

POLICY TITLE: BUY-EFFICIENCY RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ'S PURCHASING POLICIES TO PURCHASE ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCTS, APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT

POLICY STATEMENT:

State and local governments spend over \$25 billion annually purchasing energy-using products and over \$10 billion annually on energy bills to power those products.

Fossil fuels burned to produce the electricity used by these products are responsible for a significant percentage of US greenhouse gas emissions and the emissions that cause air pollution.

New designs and technologies have produced energy-efficient products, such as light fixtures, copiers, computers and other office equipment, windows, appliances, exit signs, motors and building heating and cooling equipment, which cut energy use without comprising quality or performance.

Purchasing and utilizing currently available energy-efficient products can reduce energy use by 25 to 75 percent, lowering energy bills and saving money for the City and its citizens.

Minimal modifications to existing purchasing policies and bid specifications ensure that the City of Santa Cruz buys durable low maintenance, energy-efficient equipment and products while at the same time lowering the City of Santa Cruz's utility bills, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

As a participant in ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection Campaign the City of Santa Cruz's energy and procurement staff are invited to attend a "Buy Efficiency" training workshop December 4 through 7, 1998 in Overland Park, Kansas, where officials from the Consortium for Energy Efficiency, US EPA and local government procurement officers will conduct training and distribute materials to make buying energy-efficient products simple and easy.

Energy-using products such as those listed above are responsible for one-third to one-half of the greenhouse gas emissions from the City of Santa Cruz's municipal operations, reducing the energy use from these products by implementing energy efficiency procurement policies can be a key action in the City of Santa Cruz's green house gases reduction action plan;

In order to save energy, money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions the City Council has directed staff to revise purchase and procurement specifications to assure that, when cost effective and consistent with operational needs, all energy consuming equipment purchased will be energy efficient, defined as meeting either ENERGY STAR specifications or criteria that puts products in the upper 25% of energy efficiency, as well as meeting quality, performance and durability requirements.

AUTHORIZATION: Resolution No. NS-24,093 adopted November 24, 1998.