

74th Senate

Fall Session



S.R. 6-101

Positional Resolution

A Resolution in Support of 100% Clean Energy by 2035

A positional resolution, brought by **Senator Alvin Wang**, and joined by **Senator Sydney Yamanishi**, to advocate for a more ambitious decarbonization policy, recognize the student body's wide-spread eagerness for sustainability and carbon neutrality, and celebrate UCSB's decarbonization achievements.

Endorsed by the following Student Sponsors:

- Tessa Veksler - ASUCSB President
- Sohum Kalia - ASUCSB Internal Vice President
- Osaze Osayande - ASUCSB External Vice President of Local Affairs
- Vero Caveroguesquiza - External Vice President of Statewide Affairs
- Nathan Lee - Student Advocate General
- Ephraim Shalunov - ASUCSB Senate First President Pro-Tempore
- Eric Carlson - ASUCSB Senate First President Pro-Tempore
- Isabella Mendoza - Human Rights Board Chair

Endorsed by the following stakeholder groups of the UCSB community:

- CALPIRG Students
- Associated Students Environmental Affairs Board
- Associated Students Environmental Justice Alliance
- Associated Students Zero Waste Committee
- Associated Students Recycling

- Gauchos Go Green
- Campus Democrats at UCSB
- Associated Students Lobby Corps.
- Associated Students Basic Needs Committee
- Associated Students Community Affairs Board
- Associated Students Trans and Queer Commission
- Santa Barbara Student Housing Cooperative
- Latinx Business Association
- UCSB Autism Advocacy & Awareness

Endorsed by the following UCSB faculty:

- David N. Pellow - Department Chair of Environmental Studies
- Peter Alagona - Professor of Environmental Studies
- Lori Pye - Professor of Environmental Studies
- Julie K. Maldonado - Professor of Environmental Studies
- Deborah Williams - Professor of Environmental Studies
- Shithi Kamal-Heikman - Professor of Environmental Studies

Whereas, 1460 additional students have pledged to support the CALPIRG Students campaign of committing UCSB to 100% clean energy by 2035; and,

Whereas, the repercussions of climate change are both unprecedented and far-reaching, ranging from devastating wildfires¹ in California to the escalating threat of global coastal flooding due to rising sea levels²; and,

Whereas, these rising sea levels and increasing storm frequency and intensity hasten Isla Vista cliff erosion, jeopardizing the safety of UCSB students³; and,

Whereas, our dependence on fossil fuels for energy drives global warming, releases toxic, carcinogenic pollutants into the atmosphere, and causes environmental devastation; and,

Whereas, the Paris Climate Agreement set a goal to limit global temperature increase to 1.5°C and affirmed a 43% reduction in global carbon emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050 to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change⁴; and,

¹ <https://www.fire.ca.gov/our-impact/statistics>

² <https://www.climatecentral.org/climate-matters/rising-seas-flooding-coasts-2023>

³ <https://www.independent.com/2023/09/29/death-of-benny-schurmer-sparks-countywide-effort-on-isla-vista-cliff-safety/>

⁴ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>

Whereas, various key stakeholders, such as the UC system and California State Government, have been actively putting forward policies aimed at tackling climate change; and,

Whereas, the recently passed Climate Action Policy by the UC Office of the President commits UCSB to reducing Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions by 90% by 2045⁵; and,

Whereas, UCSB is currently on track to achieve net zero Scope 2 emissions by 2025, with the campus running on 100% carbon-free, purchased electricity⁶; and,

Whereas, UCSB, historically, has set daring, ambitious goals for decarbonization and sustainability and continues to serve as an example for other universities to follow.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Associated Students in the 74th Senate assembled:
Call on the University to commit to 100% clean energy by 2035, encompassing a 100% reduction of Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions without carbon offsets.

Let it be further resolved by the Associated Students in the 74th Senate assembled:
Recognize and celebrate UCSB's steady transition to 100% carbon-free electricity by 2025 through the UC Clean Power program.

Let it be further resolved by the Associated Students in the 74th Senate assembled:
Recognize and celebrate UCSB's achievement as the UC with the lowest carbon footprint per person.

Let it be further resolved by the Associated Students in the 74th Senate assembled:
Acknowledge the various sustainability advancements undertaken by UCSB, but believe in UCSB's ability to undertake more ambitious decarbonization goals.

Let it finally be resolved by the Associated Students in the 74th Senate assembled:
Recognize the rights of current and future generations to a livable future, free from the consequences of avoidable climate destruction.

⁵<https://www.ucop.edu/sustainability/policy-areas/climate-change/index.html#:~:text=Policy%20Goals%3A,the%20Office%20of%20the%20President.>

⁶ <https://hdae.ucsb.edu/blog/compass/clean-energy-clean-future>