



vegawatt
ON - SITE WASTE
VEGETABLE OIL GENERATORS

The American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment

The American College and Universities Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) is a pledge by over 650 presidents of institutions of higher education to take a leadership role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing direct emissions, and by providing the education and skills future generations will require to adapt to the changing climate.

The agreement defines the long term goal of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions neutrality in 30-40 years, with many short term progress targets. The agreement is a planning structure with which any college or university can work towards the goal of reducing the effects of climate change.

ACUPCC warns of short-term challenges with the belief that "achieving energy independence for the U.S. as quickly as possible" is a worthwhile goal. At Owl Power Company, we stand up to this challenge and turn it into an opportunity. A Vegawatt is an easy answer to this short-term challenge, with a strong long-term benefit, and that directly reduces reliance on foreign sources of petroleum.

The Vegawatt system is a turnkey, renewable energy system that generates electricity and hot water, on-site, for foodservice operations by using the waste vegetable cooking oil (WVO) from their fryers as a fuel source.

The ACUPCC identifies several tangible actions to be taken while a comprehensive action plan develops. Two of these actions can be greatly progressed with the installation of a Vegawatt system.

- 🌱 All new construction to be LEED Silver certified (50 points).
- 🌱 Purchase or produce 15% of the institutions electricity consumption from renewable sources.

A Vegawatt system is capable of producing up to 11 points towards LEED certification, 22% of the points required for a silver certificate.

While a Vegawatt system is not intended to produce all the electricity and hot water a building needs, a system will produce a significant amount of energy from a campus resource that is literally thrown away, its waste cooking oil. The energy that is produced by a Vegawatt system is utilized onsite, reducing energy purchases to power the building and reducing transportation of wastes away from the building. And while a Vegawatt works, it does so as an outstanding investment, with a financial return many times quicker than any other renewable energy.



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The greatest strength a Vegawatt has under the ACUPCC is a reduction in Greenhouse Gas emissions. Many institutions dispose of their Waste Vegetable Oil (WVO) to be converted to bio-diesel. While bio-diesel can be seen as a green solution, it is not the process with the least embedded energy, highest efficiency, nor does it reduce any dependence on foreign petroleum.

Greenhouse gas emissions from the production of biodiesel are significantly greater than with a Vegawatt system due to the transportation required and wastes generated by the process. The GHGe credits produced by a Vegawatt can be used to offset emissions from campus, whereas a true accounting of GHGe from bio-diesel production may add to campus emissions.

Any institution aligned with the ACUPCC should evaluate the merits of installing a Vegawatt system on campus. The benefits, both short-term and long-term deserve attention. A representative is available to provide you a detailed analysis of the benefits that a Vegawatt system can provide for your campus.

See the full text of the ACUPCC at:

<http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/about/commitment>



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