May 30, 2024

To: Andrea Kasko  
   Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From: Aaron Meyer  
   Chair, Campus Response to the Climate Crisis Special Committee

Re: UCLA Decarbonization Study

Dear Chair Kasko and the Executive Board,

At the May 8, 2024, meeting of the Campus Response to the Climate Crisis Special Committee (CRCC) of the Executive Board, members reviewed and discussed the UCLA Decarbonization Study Report.

CRCC members made several recommendations. Members advised focusing on a smaller number of criteria that relate to system reliability, performance, cost-effectiveness, and environmental footprint. This is especially important since the UCLA medical center, and thus people’s lives, depend on consistent energy from that energy system. Other suggestions included that acceleration scenarios need not be so prioritized while the more essential objectives need to be. Finally, some representation of uncertainty would be helpful in the report; the numerical scoring of the assessment criteria suggests a degree of certainty that may not be supported by evidence.

Thank you for the opportunity to opine. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ameyer@ucla.edu or via the Committee analyst, Charlotte Rose, at crose@senate.ucla.edu.

Cc: Kathleen Bawn, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate  
   Jessica Cattelino, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate  
   April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate  
   Charlotte Rose, Administrative Analyst, UCLA Academic Senate  
   Members of the Campus Response to the Climate Crisis Special Committee