Creating a Campus Energy Policy

A key component of the OE Energy Management Initiative as well as in maintaining UC Berkeley’s position as a leader in energy efficiency and management is the development of a Campus Energy Policy. This policy would establish and strengthen guidelines and standards relating to all aspects of campus energy use.

Summary

The campus is committed to promoting energy efficiency and conservation to benefit students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. Beyond reducing utility bills, careful energy management helps protect the environment and extends the life of equipment, while also maintaining a comfortable setting in which to learn, teach, and work.

A new Campus Energy Policy would establish expectations for energy use in campus buildings, set ambitious standards—beyond the UC Policy on Sustainable Practices—for energy-efficient performance for construction and renovation, promote energy efficiency as a criteria for equipment procurement, set a standard for energy intensity for campus buildings, and establish a goal for renewable power generation and/or procurement. Among the standards that would be set would be practices that can decouple growth in research activities from increases in energy consumption, including designing new buildings to accommodate energy load management, meet campus energy-intensity standards and exceed California energy code by at least 30%, and purchasing only Energy Star equipment where available or using energy performance as a purchasing criteria where Energy Star is not available.

Delivering the Vision

Creating a Campus Energy Policy will help achieve the vision of Operational Excellence by reducing costs, more-effectively utilizing resources, and instilling a culture of continuous improvement and waste avoidance. The Policy will support other elements of the Energy Management Initiative. No investment is being requested, and no direct savings have been estimated.

Timeline

In conjunction with other Energy Management projects and the campus procedures for adopting policies, a final campus Energy Policy is expected to be finalized by summer of 2012.

Leadership

Sponsor: Edward Denton, Vice Chancellor, Facilities Services
Project Manager: Judy Chess, Assistant Director, Capital Projects

For More Information

Complete copies of the Energy Management Business Case as well as the Request for Resources and the proposed budget for Creating a Campus Energy Policy can be viewed online at the OE web site at http://oe.berkeley.edu

Questions and comments about this proposal for the initiative team: saveenergy@berkeley.edu
Questions about Operational Excellence: oe@berkeley.edu