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Policy on Divesting Investments from Carbon-Intensive Energy

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1. Purpose

This policy establishes Amity University Rajasthan's (AUR) commitment to progressively divest from carbon-intensive energy investments—such as coal, oil, and gas exploration and production—and to reallocate funds toward renewable, low-carbon, and climate-resilient sectors. It aligns with India's Net Zero 2070 target, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 7, 12, 13), and global higher-education sustainability principles.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All university-managed investment portfolios, endowments, and financial instruments.
- Subsidiary entities, trusts, and foundations under AUR's governance.
- Collaborative funds or research partnerships that involve university investment or equity participation.

3. Rationale and Alignment

As an institution committed to environmental responsibility, AUR recognizes that continuing to fund carbon-intensive sectors contradicts its sustainability mission. Following practices of leading universities, AUR will:

- Reorient investments toward renewable energy and ESG-aligned funds.
- Encourage climate-responsible financial governance.
- Serve as a model for low-carbon finance within Indian higher education.

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4. Guiding Principle

- **Ethical Responsibility:** Ensure university capital promotes sustainability and social equity.
- **Transparency:** Publicly disclose the carbon exposure of investment portfolios annually.
- **Gradual Transition:** Avoid abrupt divestment; follow phased timelines aligned with financial prudence and ESG metrics.

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- **Accountability:** Regular reporting to the University Sustainability Council and Finance Committee.
- **Alignment with National Goals:** Follow India's National Hydrogen Mission, Renewable Energy Targets, and ESG norms by SEBI and RBI.

5. Implementation Framework

5.1 Establishment of Sustainable Investment Committee (SIC): AUR will constitute a Sustainable Investment Committee under the Finance & Audit Council, comprising representatives from Finance, Sustainability Cell, Faculty of Economics/Management, and one student observer.

The SIC shall:

- Review all investment holdings annually for carbon exposure.
- Recommend divestment or reallocation strategies.
- Develop a low-carbon investment roadmap.

5.2 Screening and Classification: All current and future investments will be classified as:

1. **High-carbon** – fossil-fuel dependent.
2. **Transition** – companies reducing emissions or engaged in decarbonization.
3. **Sustainable/ESG-aligned** – renewables, green bonds, etc.

Investments in **Category 1 (High-carbon)** shall be phased out within 3–5 years.

5.3 Reinvestment Strategy: Divested funds will be redirected toward:

- Renewable energy generation companies or green mutual funds.
- Climate-tech startups through the university incubator.
- Green bonds or ESG-certified financial products.
- Campus-level renewable infrastructure projects (solar, EV, waste-to-energy).

6. Monitoring, Disclosure & Reporting: SIC will publish an Annual Sustainable Investment Report, disclosing:

- Current investment portfolio composition.
- Carbon intensity of holdings.
- Divestment and reinvestment progress.
- ESG compliance indicators.

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Reports will be shared with the **University Board**, the **NAAC/NIRF/THE Impact Committee**, and uploaded on the official website under *Sustainability Governance*.

7. Compliance and Oversight: The Finance Controller will ensure all investments comply with this policy and national regulations. External auditors will verify the absence of new investments in carbon-intensive companies. Non-compliance shall trigger a review by the University Audit Committee and corrective actions.

8. Collaboration and Advocacy: AUR will collaborate with:

- **Government bodies** (MNRE, BEE, SEBI) for sustainable finance frameworks.
- **Financial institutions** promoting green bonds and ESG metrics.
- **Academic and industry partners** for research on climate finance, impact assessment, and sustainable portfolio modeling.

9. Review and Continuous Improvement: The policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if national carbon targets or financial norms evolve. AUR aims to achieve 100% fossil-fuel-free investment portfolio by 2030.

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