

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3038

Introduced by

Representatives Kempenich, Koppang

Senator Bowman

1 A concurrent resolution urging the Industrial Commission and the Lignite Energy Council to
2 promote the location of any new lignite-fired electricity generating facility constructed in North
3 Dakota at or near the Gascoyne mine.

4 **WHEREAS**, the Gascoyne mine, which produced 2.2 million tons of lignite annually and
5 employed 55 people, closed in 1995; and

6 **WHEREAS**, there is an estimated 1,000 years of lignite reserves available at the
7 Gascoyne mine; and

8 **WHEREAS**, a new facility near the Gascoyne mine was identified in the Lignite
9 Vision 21 study as a potential site for a new lignite-fired electricity generating plant in North
10 Dakota; and

11 **WHEREAS**, available water, labor, and the ability to meet air quality standards makes
12 the Gascoyne site ideal for the location of a new lignite-fired electricity generating facility in
13 North Dakota; and

14 **WHEREAS**, a lignite-fired electricity generating facility located near the Gascoyne mine
15 would be in a prime location to export electricity to the western United States while using a
16 North Dakota resource, employing North Dakotans, and providing much-needed economic
17 development in a rural area of the state; and

18 **WHEREAS**, while many areas of the country would oppose the construction of a new
19 electricity generating facility, the people of Bowman and Adams Counties would welcome the
20 location of a new lignite-fired electricity generating facility near the Gascoyne mine that would
21 use lignite produced from the mine;

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
23 **OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:**

- 1 That the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Industrial Commission and the
2 Lignite Energy Council to promote the location of any new lignite-fired electricity generating
3 facility constructed in North Dakota at or near the Gascoyne mine; and
4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
5 resolution to the executive director of the Lignite Energy Council, each member of the board of
6 directors of the Lignite Energy Council, the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Agriculture
7 Commissioner.