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Date: 09.09.2023

OFFICE ORDER

Subject: Implementation of Carbon Divestment and Renewable Energy Commitment Policy

In pursuance of the approval accorded in the 55th Meeting of the Board of Management, the Carbon Divestment and Renewable Energy Commitment Policy (Revised Edition: Academic Year 2023–24) of K.R. Mangalam University is hereby notified for implementation across the University.

The policy aims to promote environmentally responsible financial and procurement practices, discourage direct institutional investments in fossil fuel-intensive industries, enhance the adoption of renewable energy, and progressively transition towards 100% renewable operational energy, subject to technical feasibility, financial viability and applicable statutory requirements.

The Environment & Sustainability Committee (ESC), chaired by the Registrar, shall oversee the implementation, monitoring and periodic review of the policy in coordination with the Finance, Estate, Administration, Procurement and concerned Academic Departments.

All Deans, Directors, Heads of Departments, Section Heads and concerned officials are hereby directed to ensure compliance with the provisions of the policy within their respective areas of responsibility.

The policy shall be reviewed ordinarily once every three years or earlier, if required, and shall remain in force until amended or superseded by the Competent Authority.

This Office Order is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.


Registrar
K.R. Mangalam University
Sohna Road, Gurugram (Haryana)
Registrar

Encl.: Carbon Divestment and Renewable Energy Commitment Policy (Revised Edition: Academic Year 2023–24).

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor – for kind information
2. All Deans / Directors / Heads of Departments
3. Director – IQAC
4. Finance Department
5. Estate / Administration / Procurement Departments
6. Environment & Sustainability Committee
7. IT / Web Team – for uploading on the University website
8. Office Record



CARBON DIVESTMENT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMITMENT POLICY

K.R. Mangalam University

(Revised Edition: Academic Year 2023–24)

Approved in the 55th Board of Management Meeting



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CARBON DIVESTMENT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMITMENT POLICY

The following comprehensive policy has been developed based on the attached Carbon Divestment and Renewable Commitment Policy. It retains the original provisions relating to fossil fuel divestment, a public commitment towards 100% renewable operational energy, institutional governance, stakeholder engagement, monitoring, and periodic review.

The draft expands these provisions into an institutional policy suitable for consideration by the competent authorities of K.R. Mangalam University and for documentation under sustainability, ESG, SDG, and institutional quality assurance initiatives.

Policy Control Information

Particulars	Details
Policy Title	Carbon Divestment and Renewable Energy Commitment Policy
Institution	K.R. Mangalam University, Gurugram, Haryana
Policy Owner	Environment & Sustainability Committee (ESC)
Nodal Authority	Registrar
Implementing Departments	Finance, Estate, Administration, Procurement and concerned academic departments
Approving Authority	Competent Authority of the University
Effective Date	From the date of approval
Review Period	Every three years or earlier, if required
Applicability	University-wide, including relevant financial, procurement, infrastructure and partnership activities

1. Preamble

K.R. Mangalam University recognizes environmental sustainability, climate responsibility and the transition towards clean energy as essential components of responsible institutional governance and sustainable development.

As an institution of higher education, the University acknowledges its responsibility not only to impart education and conduct research but also to demonstrate environmentally responsible practices in financial management, infrastructure development, energy consumption, procurement and community engagement.

The University recognizes that continued dependence on fossil fuels contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, environmental degradation and associated social and economic challenges. Accordingly, it seeks to promote a progressive transition towards renewable energy and low-carbon institutional operations.

Through this policy, K.R. Mangalam University expresses its commitment to reducing institutional association with carbon-intensive industries, encouraging responsible investment and procurement practices, promoting renewable energy adoption, and extending the benefits of sustainable practices to educational institutions and surrounding communities.

The policy also supports the broader objectives of India's clean energy transition and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

2. Purpose

The primary purpose of this policy is to establish an institutional framework that aligns the University's financial decisions, procurement processes, infrastructure planning and external partnerships with its commitment to environmental sustainability and a low-carbon future.

Specifically, the policy seeks to:

1. Discourage institutional financial investments and contractual associations with fossil fuel industries and carbon-intensive energy activities.
2. Promote the responsible allocation of institutional resources towards environmentally sustainable and low-carbon alternatives.
3. Establish a public institutional commitment to progressively transition towards 100% renewable operational energy.
4. Encourage the adoption of renewable energy technologies, including solar power and other technically feasible clean energy solutions.
5. Integrate sustainability considerations into infrastructure development, procurement and institutional planning.
6. Promote renewable energy awareness, education, research and innovation among students, faculty members, staff and external stakeholders.
7. Support partner institutions, schools and local communities in adopting clean energy practices through knowledge sharing, collaboration and outreach.
8. Establish appropriate mechanisms for implementation, monitoring, accountability and continuous improvement.

3. Scope and Applicability

This policy shall apply to all relevant activities undertaken by K.R. Mangalam University, including its academic schools, administrative departments, support units, institutional facilities and approved external collaborations.

Its scope shall include:

3.1 Financial Investments and Institutional Funds

The management and utilization of University endowment funds, surplus funds, institutional investments and other financial resources under the University's control.

3.2 Procurement and Contractual Arrangements

The procurement of equipment, materials, energy services, infrastructure systems and other goods and services, together with the selection of vendors, suppliers and contractual partners.

3.3 Infrastructure Development and Energy Management

The planning, construction, operation, renovation and maintenance of campus infrastructure, including electricity consumption, renewable energy installations and energy-efficiency initiatives.

3.4 Institutional Partnerships and CSR Collaborations

Collaborations with industries, educational institutions, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, research bodies and community organizations, including CSR-supported initiatives.

3.5 Academic, Research and Outreach Activities

Teaching, research, innovation, awareness campaigns, training programmes, extension activities and community initiatives related to renewable energy, carbon reduction and environmental sustainability.

4. Policy Statement

K.R. Mangalam University is committed to progressively reducing its institutional dependence on fossil fuel-based energy systems and promoting renewable energy alternatives.

The University shall seek to ensure that its financial decisions, procurement arrangements, infrastructure development and external collaborations are consistent with its long-term environmental sustainability objectives.

The University shall discourage direct institutional investments and discretionary partnerships involving coal mining, coal-based electricity generation, crude oil exploration and other identified carbon-intensive energy activities.

Furthermore, the University shall publicly communicate its commitment to progressively transition towards 100% renewable operational energy, subject to technical feasibility, financial viability, statutory requirements and availability of appropriate renewable energy infrastructure.

The University shall also encourage and support the adoption of renewable energy solutions beyond its campus through educational partnerships, institutional collaborations, awareness programmes and community engagement.

5. Fossil Fuel Investment Divestment

5.1 Restriction on fossil fuel-related investments

The University shall adopt a responsible investment approach that discourages direct financial exposure to industries primarily engaged in fossil fuel extraction and carbon-intensive energy production.

Accordingly:

- a. University-controlled endowment and surplus funds shall not be intentionally invested directly in enterprises whose principal business activities involve coal mining, coal-based power generation or crude oil exploration.
- b. New discretionary investments in identified fossil fuel-intensive sectors shall be avoided.
- c. Existing direct investments, if any, falling within the identified restricted categories shall be reviewed by the Finance Department and placed before the competent authority for consideration of an appropriate divestment plan.
- d. Any divestment decision shall take into consideration applicable laws, contractual obligations, financial prudence and the University's fiduciary responsibilities.
- e. The University shall encourage the consideration of environmental sustainability and climate-related risks while evaluating new investment opportunities.

5.2 Responsible financial decision-making

The Finance Department shall incorporate environmental sustainability considerations, wherever relevant, into investment proposals and financial recommendations.

Preference may be given to financially prudent and legally permissible investment opportunities supporting renewable energy, resource efficiency, clean technology and sustainable development.

5.3 Treatment of indirect investments

Where University funds are invested through diversified financial instruments or professionally managed funds, the Finance Department may review the availability of information regarding indirect exposure to fossil fuel-intensive sectors.

Any changes to such investments shall be considered in accordance with applicable investment rules, risk considerations and approval procedures.

5.4 Divestment implementation

The University shall follow a structured approach comprising identification of relevant investments, assessment of exposure, examination of alternatives, recommendation by the Finance Department and approval by the competent authority.

The policy does not require financially imprudent or legally impermissible immediate liquidation of existing investments.

6. Sustainable Procurement and Contractual Engagement

6.1 Environmental considerations in procurement

The University shall progressively incorporate environmental sustainability considerations into procurement and vendor selection processes.

Where technically suitable and financially reasonable, preference shall be given to suppliers and service providers offering energy-efficient equipment, renewable energy technologies, low-carbon products, environmentally responsible manufacturing practices and sustainable service solutions.

6.2 Restriction on carbon-intensive partnerships

The University shall avoid entering into new discretionary procurement arrangements or CSR collaborations whose primary purpose is to promote fossil fuel extraction, coal-based energy generation or other carbon-intensive energy activities.

Routine purchases of essential goods and services shall be evaluated separately, considering operational requirements, availability of alternatives, cost and applicable procurement rules.

6.3 Renewable energy and clean technology providers

The University shall encourage engagement with renewable energy developers, solar technology providers, energy-efficiency consultants, clean energy start-ups, research institutions and other organizations contributing to sustainable energy solutions.

6.4 Contract review

The concerned administrative or procurement department may examine significant new contracts for consistency with this policy.

Where an existing contractual arrangement is found to be materially inconsistent with the policy, the matter shall be referred to the competent authority for appropriate corrective action, renegotiation or discontinuation, subject to contractual and legal obligations.

7. Public Commitment Towards 100% Renewable Operational Energy

7.1 Institutional renewable energy pledge

K.R. Mangalam University shall publicly affirm its commitment to progressively transition towards 100% renewable operational energy.

This commitment represents a long-term institutional direction intended to reduce dependence on fossil fuel-based energy and promote environmentally responsible campus operations.

7.2 Progressive transition

The University shall pursue this commitment through technically feasible and financially viable measures, which may include:

- Expansion of rooftop and other suitable solar photovoltaic installations.
- Procurement of renewable electricity through legally permissible arrangements.
- Adoption of energy-efficient equipment, lighting and building systems.

- Exploration of appropriate renewable energy and energy-storage technologies.
- Improvement of electricity monitoring and energy management practices.
- Progressive replacement of fossil fuel-dependent systems where practical alternatives are available.

7.3 Renewable energy transition planning

The Estate Department, in consultation with the Finance Department and ESC, shall periodically assess campus energy requirements, existing renewable energy capacity, opportunities for further installations and associated resource requirements.

A phased implementation roadmap may be prepared for approval by the competent authority.

7.4 Public disclosure

The University's renewable energy commitment shall be communicated through appropriate institutional channels, including its official website, sustainability communications, awareness events and relevant institutional reports.

The commitment shall be presented as a progressive transition objective. Achievement of 100% renewable operational energy shall not be claimed until supported by verifiable energy data and an approved accounting methodology.

8. Renewable Energy and Sustainable Campus Infrastructure

The University shall seek to integrate sustainability considerations into campus infrastructure planning and facility management.

8.1 Renewable energy infrastructure

The University shall assess opportunities to install, maintain and expand renewable energy generation systems within available campus infrastructure.

Priority may be given to solar photovoltaic systems and other renewable technologies suitable for the University's geographical location, operational requirements and technical conditions.

8.2 Energy-efficient buildings

New infrastructure projects and major renovation works should consider energy-efficient design, natural lighting, ventilation, efficient electrical equipment and other applicable green-building principles.

8.3 Efficient campus operations

The University shall encourage responsible electricity consumption through preventive maintenance, efficient lighting, appropriate use of air-conditioning systems, equipment upgrades and awareness among campus users.

8.4 Energy monitoring

The Estate Department shall maintain available records of electricity consumption, renewable energy generation and major energy-efficiency interventions to support internal reviews and future planning.

8.5 Financial feasibility

Proposed renewable energy and efficiency projects shall be assessed with regard to technical suitability, estimated costs, anticipated energy savings, maintenance requirements and long-term institutional benefits.

9. Renewable Energy Commitment Beyond the Campus

K.R. Mangalam University recognizes that its contribution to environmental sustainability extends beyond its own infrastructure and operations.

The University shall therefore encourage renewable energy adoption among partner schools, educational institutions, local bodies and surrounding communities.

9.1 Institutional collaborations

The University may enter into MoUs or other approved collaborative arrangements to promote renewable energy awareness, technical knowledge sharing, sustainable campus development and clean energy solutions.

9.2 Capacity-building initiatives

Workshops, seminars, training programmes and awareness sessions may be organized for partner institutions and community stakeholders on topics including rooftop solar systems, energy conservation, renewable energy technologies and sustainable institutional practices.

9.3 Model campus visits

The University may facilitate educational visits and demonstrations of its renewable energy infrastructure and energy-management practices to promote practical learning and replication of suitable initiatives.

9.4 Technical and academic support

Subject to available expertise and resources, relevant academic departments may provide advisory support, student-led projects, technical demonstrations and research-based recommendations for clean energy adoption.

9.5 Voluntary participation

The adoption of renewable energy systems by external institutions and community partners shall remain voluntary and subject to their respective financial, technical and regulatory circumstances.

10. Academic Integration, Research and Innovation

The University shall encourage the integration of renewable energy, carbon reduction and environmental sustainability into relevant academic, research and innovation activities.

10.1 Curriculum and experiential learning

Academic schools and departments may incorporate appropriate topics relating to renewable energy, climate change, sustainable development and responsible resource utilization into relevant curricula, projects, workshops and experiential learning activities, subject to academic approval.

10.2 Research and innovation

The University shall encourage interdisciplinary research and innovation in areas such as solar energy, energy storage, energy-efficient technologies, sustainable infrastructure, carbon reduction and clean energy applications.

10.3 Student participation

Students may be encouraged to participate in sustainability clubs, awareness campaigns, innovation competitions, campus energy-conservation initiatives and community outreach activities.

10.4 Industry–academia collaboration

The University may establish partnerships with renewable energy enterprises, research organizations and technology providers for collaborative research, internships, demonstrations, training and knowledge exchange.

11. Governance and Institutional Responsibilities

The implementation and monitoring of this policy shall be overseen by the Environment & Sustainability Committee (ESC), chaired by the Registrar.

11.1 Environment & Sustainability Committee

The ESC shall serve as the principal institutional body responsible for coordinating implementation of the policy.

Its responsibilities shall include:

- a. Reviewing progress on carbon divestment and renewable energy commitments.
- b. Coordinating with the Finance, Estate, Administration and Procurement Departments.
- c. Encouraging institutional adoption of sustainable financial and operational practices.
- d. Reviewing proposed renewable energy initiatives and recommending improvements.
- e. Facilitating awareness and outreach activities.
- f. Reviewing instances of non-compliance and recommending appropriate corrective measures.
- g. Providing periodic implementation updates to the competent authority.

11.2 Department-wise responsibilities

Department / Authority	Key Responsibilities
Registrar / ESC	Overall coordination, oversight and periodic review
Finance Department	Review of institutional investments, financial decisions and relevant divestment proposals
Estate Department	Renewable energy infrastructure, electricity consumption and technical feasibility assessments
Administration / Procurement	Sustainable procurement practices, vendor selection and contractual compliance
Academic Schools	Research, awareness, innovation and student engagement
IQAC	Coordination of relevant sustainability documentation and institutional quality reporting
Competent Authority	Approval of major policy-related financial and infrastructure decisions

The existing administrative and financial approval hierarchy of the University shall remain applicable.

12. Implementation Framework

The policy shall be implemented through a progressive and coordinated institutional approach.

Indicative implementation framework

Phase	Proposed Action	Responsibility
Phase I	Communicate the approved policy to relevant departments and stakeholders	Registrar / ESC
Phase II	Review applicable investments, procurement arrangements and energy consumption records	Finance / Estate
Phase III	Identify feasible renewable energy and energy-efficiency initiatives	Estate / ESC
Phase IV	Prepare and seek approval for suitable interventions	Concerned Departments
Phase V	Undertake awareness, training and external collaboration activities	Academic Schools / ESC
Phase VI	Review implementation progress and recommend improvements	ESC

The sequence and timing of activities shall be determined according to institutional priorities, resource availability and necessary approvals.

13. Monitoring and Performance Assessment

The University shall adopt a practical internal monitoring mechanism to evaluate implementation of the policy.

13.1 Monitoring indicators

The following indicators may be considered, wherever relevant and supported by institutional records:

Indicator	Measurement / Evidence
Renewable electricity generation	Annual electricity generated from renewable sources (kWh)
Renewable energy contribution	Percentage of total operational electricity consumption supplied by renewable sources
Campus electricity consumption	Annual electricity consumption (kWh)
Fossil fuel investment exposure	Review of applicable direct institutional investments
Sustainable procurement	Relevant procurement decisions and vendor arrangements
Renewable energy collaborations	Number of relevant MoUs and collaborative initiatives
Awareness and outreach	Workshops, seminars, training and community programmes
Energy-efficiency measures	Record of major implemented interventions

13.2 Periodic internal review

The ESC shall undertake periodic reviews based on information provided by the concerned departments.

The Finance Department shall provide relevant updates on investment and procurement matters, while the Estate Department shall provide information on renewable energy installations and campus energy consumption.

13.3 Annual sustainability communication

A brief summary of progress may be included in the University's annual sustainability communication or other relevant institutional reports.

Such reporting may highlight implemented renewable energy initiatives, energy-efficiency measures, stakeholder engagement and progress towards the University's long-term renewable energy commitment.

13.4 Audit requirements

In accordance with the original policy framework, no separate formal audit is mandatory at this stage.

However, the University may voluntarily undertake additional reviews or assessments where required for institutional improvement, regulatory compliance, accreditation or sustainability reporting.

14. Stakeholder Engagement and Awareness

The University recognizes that meaningful implementation of its renewable energy commitment requires awareness and participation among internal and external stakeholders.

Accordingly, the University shall:

- a. Communicate the policy through appropriate institutional channels.
- b. Encourage faculty members, staff and students to adopt responsible energy-consumption practices.
- c. Organize relevant awareness activities, lectures, seminars and campaigns.
- d. Encourage student participation in renewable energy and sustainability initiatives.
- e. Promote collaborative activities with educational institutions, government bodies and community organizations.
- f. Share suitable institutional experiences and practices with partner institutions.
- g. Encourage voluntary adoption of renewable energy technologies and energy-conservation measures by collaborators and community stakeholders.

15. Financial and Resource Considerations

The implementation of this policy shall be subject to prudent financial management and availability of institutional resources.

All proposals involving significant expenditure, infrastructure development, investment restructuring or contractual commitments shall follow the University's established financial and administrative approval procedures.

Where appropriate, the University may explore external funding opportunities, CSR-supported projects, research grants, government schemes and partnerships for renewable energy and sustainability initiatives.

Preference shall be given to measures that demonstrate reasonable environmental benefits, technical feasibility and long-term operational value.

No provision of this policy shall be interpreted as authorizing expenditure or financial commitments without the necessary institutional approvals.

16. Documentation and Record Retention

The Finance Department, Estate Department and ESC shall maintain basic records relevant to the implementation of this policy.

These may include financial investment decisions, divestment-related recommendations, renewable energy project proposals, approved procurement arrangements, MoUs, energy-generation and consumption records, awareness activities and periodic internal review summaries.

Records shall be maintained in physical or electronic form, as appropriate, in accordance with the University's applicable record-retention procedures.

Such documentation shall support institutional continuity, internal reference, transparency and sustainability reporting.

17. Non-Compliance and Corrective Measures

Any identified instance of non-adherence to this policy shall be referred to the concerned department or the ESC for appropriate examination.

The review shall consider the nature of non-compliance, contractual or financial implications, relevant institutional procedures and available corrective options.

Corrective measures may include clarification of procedures, modification of future procurement decisions, reconsideration of proposed partnerships, revision of contractual arrangements or other appropriate administrative actions.

Where an existing contract is materially inconsistent with this policy, its revision or discontinuation may be considered by the competent authority, subject to applicable legal and contractual obligations.

The objective of corrective action shall be to strengthen institutional compliance and encourage continuous improvement.

18. Policy Review and Amendments

This policy shall ordinarily be reviewed once every three years by the Environment & Sustainability Committee.

An earlier review may be initiated in response to changes in applicable laws or regulations, national renewable energy priorities, institutional sustainability objectives, technological developments, financial considerations or other relevant circumstances.

Any proposed amendment shall be placed before the competent authority for consideration and approval.

The revised policy shall become effective from the date specified in the relevant approval or notification.

19. Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals

The policy contributes to the University's institutional sustainability framework through the following SDGs:

SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Promotion of renewable energy generation, clean energy adoption, energy-efficient infrastructure and access to renewable energy knowledge.

SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Integration of sustainability considerations into financial decisions, institutional procurement and resource utilization.

SDG 13 – Climate Action

Reduction of fossil fuel dependence, encouragement of low-carbon institutional practices and promotion of climate-related awareness.

SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Collaboration with educational institutions, clean energy organizations, government agencies and local communities to promote sustainable energy solutions.

20. Institutional Commitment and Declaration

K.R. Mangalam University reaffirms its commitment to environmentally responsible institutional governance, sustainable financial practices and the progressive adoption of renewable energy.

Through this policy, the University commits to discouraging direct institutional investments in identified fossil fuel-intensive sectors, promoting environmentally responsible procurement, pursuing a progressive transition towards 100% renewable operational energy, and encouraging renewable energy adoption beyond its campus.

The University shall endeavour to integrate these commitments into its financial, administrative, academic and infrastructure-related decisions while maintaining operational effectiveness, financial prudence and compliance with applicable laws.

This policy shall come into force upon approval by the competent authority and shall remain applicable until amended or superseded by a subsequent approved policy.


Registrar