaminate the groundwater that makes its way into Loudoun County's streams, creeks and well systems; and,

WHEREAS, Rockwool has already been cited by the West Virginia DEP for several site work violations relating to storm water management and sink holes; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Middleburg is concerned about the impact this manufacturing facility could have on Loudoun County's environment, residents, businesses and tourism industry;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Members of the Town Council of Middleburg, Virginia hereby request that the Commonwealth of Virginia conduct additional studies of the potential air quality impacts within the factory's projected plume range in Western Loudoun County, as well as conduct the necessary testing to determine the potential impacts of the facility on our local water quality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Town Council strongly encourage our State officials to take action as appropriate to protect our residents and local economy, including bringing a lawsuit on behalf of the Commonwealth if necessary.

APPROVED:



Trowbridge M. Littleton, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rhonda S. North, MMC
Town Clerk

This resolution was adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Middleburg, Virginia on the 13th day of December, 2018.