

JB: So our very first climate action plan was adopted in 2009. We signed on to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment in 2007. And then over this past fiscal year 2020 is when we engaged in the update process. And just finished up our last round of subcommittee meetings in January of this year. And so now I'm in the process of actually writing up all of the results from all of those different subcommittee meetings over the course of the year to create our new updated climate action plan.

I: JB: Yeah it was first developed in 2009. And then so 2020 is the first time that we updated that climate action plan. But within the 2009 climate action plan yes we had a goal to be carbon neutral by 2050 and then we had interim goals and targets for carbon emission reduction within that plan.

JB: Yes absolutely. We, so that's one of the other things I do is report annually on how close we are to meeting those benchmarks that we set out in that climate action plan. Every year thus far we have... you know met or exceeded our scope one and scope emissions benchmarks.

I1: So in this updated plan we're going to be moving from being carbon neutral in 2050 to carbon neutral in 2040.

JB: So in terms of the tool tht we've always used, we have always used carbon calculator and now it has developed into SIMAP that's run out of University of New Hampshire. It's a tool we utilize to enter all of our data. That data that goes into that tool for calculating the greenhouse gas emissions comes from a million different sources right? Like it's a substantial effort every year to gather all the data, whether it be from utility bills or from the state of Utah. For example when it comes to our fleet vehicles we have to figure out how many gallons of diesel or gas or CNG we purchased over the year. And we have to get those

records from the State of Utah and their fleet management system. So I have... a... nice long list of people and departments that I have to contact on an annual basis and reports that they have to run for me that get collects this data every single year to get entered into SIMAP.

In doing so we obviously focused first and foremost on conservation and energy efficiency projects. And conducted an investment grade audit a couple of times along the way to identify a whole suite of energy efficiency projects with good returns on investment that we wanted to tackle. And then those projects will continue on and on and on into the future right. You can always keep working on making your facilities more efficient.

Now that's the other key thing, right, is we sat down with our financial department and our accountants and we had to all agree on the way we were going to document those savings and how that was going to be acceptable to everybody. A lot of times in energy management you do what's called weather normalization, right, to kind of account for the changes in weather. We don't weather normalize our data, because for our accountants they wanted to know at the end of the fiscal year, they don't understand what a normalization. So when you tell you saved \$1M this year in avoided utility costs. And you weather normalize that data, they're going to sit there and look at their account. And they're going to say but there's not \$1M sitting in my bank account. You're like but I did save that money. It was a really cold year this year, we had to use more natural gas. They don't understand that, right.

JB: Yeah we've been engaged with STARS since 2010 and submitted our first report in 2011. Our most recent report was 2019 so we're due to produce another one here in 2022. Right now we're STARS silver. And our next report we're hoping to shoot for STARS gold. I think that it does line up pretty darn well, especially in terms of you know looking not just at

operations but it's helped us really improve our academics as well and our curriculum and really pushing for that change across campus.