

**The Council on Student Affairs' Recommendation to Senate Steering on "The Comprehensive Energy Management Plan: Evaluating Risks and Negative Impacts", a proposal by United Students Against Sweatshops at Ohio State**

After careful review and consideration of "The Comprehensive Energy Management Plan: Evaluating Risks and Negative Impacts", a proposal written on behalf of the United Students Against Sweatshops organization, the Council on Student Affairs issues the following recommendation to the Ohio State University Senate Steering Committee:

As a committee, we share the United Students Against Sweatshops' concerns regarding the potential plans to privatize our university's energy, due to the limited amount of information provided to the relevant advisory groups. Though we recognize the confidential nature of the bidding process, we agree that more information should be disseminated to the representatives serving on the President and Provost's Council on Sustainability and the Council on the Physical Environment. Additionally, the committee agrees with the proposal's emphasis on ensuring that, should the university decide to privatize our campus energy, the Comprehensive Energy Management Plan will align with Ohio State's sustainability goals. The council could potentially endorse a Senate proposal that outlines benchmarks for this process, however, we feel that this is not the nature of this particular proposal.

Though various sentiments of the proposal coincide with those among the members of the Council on Student Affairs Issues Subcommittee, we oppose the following demands:

- a) Ohio State University make public which companies are pursuing a bid on the energy systems
  - i. The council understands that, due to confidentiality reasons, this is not a feasible ask.
- b) The Request for Information process of the Comprehensive Energy Management Plan stops *immediately*, and Ohio State University ceases from all current and future endeavors to privatize our public university and cater to corporate interests.
  - i. The council recommends that, until more information regarding a potential plan is released, it would be premature to halt this process entirely.

Therefore, the Council on Student Affairs Issues Subcommittee recommends, for the outlined reasons above, that this proposal does not go to the University Senate floor.

Signed,

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Noel Fisher, Chair of CSA