



## ENN-5.01 - Local Action Plan on Global Warming ([Printable Version](#))

### LOCAL ACTION PLAN ON GLOBAL WARMING

*Binding City Policy*

BCP-ENN-5.01

#### PURPOSE

WHEREAS, there is broad agreement in the scientific community that average global surface temperature is likely to rise 2-6° F by 2100, leading to an increase in average global precipitation, more frequent intense storms, and a probably rise in sea level of two feet along most of the U.S. coast; and

WHEREAS, the ten warmest years in the 20th century were recorded between 1985 and 1999 with the winter of 1999-2000 the warmest on record in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the scientific community has convincingly established that the rise in global temperature is largely due to anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, a significant increase in global temperatures poses potentially the greatest economic, environmental, and social challenge of the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is a primary greenhouse gases that is produced when fossil fuels are burned to generate electricity, to heat our homes, businesses and water and to power our factories, cars, trucks, buses, and airplanes; and

WHEREAS, the United States has signed (although Congress has not ratified) the 1997 Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, committing the U.S. to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 7 percent from 1990 levels by a five-year period from 2008 to 2012; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland recognizes and accepts responsibility for its substantial ability to impact energy use 1) through transportation, land use and energy policies, building codes, and other public policies, 2) in city government facilities, and 3) through the example it sets for business, residents and other communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland 1990 Energy Policy (Ordinance No. 162975) and 1993 Carbon Dioxide Reduction Strategy (Resolution No. 35207) established plans to increase energy efficiency and reduce carbon dioxide emissions; and

WHEREAS, many of the goals and objectives of the Energy Policy and Carbon Dioxide Reduction Strategy have been met, including a decrease in residential

energy use by 10 percent since 1990, and a three percent reduction in per capita carbon dioxide emissions between 1990-1995; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainable City Principles direct City elected officials and staff to "use resources efficiently and reduce demand for natural resources, like energy..." and "act locally to reduce adverse global impacts of ... ozone depletion and global warming, and support and implement innovative programs that maintain and promote Portland's leadership as a sustainable city"; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 Local Action Plan on Global Warming will replace both the 1990 Energy Policy and the Carbon Dioxide Reduction Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Office will lead a process involving City bureaus and agencies (Transportation, BES, PDC, BGS, Parks, Water, BHCD, OPDR, Planning, Sustainable Portland Commission and other City bureaus), the scientific community, businesses, utilities, environmental, housing and community action groups, residents and other governments to develop a 2010 Local Action Plan on Global Warming; and

WHEREAS, a 10 percent reduction in energy use and related carbon dioxide emissions would provide significant economic benefit to the community and result in annual savings of about \$100 million to Portland businesses and residents.

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## **POLICY**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council directs the Energy Office to develop a new 2010 Local Action Plan on Global Warming to reduce Portland carbon dioxide emissions by 10 percent from 1990 levels by 2010.

[Download the Local Action Plan on Global Warming](#) (pdf document) - Published April 2001

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## **HISTORY**

Resolution No. 35879

Adopted by Council April 19, 2000.