



Cornell University  
University Assembly

**U.A. Resolution # 7**

**Requesting Information on the Cost of Carbon  
Neutrality**

February 23, 2016

1 **Sponsored by: Gabriel D. Kaufman, Undergraduate; CJC Chair, University Assembly;**  
2 **Martin Hatch, Faculty; Vice Chair of Operations, University Assembly**

3  
4 **Whereas**, the University administration, despite endorsing the desirability of carbon neutrality  
5 by 2035 several times, has not determined the actual costs associated with carbon  
6 neutrality; and

7  
8 **Whereas**, understanding the cost and benefits associated with carbon neutrality would greatly  
9 inform the current debate by allowing each constituency to weigh the costs and benefits  
10 thereof and would empower each constituent assembly to make specific suggestions to  
11 the administration regarding changes in practices and policies towards that end; and

12  
13 **Whereas**, Article III, Sub-Section 3.1.1, Sub-point A, of the University Assembly Charter states  
14 that “to the extent practical and appropriate, University officials will provide pertinent  
15 information as the Assembly requests;” therefore

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17 **Be it resolved**, that the University Assembly formally requests that the University administration  
18 determine and provide an informed analysis regarding the costs and benefits of becoming  
19 carbon neutral at Cornell's Ithaca campus and nearby Cornell facilities; and

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21 **Resolved**, that the results of the cost determination be formally presented to the University  
22 Assembly by January of 2017 or as soon as reliable information has been obtained; and

23  
24 **Be it Finally Resolved**, that the administrative unit responsible for overseeing the cost  
25 calculation make a preliminary report to the University Assembly in the fall of 2016.

**Adopted by Vote of the Assembly (11-1-2), April 26, 2016,**

*Matthew Battaglia*

**Matthew Battaglia**  
Chair, University Assembly