Carbon Reduction Commitment Statement

Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) operates Detroit Metropolitan Airport and Willow Run Airports. Together, these airports comprise one of the world’s largest transportation hubs. WCAA’s mission is to operate safe, secure and dynamic air transportation facilities for its customers, and to create economic vitality, by providing global travel, cargo, and business opportunities.

However, WCAA recognizes that operating a large transportation hub comes with significant responsibilities to the greater community. Accordingly, WCAA is committed to the sustainability of its facilities and operations, in part by implementing environmentally responsible solutions that will support ongoing global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with the intention of mitigating the negative impacts of climate change.

As part of this effort, WCAA is committed to its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from sources within its operational controls (Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions). Specifically, WCAA will develop cost-effective initiatives to reduce electricity, natural gas and vehicle fuel usage and their associated greenhouse gas emissions.

Additionally, WCAA recognizes that Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions are only a fraction of greenhouse emissions generated from overall airport activities. Therefore, WCAA is also committed to work with airport tenants and other stakeholders to reduce their emissions (Scope 3 Emissions) as well.

Accordingly, WCAA intends this Commitment Statement to serve as written evidence of policy commitment to emissions reduction by the top management at the airport.

Goal

WCAA has set a voluntary goal of reducing Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 10% by 2020 using 2013 as the baseline year. This goal will be achieved by following recommendations consistent with those in the attached Carbon Reduction Strategy.

Chad Newton
Chief Executive Officer

Definitions:

Scope 1: Direct greenhouse gas emissions -
These emissions are generated by sources that are owned or controlled by WCAA.
Scope 2: Indirect greenhouse gas emissions –
These emissions are generated by the electricity purchased by WCAA.
Scope 3: Other indirect greenhouse gas emissions –
These emissions are generated by all of the activities occurring at the airport due to tenants and other sources not owned or controlled by WCAA.
Carbon Reduction Strategy

Sustainability Mission

“Ensuring that current WCAA operations comply in letter and spirit with applicable environmental regulations, including holding non-compliant parties accountable for their actions.

Collaboratively planning with and educating internal and external stakeholders to implement efficient, sustainable measures to decrease the Airports’ impact on future generations.”

WCAA is committed to operating sustainable airport facilities as a driver to benefit social, environmental, and economic activity in Southeast Michigan. Through this Carbon Reduction Strategy, WCAA will reduce its carbon emissions and achieve energy savings.

Greenhouse Gas Management

WCAA recognizes that it would be best to minimize harmful environmental impacts resulting from the operations of its facilities, even if not legally required to do so, and voluntarily commits to its efforts to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions under its operational control. WCAA has set a goal of reducing Scope 1 and 2 Emissions by 10% by 2020 using 2013 as the baseline year.

As an initial step towards reducing its carbon footprint, WCAA records and monitors vehicle fuel, electricity, and natural gas usage in its online tracking system. From these sources, WCAA compiles an annual inventory of Scope 1 and 2 emissions. This inventory, developed using the guidelines published by the Airports Council International Global Airport Carbon Accreditation Program, is used to track results towards achieving the carbon reduction goal.

Energy Management

The majority of WCAA’s carbon emissions are due to the purchase of electricity and natural gas. WCAA has made, and will continue to make, a marked effort to reduce its carbon footprint and reduce its operational costs by optimizing its use of these two commodities. Over the past several years, new energy efficient LED lighting has replaced most of the lighting around the airports, saving the WCAA money on electricity costs and reducing Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions. WCAA has also initiated numerous improvements at the two Detroit Metropolitan Airport Energy Centers to reduce natural gas usage, including the installation in 2013, of four (4) high-efficiency boilers at the North Powerhouse. WCAA also made upgrades to the Willow Run heating system with installation of infrared-based units. These improvements represent significant investments by WCAA to increase the efficiency of heating and cooling delivered to its facilities.
All future WCAA projects will be evaluated on the basis of their total life-cycle costs and for potential to incorporate as efficient energy consumption as possible with “emission budgeting” being a component of the overall cost-benefit evaluation for each project.

**New Infrastructure**

WCAA aspires to ensure that future projects will use principles from industry-leading design certifications for new construction conducted on airport property, where appropriate. Further, WCAA endeavors to consult LEED design principles for all new buildings and Envision design principles for all other infrastructure projects. WCAA has used LEED design principles for the design and construction of the Credentials and Public Safety Building and the new Administration Building. Envision guidelines were used in the design and construction of Runway 4L and .

**Fleet**

WCAA will evaluate alternative fuel vehicles to ascertain their potential benefit to its mobile fleet and will consider fuel economy in the purchase of new vehicles. WCAA currently ensures all vehicles are properly maintained, as poorly maintained vehicles have higher fuel consumption and emission levels. WCAA will identify opportunities to reduce mileage by recording and analyzing business travel and individual fuel consumption to encourage fuel efficient driving, including a no-idling policy.

**Stakeholder Engagement**

WCAA recognizes that its greenhouse gas emissions are only a small fraction of the greenhouse emissions from overall airport activity. As such, WCAA is committed to working with its tenants and other stakeholders to reduce Scope 3 Emissions at its airports. WCAA will work in partnership with its stakeholders to assist them in achieving sustainable working environments and supporting their sustainability initiatives. WCAA will continue to work to provide infrastructure to help stakeholders adopt energy efficient technology. As an example, WCAA provides electric vehicle charging units in its parking garages.

**Funding**

Projects promoting energy efficient technology often cost more up-front, but generate reduced maintenance costs in the long-run. WCAA will facilitate the implementation of energy efficient technology by securing outside funding, when appropriate, to help finance such projects that reduce carbon emissions at its airports. As an example, in 2007, WCAA received a Voluntary Airport Low Emissions Grant from the FAA to purchase ground power units and pre-conditioned air units for all 26 passenger loading bridges at the North Terminals at DTW. WCAA has also worked with its utility provider to secure funding for energy efficiency projects.
Education and Training

WCAA will provide this Carbon Reduction Policy to all employees via the online Learning and Performance Center. Training modules to help employees reduce carbon emissions associated with their job duties will also be provided through the Learning and Performance Center. WCAA will facilitate educational opportunities for its stakeholders by sponsoring training for tenants to learn about utility incentives for energy efficiency projects and assist in incorporating these efficiency elements in the WCAA Construction and Alteration Permit application process.

Outreach

WCAA will communicate this policy to interested parties through its website. Emissions results and progress towards WCAA’s carbon reduction goal will be communicated as well. WCAA will provide information and resources to assist other airports and local organizations looking to reduce their carbon footprints.

Audit

WCAA performs an internal quality control audit on emissions data, to ensure that data used to calculate greenhouse gas emissions is consistently entered by employees in different departments. The data is entered in an online tracking system, but editing access is limited to designated personnel. Results are tracked by senior leadership and reviewed quarterly. In addition, WCAA has a qualified third-party auditor verify the records and data for the purpose of certification in Airport Council International’s Airport Carbon Accreditation Program.

Implementation:

This strategy will be reviewed annually in June of each year by the WCAA Department of Environment & Sustainability. The responsibility for implementation of this policy rests with the Department who will monitor the effectiveness of the policy and its associated initiatives. In 2020, the Department will set a new goal for carbon reduction.