Ohio University Climate Action Plan

Formally Adopted: November 28, 2012

Prepared by: Presidential Advisory Council for Sustainability Planning

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Background and Rationale

In an effort to offer structural support to the institution's commitment to sustainability, President Roderick McDavis formed the Presidential Advisory Council for Sustainability Planning (PACSP) in 2009. The formation of this Council was in response to his leadership as a 2007 signatory of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), which declares that Ohio University will be a carbon neutral campus by the year 2075.

Following its original charter, PACSP worked to develop an institutional Sustainability Plan that embraced many aspects of carbon neutrality. That document was formally approved in Summer 2011 and implementation began immediately.

All institutions that formally commit to be an ACUPCC signatory are required, by the terms of the agreement, to develop a "Climate Action Plan" if they wish to remain in good standing. Therefore, once the Sustainability Plan was approved, PACSP began working toward developing the Ohio University Climate Action Plan to more fully honor its commitment to the ACUPCC.

It should be noted that, upon the final approval of the Climate Action Plan, PACSP will dissolve and the Ecology and Energy Conservation Committee (EECC), a University standing committee, will assume the role of monitoring agent of this plan. A similar process was followed for the implementation of the Sustainability Plan. As such, EECC was involved in this planning process and will be offered support and guidance in their efforts from the Office of Sustainability.

Process

Ohio University will decrease its Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGE) while increasing environmentally preferable behaviors in institutional policies and procedures, eventually reaching carbon neutrality in the later half of this century. Climate change mitigation will be accomplished through the conservation and efficient use of natural resources as well as through the replacement of carbon-intensive energy sources with more efficient alternatives.

In an effort to assist the Office of Sustainability and the Ecology and Energy Conservation Committee with their efforts in reporting the achievement of this goal, the Presidential Advisory Council for Sustainability Planning (PACSP) formed seven Sub-Councils and asked them each to provide benchmarks and implementation recommendations. These Sub-Councils included: Energy and Operations; Construction and Design; Land and Resource Management; Waste Reduction and Recycling; Transportation; Education and Outreach; and, Behavior Change and Implementation Management.

Each of the seven Sub-Councils established for the development of this Climate Action Plan was able to identify a unique set of benchmarks and potential strategies for achieving this singular goal of carbon neutrality by the year 2075. While a majority of these sub-councils were formed due to their direct impact on the institution's annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions report, others were formed as a proactive approach to capturing potential opportunities for mitigation throughout the implementation of this plan. Most Sub-Councils were able to identify areas where existing data is lacking and, therefore, where baseline data needs to be gathered prior to successful implementation. Sub-Councils without existing data or a seemingly direct relationship to GHGE offer supplemental documents that are intended to offer a roadmap for implementation.

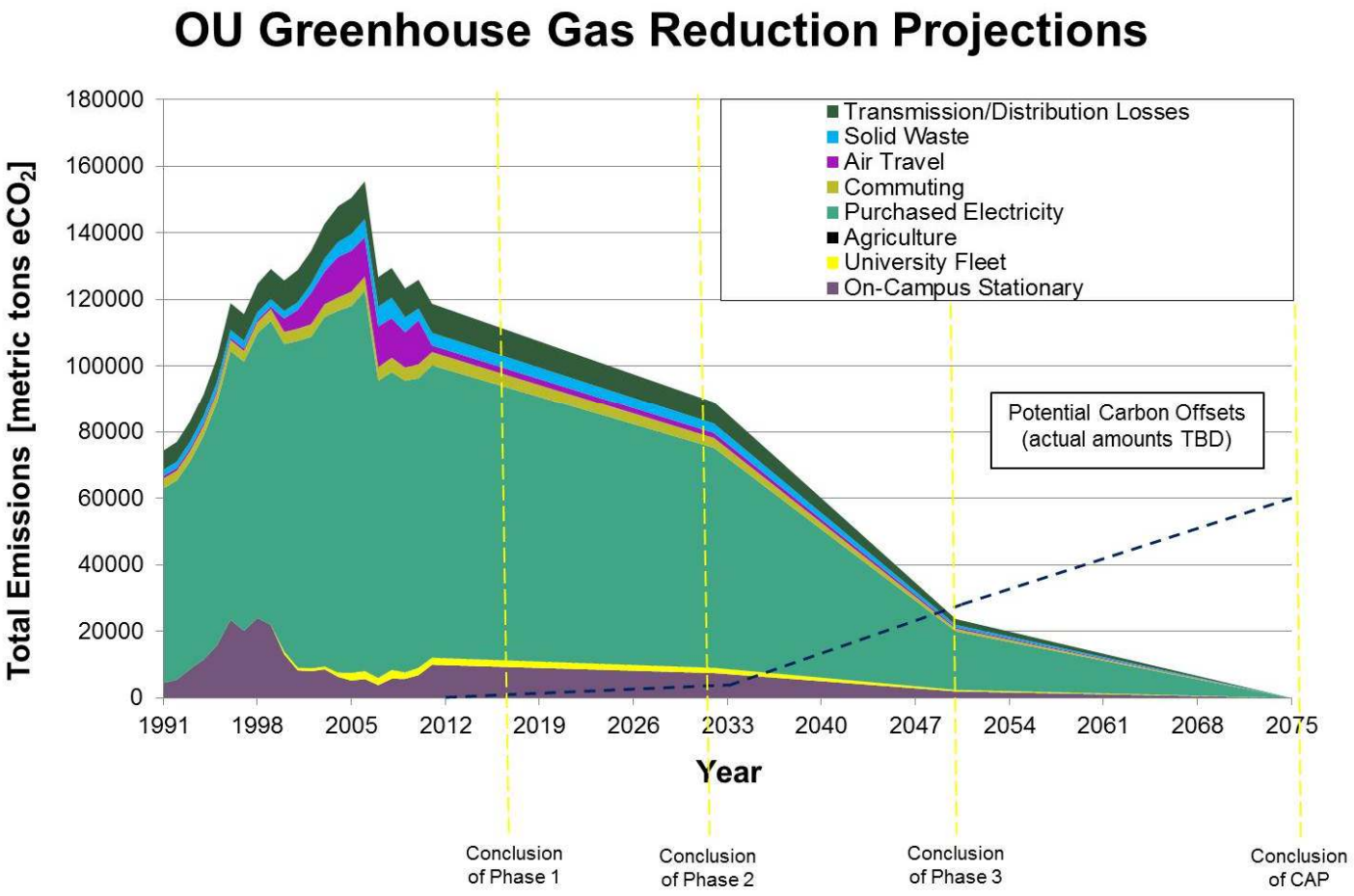
PACSP was careful to take a proactive approach to the development of this plan through their selection of Sub-Council topics and membership. PACSP was fortunate to find a dedicated host of students, faculty, staff and community members who were able to offer intelligent responses to the challenges placed before the institution. Additionally, PACSP engaged in a variety of investigative measures to offer consideration to institutional growth projections. This step in the process was crucial as it allowed PACSP to understand added measures and strategies for carbon reduction during times of anticipated growth and change.

Boundary Statement

The Ohio University Climate Action Plan is a metrics-based document that focuses almost entirely on the metrics reported in the institution's annual Greenhouse Gas Inventory (using the Clean Air Cool Planet Campus Carbon Calculator (CACP-CCC)). Two exceptions were included in this definition of boundaries: the establishment of an implementation and education plan and the potential development of offset opportunities through land and resource management. Such boundaries were deemed necessary in the proper development of a balanced and effective Climate Action Plan.

It is PACSP's prediction and hope that future versions of the nationally recognized carbon calculators will account for important data regarding land and resources and, therefore, OU chose to expand the definition of CAP boundaries to account for planning and implementation of these efforts. While we recognize that there may be aspects of sustainability excluded from this document, we are confident that such elements are appropriately addressed by the Sustainability Plan, the Office of Sustainability, the Ecology and Energy Conservation Committee or other invested groups across OU's campuses.

Projection Data:



Notes:

PACSP recognizes that the institution will be unable to rely solely on consumption reductions in its effort to achieve carbon neutrality. Therefore, the investment in renewable energy, increase in natural landscape opportunities and the purchase of carbon offsets will be instrumental in our accomplishments. The neutrality imagery offered in the above graph is achieved through both reductions and offsets that are reflected in the projection numbers calculated by each sub-council.

It is anticipated that this graph will be updated annually as more projection information becomes available.

Implementation Timeline

The Ohio University Climate Action Plan (OU-CAP) has one ultimate goal of carbon neutrality by 2075 as directed by our position as a signatory of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). This goal is also reflected as Item One of the Ohio University Sustainability Plan (OUSP).

The OU-CAP offers a variety of quantifiable goals broken down into four timelines. Each timeline is offered as a Phase so as to align with existing commitments and institutional objectives.

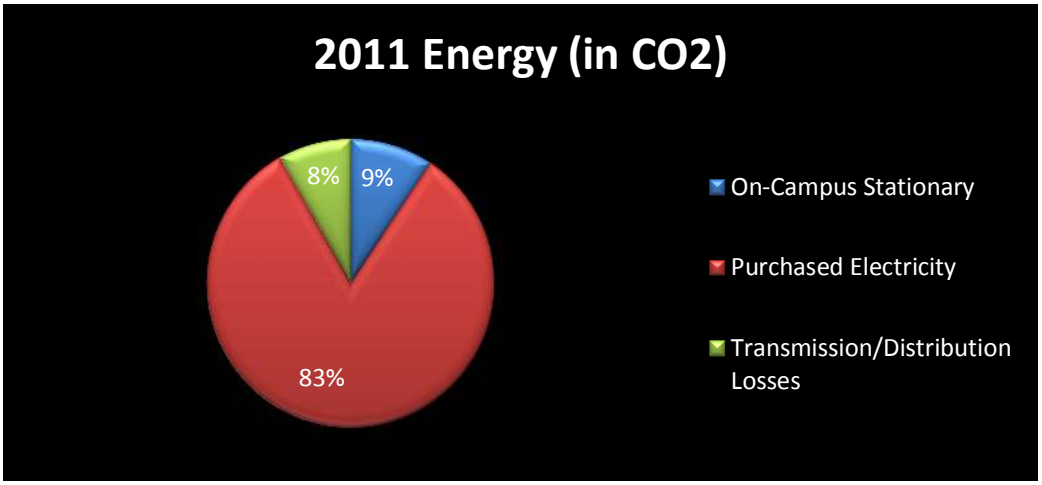
- **Phase One:** The OU-CAP is dedicated to offering immediate responses to the President's interest in drastic reductions in our dependency on fossil fuels. Therefore, the first phase of deadlines aligns with the completion of the Capital Improvement Plan, which is a 6 year commitment approved by the Board of Trustees in November of 2011 (to begin implementation in 2012). Phase One of the OU-CAP is scheduled to begin in Fall 2012 and conclude Fall 2018.
- **Phase Two:** A soft goal of 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions has been put in place for Fall 2032 as this date marks the completion of the institution's 20-year Capital Plan.
- **Phase Three:** A hard goal, established through the text of the ACUPCC, of an 80% overall reduction in institutional greenhouse gas emissions has been established for Fall 2050.
- **Phase Four:** The ultimate goal of the OU-CAP is to reach carbon neutrality by Fall 2075. Upon successful completion of this goal, Phase Four will conclude and the OU-CAP will dissolve. The metrics and strategies provided in Phase Four of OU-CAP are vague and incomplete as the technologies, triumphs and obstacles that will be present at the institution during this time are currently unknown.

The Ecology and Energy Conservation Committee (EECC), in partnership with the Office of Sustainability, will work to implement this plan, offer annual reports and make amendments as needed. It is the recommendation of PACSP that EECC, who serves as the monitoring agent of the OU-CAP, critically review these metrics and goals throughout implementation and make amendments as necessary. It is especially important that, during Phase Three implementation at the latest, EECC works to establish firmer recommended strategies for achieving true carbon neutrality. The formal amendment process that is currently in place for the implementation of the Sustainability Plan shall be applied to the implementation process of the OU-CAP.

Energy & Operations

Ohio University's Greenhouse Gas Report shows that Purchased Electricity accounts for a majority of the institution's emissions. As such, it was necessary for the Energy and Operations Sub-Council to offer tangible goals and recommended implementation strategies to assist with the reduction and offsetting of institutional GHGE.

Significant effort needs to be made in the collection of baseline data in regards to Energy and Operations. Since a majority of the institutional GHG reporting currently excludes regional campuses, it is imperative that the institution establish baseline data for all regional campuses which will, in turn, allow us to develop stronger goals regarding energy intensity and peak goals for each of our regional campuses. The university would benefit from a Space Management Audit in an effort to characterize building use to better understand each building's unique energy consumption needs. Additionally, as the university works to sub-meter each of its buildings, an effort must be made to establish baseline performance data of these individual buildings so as to continually assess and improve upon its performance.



Energy and Operations Benchmarks

Phase 1:

- 2014: Reduce building energy intensity by 20% below 2012* levels
- 2016: Lower peak to 23 MW (on Athens campus)
- 2016: Replace Lausche heating plant with lower emissions replacement
- 2018: Increase renewable energy generation to 20% of all campus use *(defined as 2020 in Sustainability Plan)*

Phase 2:

- 2030: Reduce building energy intensity by 40% below 2012* levels
- 2030: Reduce institutional greenhouse gas emissions 25% below 2012* levels
- 2032: Increase renewable energy generation to 30% of all campus use *(defined as 2040 in Sustainability Plan)*

Phase 3:

- 2050: Reduce institutional greenhouse gas emissions 50% below 2012* levels
- 2050: Increase renewable energy generation to 40% of all campus use

Phase 4:

- 2075: 0 emissions from energy and operations practices on all campuses

Reporting Responsibility: Director of Energy Management, Facilities Management

**Note: All baseline years have been selected as 2012 despite contradictory language in the Sustainability Plan. Such a decision allows all areas of the CAP to align more completely and will provide a consistent reporting baseline.*

Energy & Operations, Recommended Implementation Strategies

- Institute temperature mandates and controls:
    - Evaluate opportunities for electricity and heating/cooling reductions associated with holidays and breaks.
    - Evaluate opportunities for hot water temperature minimums and thresholds in:
        - academic buildings
        - residential buildings
        - culinary services
- Allow only the purchase of *energy efficient* appliances and controls.
- Replace inefficient systems with energy efficient alternatives through Performance Contracting efforts.
- Maintenance will be hierarchical in which predictive maintenance preferred over preventative, preventative preferred over reactive, and reactive preferred over emergency maintenance. Continual maintenance of buildings encourages energy efficiency and economic sustainability of the appliances and buildings themselves.
- Sub-meter campus facilities (at all campuses) of facilities over 15,000 gsf.
- Institute 'energy tap fee' on all construction/renovations projects over $2 million directed to renewable energy fund.
- Establish exterior lighting practices to ensure lighting is not wasteful but still honors institutional commitments to safety.
- Continually audit and assess interior and exterior lighting options and actively seek high efficient alternatives in times of upgrades.
- Favor Group I over Group II power sources whenever possible. Group I and Group II are defined as:
    - Group I power sources can include carbon-free sources such as solar power, wind power, hydropower as well as fuel cells and sustainable biomass.
    - Group II power sources would include low-carbon emitting sources such as biomass facilities and trash-to-energy facilities.
- Audit chilled water system and seek higher efficient upgrades to existing system.
- Ohio University's Lausche Heating Plant will be replaced with a low emissions alternative:
    - The institution will switch from coal to natural gas as a pilot program in FY12.
        - Encourage university to seek disclosure from gas supplier regarding tracking of percentage of distribution and sourcing.
    - March 2015: Retrofit the plant and be able to be 100% natural gas with no coal.
    - June 2017: Co-generation plant to be added and operational.
    - Continually assess opportunities to improve efficiency of heating plant
    - Continually assess opportunities for transitioning to renewable resources to supply heat and energy.
    - Continually assess cost of renewable energy and other offset opportunities to ensure best value and financial sustainability in the institution's efforts to achieving neutrality.
- Institute a "green pay day" for facilities where, monthly, the staff walks or bikes to assignment as opposed to on-campus travel in state vehicles.
- Allow the revenue from conservation strategies to be directed toward a fund to reduce the cost of environmentally friendly transportation.

Land & Resource Management

It was with great excitement that the Land and Resource Management Sub-Council was included in the development of this plan. While current GHGE reporting does not pointedly remark on the institution's approach to such practices, it has become increasingly obvious that the political, social and structural climate of Ohio University and its surrounding communities is asking us to become a proactive leader on the topic. As mineral rights leasing and responsible landscaping management practices were being brought to the forefront of many conversations, PACSP saw a great opportunity to begin considering these efforts as a necessary strategy for achieving carbon neutrality.

Such a tactic, while exciting, also offered some significant obstacles. Current GHGE reporting does not require a great deal of data to be collected in regards to land and resource use. Therefore, a lack of baseline data offered some initial struggles in the development of benchmarks and implementation strategies. It is necessary that the institution first approach this topic by establishing baseline GHGE of existing land management practices and existing carbon stocks. Additionally, it is necessary to create an inventory of existing green space on all OU campuses so as to positively track opportunities for natural carbon capture.

Land and Resource Management, Benchmarks

Phase 1:

- 2013 (through 2075): Record 0 net emissions from fossil fuel extraction on OU property (ongoing)
- 2018: Increase carbon storage by 5% from 2012 levels
- 2018: Reduce GHGE from land management practices and equipment by 25% of 2012 levels

Phase 2:

- 2032: Reduce GHGE from land management practices and equipment by 50% of 2012 levels
- 2032: Increase carbon storage by 15% from 2012 levels

Phase 3:

- 2050: Reduce GHGE from land management practices and equipment by 75% of 2012 levels
- 2050: Increase carbon storage by 30% from 2012 levels

Phase 4:

- 2075: 0 emissions from land and resource management practices on all campuses

Reporting Responsibility: Grounds Services, Director of Real Estate and Community Relations

Land & Resource Management, Recommended Implementation Strategies

- Include offsetting requirements in any leasing activity generated by the university requiring companies extracting resources from OU property to mitigate or offset all emissions associated with use of the total amount of resource extracted.
- Use a carbon calculator to calculate the carbon stocks of lands identified by OU GIS mapping team as wooded, field, agricultural and landscaped. If needed, use GIS to overlay National Land Cover Data (NLCD) with identified properties to more specifically identify forest type and resulting carbon storage. This will provide more accuracy because different forest types have different carbon values.
- Establish Land Development Standards to be incorporated with design standards for all buildings. This document is to provide specific options for offsetting changes in land use.
- Identify areas of land that can transition from low carbon storage (i.e. landscaped property) to higher carbon storage (i.e. forest or increased shade canopy).
- Identify strategy for increasing total shade canopy on campuses.
- Form a Land Management committee or class to include staff from Grounds Services.
    - Utilize this group to develop institutional Land Development and Maintenance Standards which are specific standards that identify formulas and strategies for changes in land use and ways to minimize carbon emissions from maintenance.
        - For example, for every acre of field to be paved with asphalt, X trees need to be planted. For every acre of field to be paved with permeable pavers, X trees need to be planted.
    - Implement permanent signage and utilize other communications to inform stakeholders of land management changes and the reasoning for such changes.
- Reduce the amount of maintenance required for landscaping campuses:
    - Increase perennial and native plantings
    - Increase areas of “no-mow”
    - Establish riparian plantings
- Identify land that can transition from low carbon storage (such as landscaping) to higher storage (such as forest).
- Run entire fleet of land maintenance vehicles and tools on renewable energy by 2075.
- Ensure permanence of forested/reforested areas.

Waste Reduction & Recycling

In 2011, emissions from waste represented 3.2% of total institutional emissions. While this is a small percentage of total emissions, this number only represents emissions from landfills, and does not take into account front-end production emissions. While Ohio University is only responsible for reporting emissions resulting from waste disposal, it stands to reason that reducing or eliminating this small sector of emissions will achieve the broader goals of the Climate Action Plan. The Waste Reduction and Recycling Sub-Council has outlined three major goals for meeting the requirements of the CAP: reducing waste through a Zero Waste Resolution; creating mechanisms for accurate waste measurement to meet the goals of the CAP; and, increasing the capacity for campus recycling and reuse.

There is much potential for greatly reducing, if not eliminating, emissions caused by solid waste at Ohio University. The strategies to reaching this goal include: improving measurement and reporting; increasing diversion capacity; reforming purchasing procedures; and, implementing behavior change programming. Though waste-based emissions make up a small fraction of total institutional emissions, the reduction of these emissions is relatively straightforward and achievable in the short-term. Additionally, promoting campus recycling and waste reduction can help to instill a "gateway habit" in students, faculty and staff, which can become widespread and lead to other, more involved, practices of sustainability.

In order to successfully implement the goals established by this Sub-Council, it is essential to first capture additional baseline data. It is necessary that the university first assemble waste data currently collected from each of its regional campuses and then establish mechanisms for measuring and reporting all waste that enters and leaves the university. This will allow all reporting mechanisms to become more robust and comprehensive. In order to maintain a focus on waste reduction efforts, it is also necessary to establish an annual schedule for conducting university wide waste audits at multiple locations that will allow us to document composition of waste stream, involve students and create training and research opportunities

Waste Reduction and Recycling, Benchmarks

Phase 1:

- 2016: Consume 5% less per person, per year
- 2016: Increase recycling rates 80% by weight of all recyclable solid waste
- 2018: Decrease construction waste going to landfill by 25%
- 2018: 100% of to-go products offered in dining halls made of compostable materials
- 2018: Compost all compostable university waste

Phase 2:

- 2032: Decrease construction waste going to landfills by 50% of 2012 levels

Phase 3:

- 2050: Decrease construction waste going to landfills by 75% of 2012 levels
- 2050: Decrease waste going to landfill by 75% of 2012 levels

Phase 4:

- 2075: Achieve 0 emissions from waste management practices on all campuses

Reporting Responsibility: Office of Refuse and Recycling, Moving and Surplus, Design and Construction

Waste Reduction & Recycling, Recommended Implementation Strategies

- Establish a new RFP for streamlined waste and recycling practices at Ohio University:
    - Require strict waste and recycling data collection as part of new contract.
- Enter into an institutional Zero Waste Resolution to be implemented at all campuses.
- Create stricter policies for to-go food in the dining halls (Portion sizes/Container material).
- Increase food donations to local service organizations.
- Establish strict procedures for monitoring, reporting and documenting construction waste:
    - Include this data requirement into contracts.
- Require that the automatic settings on all printers are set to print double-sided.
- Encourage waste-to-energy or waste-to-resource recovery research and projects.
- Centralize purchasing to minimize duplication and promote resource sharing.
- Include sustainability standard/waste reduction policy in RFPs:
    - Extended producer responsibilities (take backs, end-of-life practices).
- Co-locate trash and recycling bins across campus to encourage recycling.
- Implement campus wide hazardous waste inventory system to facilitate reuse of laboratory chemicals.
- Implement notification system for local service organizations regarding availability of surplus items and excess compost through Moving and Surplus.
- Purchase carbon offsets to become a zero-emissions institution.
- Establish measurement and reporting mechanisms in all waste and/or recycling contracts.
- Explore software upgrades to assist with the measurement of all waste streams and institutional carbon footprint.
- Establish budget and capital investment for recycling and refuse.
- Explore collaboration with City of Athens/other district partners that may transition the Ohio University waste stream into a profit stream, thereby reducing costs of waste management for Ohio University.
- Implement Behavior Change programming to assist with the above strategies.

Transportation

It is important to note that, currently, all of Ohio University's campus locations are rural in nature and, thus, lend themselves to limited access to public transit, safe pedestrian routes and convenient bike-path or car sharing options. As such, personal and business travel make up a significantly large portion of the institution's annual GHG report.

One of the many obstacles faced by the Transportation Sub-Council included a lack of access to baseline data. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Sub-Council that the institution work to track the baseline data of miles traveled by students, faculty and staff by accessing 2012 parking pass data. Additional tracking of fleet and air travel currently exists, but may be incomplete. Additionally, it is necessary to develop pedestrian use data for FY13 and gather ridership information for both community transit options and Campus Area Transit Services for the same year. This will allow the institution to more adequately track changes in vehicular and pedestrian travel on and around our campuses.

Transportation, Benchmarks

Phase 1:

- 2016: Encourage use of "LEFE" vehicles on campus: 60% of all student, faculty, and staff vehicles registered with a parking pass will be classified as LEFE
- 2018: Increase pedestrian traffic and bicycle usage by 100% above 2013 levels
- 2018: Encourage use of "non-Single Occupancy Vehicles: 85% of students/20% of employees will use a non-Single Occupancy Vehicle as their primary method of transportation
- 2018: Reduce total (student, faculty, staff) commuter emissions by 15% below 2013 levels by introducing alternate transportation options and incentive programs
- 2018: Reduce air travel by 10% below 2012 GHG emission levels.

Phase 2:

- 2032: 90% of all student, faculty, and staff vehicles registered with a parking pass will be classified as LEFE
- 2032: 90% of students/40% of employees will use of multiple Occupancy Vehicle as their primary method of transportation
- 2032: Reduce total (student, faculty, staff) commuter emissions by 50% below 2013 levels by introducing alternate transportation options and incentive programs
- 2032: Reduce GHG emissions impact from business travel by 40% below 2012 levels
- 2032: Continue to increase overall fleet fuel economy by 5% per year
- 2032: All OU vehicles to meet or exceed current federal fuel efficiency standards

Phase 3:

- 2050: Reduce total fleet and departmental car emissions by 60% below 2012 levels by continuing new procedures and incentives programs

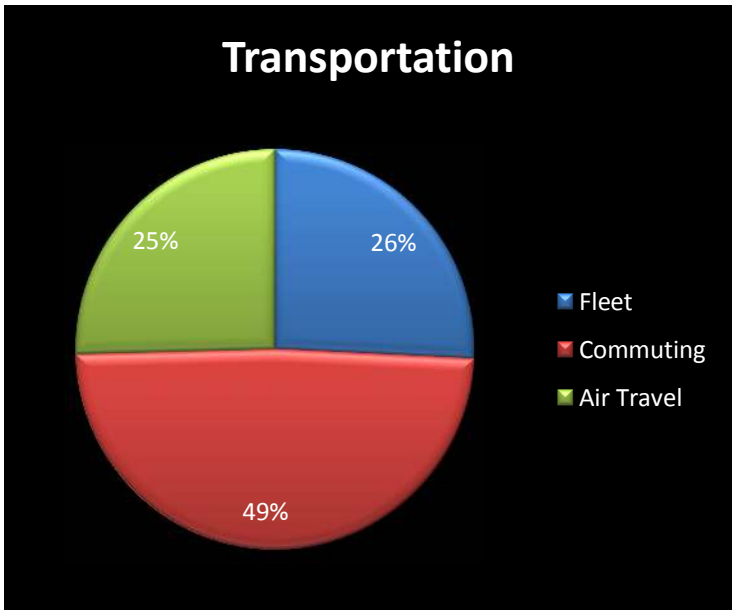
Phase 4:

- 2075: 0 net emissions from institutional transportation practices on all campuses

Reporting Responsibility: Transportation and Parking Services

Transportation, Recommended Implementation Strategies

- Create incentive programs for use of vehicles that meet LEFE requirements. Incentive programs can include fuel discounts, low interest loans for vehicle purchase or parking incentives
- Construct strategically located weatherized bicycle parking areas near centralized academic buildings.
- Create a bicycle co-op system.
- Increase the size of weatherized bicycle parking areas for areas where bike traffic is documented as increasing.
- Develop strategies to encourage walking for on-campus and off-campus students, faculty, and staff.
- Improve bus routes and schedules by expanding ridership numbers by 200% over 2012 levels.
- Institute a carpool pledge program and create preferred parking options for rideshare vehicles.
- Strategy in the near to medium term to limit/price parking supply.
- Institute an integrated university-city bus system that honors a fare-free or universal OU-affiliate bus pass.
- Cooperatively work with city for municipal parking pass.
- All newly acquired OU vehicles to meet or exceed 2011 CAFE standards.
- Increase fuel economy of campus fleet by 5% per year in Phase One.
- Institute campus wide anti-idling program.
- Improve gas efficiency of fleet & departmental cars by 10% through zero emissions vehicle purchase for new vehicles & partial-zero emission vehicles for older vehicles.
- Institute new procedures limiting use of state cars on campus.
- Institute a Green Day program that reduces campus vehicle usage by 1 day/week.
- Decrease mileage reimbursement amount.
- Develop an alternative fuel depot option at Ohio University.
- Establish High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) parking for faculty/staff designated lots.
- Eliminate or significantly reduce on-campus parking privileges for residential students and, instead, provide remote parking with shuttle service as an option.
    - Include OUPD, Student Affairs, Environmental Health and Safety and any other relevant safety personnel in these discussions.
- Consider feasibility of establishing a parking fee structure that incentivizes reduction of parking days per week.
- Incentivize expansion and usage of regional bus systems.
- Encourage less commuting miles by developing programs/incentives for University faculty and staff to live within a five-mile radius of campus.
- Expand coordinated mass transit system within five-mile radius of campus.
- Support community/region-wide efforts aimed at developing sustainable transportation infrastructure.



Education & Outreach

Education and Outreach was established in an effort to develop potential opportunities for raising awareness of OU efforts toward carbon neutrality. Such awareness is integral as part of a broader culture of sustainability at the university and within the larger community both in the present and long term activities of the Athens and regional campuses. Benchmarks identified here are intended to expand and promote university efforts on this front.

Education and Outreach, Benchmarks

Phase 1

- 2015: Establish and implement assessment of baseline awareness and knowledge of carbon neutrality issues for the university community as a whole
- 2015: Establish and implement assessment of baseline awareness and knowledge of carbon neutrality issues for incoming students. This assessment is to be repeated *annually*
- 2015 and ongoing: Expand and implement new university-wide programming and curriculum efforts aimed at increasing greenhouse gas emissions awareness
- 2018: Repeat university-wide assessment of awareness and knowledge of carbon neutrality issues

Phases 2 and 3

- 2028: Reassess awareness and knowledge of carbon neutrality issues again and repeating at 5-year intervals throughout the implementation of the climate action plan with the goal of achieving and maintaining a 90% "passing rate" on such assessments for the university community, ultimately reflecting awareness of climate neutrality efforts

Reporting Responsibility: Sustainable OU Leaders program

Education & Outreach, Recommended Implementation Strategies

- Increase the resources from the Ohio University general fund for the Office of Sustainability to enable broader staffing, additional programming, staff development opportunities and acquisition of educational materials and instruments.
- Develop an appropriate "climate awareness inventory" consisting of a scale for the assessment of general literacy and awareness of climate issues among faculty, staff and students
- Develop a "commit towards climate neutrality" pledge offered to all students, faculty and staff for signature:
    - This would grow through each phase of the implementation of the Climate Action Plan with special benchmark totals being acknowledged (1,000 signatures, 5,000 signatures, 10,000 signatures, etc.).
- Establish an education program for climate change awareness that is incorporated into pre-college and the first-year experience. Elements of this should be multi-pronged and could include the following:
    - Develop an interactive website providing information regarding climate change and sustainability issues. An online quiz component of the website could assess climate change awareness.
    - Implement climate change foci and themes into first year experience coursework for students.
    - Establish and regularly offer climate-change learning communities.
- Establish a broader education program for climate change that cuts across the entire curriculum. Elements of this should be multi-pronged and include the following:
    - Increase course offerings pertaining to climate change and sustainability.
    - Increase faculty and course development funds pertaining specifically for climate change issues.
    - Integrate climate change into readings for a regularly offered "common experience" program for the university and greater community to participate in.
    - Establish a climate change scholars program that provides students with opportunities for conducting research or completing internships in the areas of sustainability and climate change.
    - Establish a climate change professorship award of a modest amount to recognize the efforts of an outstanding faculty member promoting awareness of and working on the issue.
    - Establish a climate change stewardship award of a modest amount to recognize the efforts of outstanding administrators, employees, and staff promoting awareness of and working on the issue.
- Establish broader programming for climate change education that seeks to raise awareness of the issue beyond the classroom and into the components of daily life of the university community:
    - Develop an educational video promoting climate change awareness and connecting it to issues of local concern to the OU and Athens communities.
    - Further develop the online interactive energy dashboard by increasing sub-metering of buildings campus-wide and augmenting marketing of this existing technology.
    - Establish an ongoing public awareness campaign regarding climate change that includes programming and tools for public education in the administrative buildings, dining halls, residential housing, library, student union and athletic events.
- Increase resources for climate action and sustainability awareness education with the implementation of a "green fee" subsidy of $1 per enrolled student semester hour.
    - Funds would be additional revenue distributed to and managed by the Ohio University Office of Sustainability for use in "green programming" initiatives, including those noted above (with particular preference given to Earth Month and special activities).
    - A portion of its total is to be allocated for redistribution back to the campus community through a small grant or revolving loan program. Awards could be used for faculty implementing climate awareness education programming in the classroom or in the field, student organizations wishing to implement special projects or sponsor initiatives on campus or for staff and various units on campus to carry out climate awareness projects in individual departments.
    - Also, consider a "green fee" that provides the option for Ohio University faculty/staff contributions.

Construction & Design

While the institution's annual GHGE report does not currently track the direct impacts of construction and design, it was decided that the long-term, indirect impacts of the decisions made during the design and construction phase were extraordinary and, therefore, consideration of these impacts must be included in the Climate Action Plan. Ultimately, while specific annual benchmarks were determined unnecessary at this time, the group was able to develop a recommended Green Building Standards document* to assist in achieving climate neutrality by the year 2075.

Construction and Design, Benchmark

2075: 0 net emissions from Construction and Design.

- All new construction and renovations to implement carbon neutral practices.

**Supporting document URL:*
http://issuu.com/sustainableou/docs/constructiondesignplan?mode=window&backgroundColor=%23222222

Reporting Responsibilities: Construction and Design, Institutional Planning/Space Management, Facilities Management, Recycling and Refuse.

Behavior Change & Implementation Management

During the first year of implementation of the Sustainability Plan, PACSP determined that a number of implementation and behavior change efforts would have been best addressed during the planning phase of that first document. As such, the Behavior Change and Implementation Management Sub-Council of the Climate Action Plan was formed to develop a plan for simultaneously carrying out the many benchmarks and strategies of both the Sustainability Plan and the Climate Action Plan. Similar to the outcome of the Construction and Design Sub-Council, the Behavior Change and Implementation Management Sub-Council established a singular target and offered a supporting document*.

Behavior Change & Implementation Management, Target:

Ohio University will establish a Sustainable OU Leaders (SOUL) pilot program* to assist in the institution-wide education, implementation and reporting processes associated with the various sustainability-related commitments of the institution.

- Upon the first annual report of the Climate Action Plan, SOUL must provide an updated program implementation file to include accomplishments, goals, objectives and future implementation plans.

**Supporting document URL:*
http://issuu.com/sustainableou/docs/bci_pilotproposal_april2012?mode=window&backgroundColor=%23222222

Reporting Responsibilities: Sustainable OU Leaders program, Office of Sustainability.

Vetting Process

The development of the Climate Action Plan was a collaborative effort among nearly 70 students, faculty, staff and community members. Though, it was decided that campus- and community-wide feedback was desired prior to the final submission of the Climate Action Plan. In an effort to offer full transparency, the Presidential Advisory Council for Sustainability Planning (PACSP) asked for feedback at various stages of the document's development. The draft plan was published online and comments were encouraged.

Feedback was sought on this document throughout a variety of stages of this process:

Graduate Student Senate Presentation, April 2012
Faculty Senate Presentation, April 2012
Undergraduate Student Senate, April 2012
Classified Senate Presentation, May 2012
Administrative Senate Presentation, May 2012
Online, April-June 2012
VIP Vetting, July-August 2012
Board of Trustees, September 2012

In addition to the above, the following communication outlets were used to garner feedback:

- **A story requesting feedback appeared in The Post on April 30, 2012**
- **A press release was submitted to University Communications and Marketing on May 1, 2012**
- **A story requesting feedback appeared in Compass on May 3, 2012**
- **A story requesting feedback appeared in The Athens Messenger on May 4, 2012**
- **A story requesting feedback appeared in The Athens News on May 6, 2012**
- **Numerous announcements were made on the Office of Sustainability Facebook and Twitter pages**
- **An announcement was made on the Ohio University Facebook page**
- **The feedback request was highlighted in *Routes*, the Office of Sustainability's online publication**
- **The draft plan was available on the Presidential Advisory Council for Sustainability Planning Web site (www.ohio.edu/pacsp) and the Office of Sustainability Web site (www.ohio.edu/sustainability)**
- **Announcements were made through the Green Network Listserv**
- **A message was sent to all regional campus Deans' Offices for distribution to their campuses**
- **Email invitations were sent to over 300 individuals involved in the VIP Vetting process on July 11, 2012 and August 1, 2012**

Throughout the vetting process, written feedback was emailed to sustainability@ohio.edu. Those who wished to submit feedback anonymously were encouraged to complete an online comment form.

Acknowledgements

Council Chairs

Ben J. Stuart, Ph.D., P.E.
Executive Director, Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment
Director, Biofuels Research Laboratory
Associate Professor, Civil Engineering, Russ College of Engineering

Annie Laurie Cadmus
Director of Sustainability

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Geoff Buckley (Associate Professor of Geology)
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Katie Lasco (undergraduate liaison)
Alex Slaymaker (undergraduate liaison)

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Kyle O'Keefe (Zero Waste Project Coordinator, Rural Action)

Special Thanks

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The Ecology and Energy Conservation Committee serves as the monitoring agent to the Climate Action Plan.

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Kyle Kingma (Graduate Student Representative)
Paul Logue (Athens City Planner)
Scott Miller (Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, Voinovich School of Leadership & Public Affairs)
Terri Nelson (Manager of Southeast Ohio Library Deposit)
Jill Rosser (English Faculty)
Hogan Sherrow (Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology)
Henry Woods (Recycling and Refuse Coordinator)
Harry Wyatt (Assistant Vice President of Finance and Administration)

Office of Sustainability Staff and Volunteers

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Maddie Edminister (Communications Intern)
Elaine Goetz (Graduate Assistant for Research and Reporting)
Katie Lasco (Development Intern)
Mary Leciejewski (Graduate Assistant for Education and Special Programs)
Kyla McConnell (Communications Intern)
Penny Morgan (Graduate Assistant for Web Production)
Neal Patten (Communications Intern)
Michelle Schechter (Communications Intern)
Alex Snyder (Graduate Assistant for Technical and Social Media Management)
Jaymie Tighe (Communications Intern)
Anga Welo (Advocacy Intern)

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