



Council Resolution 06 (CR06) UC Investment in Fossil Fuel Equities



WHEREAS the UC Chief Investment Officer of the Regents publicly expresses commitment to “environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and prudent governance” in handling the UC’s investment portfolio¹;

WHEREAS global warming represents a major threat to human life and prosperity and is linked to the extraction and burning of fossil fuels²;

WHEREAS UCSD’s faculty, such as Roger Revelle, Hans Seuss, Charles Keeling and Veerabhadran Ramanathan, have historically produced and continue to produce cutting edge research on the deleterious effects of climate change;

WHEREAS according to the most recent (12/31/2014) reports, the UC remains invested in major petroleum companies, such as Energy Transfer Partners (parent of Sunoco), Phillips 66, Kinder Morgan Energy Partners and Petroleos de Venezuela, in both the GEP and the UCRP holdings³;

WHEREAS many financial experts state that divesting from fossil fuels can be accomplished without negatively affecting portfolio returns⁴;

WHEREAS the UC has historically listened to its stakeholders and divested from Sudan, South Africa, and the tobacco industry, thereby distancing itself from the impacts of the decisions and behavior of such governments and industries⁵;

WHEREAS the UCSD Associated Students have passed a resolution requesting the UC Regents to instruct the Chief Investment Officer (CIO) to gradually divest major fossil fuel equities from the UC’s portfolio⁶;

¹ <http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/sustainable-investment/index.html>

² <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2012/07/24/what-we-know-about-climate-change-and-drought/>; “Climate Change Reducing Global GDP by \$1.2 Trillion”, 26 Sep 2012.

³ <http://www.businessweek.com/news/>; 9 <http://www.carbontracker.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2012/08/Unburnable-Carbon-Full1.pdf>

³ http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/files/invpol/GEP_Holdings.pdf; http://www.ucop.edu/investment-office/files/invpol/UCRP_Holdings.pdf

⁴ <http://sustainability.thomsonreuters.com/2015/03/03/executive-perspective-the-smart-way-to-divest-fossil-fuels>

⁵ <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/livinghistoryproject/uc-divestment-from-south-africa>,

<http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-uc-coal-20150911-story.html>

⁶ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1dSB9d0MES1ODF4R3I4Mzk0NEE/view?usp=sharing>



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WHEREAS UCSD's Committee on Campus and Community Environment (CCCE) voted unanimously to support the AS resolution⁷;

BE IT RESOLVED that the GSAUCSD supports the limitation of furthering exploitation of fossil fuels and requests the UC Regents to instruct the CIO to gradually divest from major fossil fuel equities, with the ultimate goal of eventual complete divestment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the GSAUCSD recommends investment in renewable resource equities to an amount equal or greater than our investment in fossil fuel equities, until the time that the UC has divested from these fossil fuel equities;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be delivered to UCSD Chancellor, UCSD Academic Senate, UCSD CFO, UC Office of the President, UC Regents, and the UC Chief Investment Officer.

Voted and Passed in GSA Council Meeting #9: 2/22/16 (Y/N/A - 17/6/7)

Certified: Lindsay M. Freeman, 2/23/16

⁷ November 17, 2015 Letter to Chair of UCSD Academic Senate
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1dSB9d0MES1RnNoNTJxbXZjNms/view?usp=sharing>