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CONTACT: Supervisor Keith Carson, District 5, (510) 272-6995
Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator, (510) 272-6984

Alameda County Joins We Are Still In and Urges Other Counties to Join

Oakland, CA – Alameda County has joined We Are Still In, bringing the County’s historic commitment to climate action to the national stage. We Are Still In is a coalition of more than 2,300 local governments, states, businesses, investors, and universities representing more than 127 million Americans and $6.2 trillion of the U.S. economy.

At the UN Climate Change Conference starting November 6, 2017 in Bonn, Germany, the subnational commitments made by the members of We Are Still In and related initiatives will be shared with the international community. These aggregated commitments demonstrate that entities in the United States will aim to fulfill our national pledge to cut greenhouse gas emissions despite the federal government’s intention to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement.

Alameda County is fulfilling its pledge to advance climate leadership nationwide made in the Resolution to Reaffirm Climate Action Commitments and Support the Paris Climate Agreement adopted this June. “We are following through on our promise to advance climate leadership across the nation,” said Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator. “We have created a tool kit to assist other counties to sign on, which is available at https://www.wearestillin.com/news/counties-toolkit. More counties’ voices need to be heard.”

Alameda County has long been taking action to prevent and prepare for disruptions caused by climate change. The County launched East Bay Community Energy to provide a greener electricity choice for residents and businesses, was recently recognized for having the fourth greenest fleet in North America, and has installed 3.5 megawatts of onsite solar power systems.

As a signatory, Alameda County will remain engaged in the international effort to hold global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius and to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy.

“As more severe heat waves scorch the Bay Area, deadly wildfires devastate California, and intensified hurricanes cause destruction in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, the need for climate leadership is urgent,” said Supervisor Keith Carson. “Alameda County stands with affected communities and calls on other counties to speak out. We are still in.”

Alameda County is part of a growing movement of subnational and civil society leaders. Alameda County joins its cities of Alameda, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Fremont, San Leandro, and Union City in the We Are Still In coalition. In addition, 382 Climate Mayors from across the United States have committed to uphold Paris Agreement goals, and 15 governors have formed the bipartisan US Climate Alliance.