



UPES ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

**Administration/EHS/Energy, Environment & Sustainability
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ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

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1. Policy Purpose

This policy establishes the framework for promoting energy efficiency, environmental protection, and sustainable practices across the university campus. It aims to ensure responsible use of natural resources, minimize environmental impact, and align institutional operations with national and global sustainability goals.

The policy also supports the university's commitment to maintaining a clean, resource-efficient, and environmentally responsible campus.

2. Policy Statement

The university is committed to integrating sustainable practices into its academic, administrative, and infrastructural activities. It will promote efficient resource utilization, reduce environmental impact, and implement environmentally responsible initiatives that contribute to long-term sustainability.

The institution will adhere to regulatory standards and best practices in energy management, waste management, and environmental protection while encouraging active participation from students, faculty, and staff.

3. Objectives

- Promote efficient energy usage and adoption of renewable energy sources.
- Reduce the university's carbon footprint and environmental impact.
- Ensure all new buildings and renovations follow recognised energy-efficiency standards, and upgrade existing buildings to higher energy efficiency.
- Implement a structured carbon management process and an energy efficiency plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and overall energy consumption.
- Ensure responsible water conservation and wastewater management.
- Implement effective waste management practices across the campus.
- Encourage sustainability in academic, administrative, and operational practices.
- Promote awareness and participation among stakeholders in sustainability initiatives.

4. Definitions

- **Energy Efficiency:** Using less energy to perform the same function or provide the same service.
- **Sustainability:** Meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.
- **Carbon Footprint:** Total greenhouse gas emissions caused directly or indirectly by an activity or organization.
- **E-Waste:** Discarded electrical or electronic devices requiring responsible disposal or recycling.
- **Renewable Energy:** Energy generated from natural resources such as solar, wind, or water that are replenished naturally.
- **Carbon Management:** A structured process of measuring, reducing, offsetting and reporting greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Energy Audit:** A systematic assessment of energy use in a building or facility to identify opportunities for energy savings.
- **Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC):** The code issued by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) that sets minimum energy-performance standards for buildings in India.
- **Retrofit:** The upgrading of an existing building or its systems to improve energy performance.

5. Energy, Environment & Sustainability Management

5.1 Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy

- Promote the use of energy-efficient lighting, appliances, and infrastructure.
- Increase the use of renewable energy sources such as solar power.
- Conduct periodic energy audits to identify opportunities for energy savings.
- Implement energy-efficient standards in new construction and renovation projects, as detailed in Section 5.1.1.

5.1.1 Energy-Efficient Renovation and New Construction

All renovations and new building projects of the university shall follow applicable energy-efficiency standards, including:

- Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) issued by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- National Building Code of India (NBC).
- Green building rating systems such as GRIHA and IGBC, wherever feasible.
- BEE star-rated appliances and equipment for lighting, air-conditioning, pumps and motors.

5.1.2 Upgrading Existing Buildings to Higher Energy Efficiency

The university will plan and carry out upgrades of existing buildings to improve energy efficiency. This includes:

- Identifying buildings for upgrade based on energy audit findings.
- Replacing old lighting, air-conditioning and other equipment with energy-efficient, BEE star-rated alternatives.
- Improving insulation, ventilation and natural lighting, and installing rooftop solar where feasible.
- Bringing upgraded buildings in line with ECBC requirements wherever practicable.

5.1.3 Carbon Management and Emission Reduction

The university will follow a process for carbon management and reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, guided by the GHG Protocol and ISO 14064. This includes:

- Measuring the university's carbon footprint on a regular basis.
- Setting emission reduction targets.
- Reducing emissions through energy efficiency, renewable energy, reduced diesel generator use and electric vehicles.
- Monitoring and reporting progress periodically.

5.1.4 Energy Efficiency Plan to Reduce Energy Consumption

The university will maintain an energy efficiency plan to reduce overall energy consumption, guided by ISO 50001 (Energy Management Systems) and BEE guidelines. The plan will:

- Set a baseline for energy consumption and define reduction targets.
- Use periodic energy audits to identify energy-saving opportunities.
- Specify actions, responsibilities and timelines for implementation.
- Be reviewed periodically by the Energy, Environment & Sustainability Committee.

5.2 Water Conservation and Wastewater Management

- Promote rainwater harvesting and efficient water management systems.
- Install water-efficient fixtures and technologies across campus facilities.
- Implement wastewater recycling and responsible discharge systems.
- Ensure proper monitoring and maintenance of water supply systems.

5.3 Waste Management

5.3.1 Solid Waste Management

- Implement the principles of **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle (3Rs)**.
- Ensure segregation of biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste.
- Promote composting and sustainable disposal practices.

5.3.2 Liquid Waste Management

- Ensure safe disposal and treatment of wastewater.
- Implement rainwater harvesting and wastewater recycling initiatives.
- Prevent contamination of natural water sources.

5.3.3 E-Waste Management

- Establish an e-waste collection and disposal system in collaboration with certified recyclers.
- Promote responsible disposal of electronic devices and equipment.

5.4 Green Campus Initiatives

- Conduct tree plantation drives and maintain green landscapes.
- Promote biodiversity conservation within the campus.
- Encourage environmentally friendly transportation such as carpooling, cycling, and battery-powered vehicles.
- Promote a plastic-free and clean campus environment.

5.5 Sustainability in Academic and Administrative Practices

- Promote digitalization and paperless administrative processes.
- Encourage online documentation and digital learning resources.
- Integrate sustainability concepts into academic curriculum and research activities.

5.6 Awareness and Engagement Initiatives

- Conduct workshops, seminars, and awareness programs on sustainability.
- Encourage participation of students and faculty in environmental initiatives.
- Promote responsible energy and resource consumption across campus.

6. Implementation and Monitoring

The university will establish an **Energy, Environment & Sustainability Committee** responsible for implementing this policy and monitoring sustainability initiatives.

The committee will:

- Oversee implementation of energy conservation and environmental programs.
- Conduct periodic audits and assessments.
- Monitor resource consumption and environmental performance.
- Review the design of new construction and renovation projects for compliance with energy-efficiency standards.
- Approve and monitor the building upgrade plan, the Energy Efficiency Plan and carbon reduction targets.

7. Compliance and Reporting

All departments and stakeholders must comply with the guidelines outlined in this policy.

Regular monitoring and reporting mechanisms will be implemented to:

- Track energy consumption and sustainability performance.
- Ensure compliance with environmental regulations.
- Maintain records of sustainability initiatives and outcomes.
- Publish an annual energy and carbon report covering energy consumption, energy use intensity, greenhouse gas emissions and progress against reduction targets.

8. Continuous Improvement and Policy Review

The university will continuously review and improve sustainability initiatives through innovation, technological adoption, and stakeholder engagement.

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure alignment with evolving environmental regulations, sustainability goals, and institutional priorities.