



**UMC Advocacy Team – January 2018 (1-5)**

## **GLOBAL WARMING AND RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**SUMMARY OF POSITION:** We recognize the reality of human actions contributing significantly to global warming and the urgency of actions needed to reduce fossil fuel generation and promote renewable energy. We are not helpless in the face of increasingly destructive weather extremes. We can act to combat the rise of atmospheric temperature by reducing carbon outputs.

### **UNITED METHODIST OFFICIAL STATEMENTS:**

As a reflection of our call to be caretakers of God's good earth, United Methodists should: educate our congregants on energy production and usage in relation to global warming...

Resolution #1002. US Energy Policy and United Methodist Responsibility  
*United Methodist Book of Resolutions, 2016*

We support strenuous efforts to conserve energy and increase energy efficiency. A transition to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources will combat global warming, protect human health, create new jobs, and ensure a secure, affordable energy future.

Resolution #1001. Energy Policy Statement. *United Methodist Book of Resolutions, 2016.*

There is irrefutable evidence indicating that the atmosphere is warming and that the Annual Conference urges . . . people of faith to work together to halt human impact on global warming . . . and support energy policy legislation that promotes renewable energy, energy efficiency, and cleaner fossil fuel generation.

Resolution #9112 Global Climate Change. *Iowa 2017 Book of Resolutions.*

### **SUPPORTING FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS:**

1. The earth is experiencing a rapid increase in global temperature.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/WorldOfChange/decadaltemp.php>

2. This increase is causing global suffering due to weather extremes, economic damage, human dislocation, and species extinction.

The Economist <http://www.economist.com/node/14447171>

3. In Iowa, global warming is harming the state through such effects as increased soil

erosion, larger insect populations, influx of invasive species, heat stress on animals, and worsening of air quality.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-ia.pdf>

4. There is a virtual consensus among independent scientists that global temperature increases are primarily due to human production of "greenhouse" gasses.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

[http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/syr/AR5\\_SYR\\_FINAL\\_SPM.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/syr/AR5_SYR_FINAL_SPM.pdf)

5. In response to this environmental crisis, representatives from 197 nations agreed to the Paris Climate Accord of 2015 to curtail the production of greenhouse gasses.

United Nations

[http://unfccc.int/paris\\_agreement/items/9485.php](http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php)

6. A transition from fossil fuels to forms of renewable energy provides environmental, economic, and societal benefits and can be done in ways compatible with both progressive and conservative political ideologies.

Climate Leadership Council

<https://www.clcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/TheConservativeCaseforCarbonDividends.pdf>

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