

# American College and University President's Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) Signatory Requirements

In 2007 WSU became an American College and University President's Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) signatory. As an ACUPCC signatory, WSU was required to complete a [greenhouse gas inventory](#) (submitted in 2008), complete a [Climate Action Plan](#) detailing the University's plans and goals for becoming carbon neutral (adopted and signed by President Ann Millner and the President's Council in 2009), and initiate two tangible actions (out of a total of seven possible actions) to reduce emissions. Thus far, WSU has initiated three of the possible emissions-reducing actions:

- 1) **ACUPCC Tangible Action:** Requiring that all new campus construction be built to at least the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED silver standard or equivalent

**WSU Response:** Utah State policy already requires new WSU construction to meet LEED silver standards

- 2) **ACUPCC Tangible Action:** Encouraging use of and providing access to public transportation for all faculty, staff, students and visitors

**WSU Response:** WSU has entered into an agreement with the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) whereby students, faculty and staff can obtain a pass that allows nearly unlimited and free access to UTA's transit system. A free shuttle bus is also provided by WSU for on-campus travel

- 3) **ACUPCC Tangible Action:** Begin purchasing or producing at least 15% of the University's electricity consumption from renewable sources

**WSU Response:** WSU has entered into an agreement with Rocky Mountain Power to purchase wind power through the Blue Sky Program. WSU currently purchases 3,603 blocks of energy per month (each block equals 100 kwhs). This purchase equates to 11.4% of WSU's electricity coming from renewable sources. WSU will also be producing renewable energy once three planned renewable energy projects are completed in 2011. These include photovoltaic systems on the roof of the Davis 2 building and the Shepherd Union building, and a solar assisted hot water system for the pool at the gymnasium.