

Media Advisory for: WEDNESDAY, July 3, 2013 ; ***IMMEDIATE RELEASE***  
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## **Madison Passes Fossil Fuel Divestment Resolution** *City among first to officially declare*

MADISON, WI – The Madison City Council at its regular meeting Tuesday, 7/2/13 made Madison one of the first cities in the U.S. to officially support institutional divestment from the fossil fuel industry . Approval came with only one abstention and followed on the heels of Mayor Paul Soglin and a majority of Alders cosponsoring the resolution.

Approval of Resolution 30180 “Divestment of Fossil Fuels by the City of Madison” puts city government on record as concerned about climate change and against continued investment in the fossil fuel industry. It does not result in any massive reallocation of funds or adverse investment impacts according to the Fiscal Note attached to the resolution file at [http://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/documents/Packet\\_066.pdf](http://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/documents/Packet_066.pdf)

This resolution joins Madison with Dane County and other governmental bodies implementing divestment policies in response to campaigns running in over 100 cities and states across the country. The council's affirmative vote brings to realization Mayor Paul Soglin's April divestment proposal. He advanced that proposal in concert with cities of the Mayors Innovation Project. The fossil fuel divestment campaign spearheaded by 350.org and other climate action groups started last fall at colleges and universities . Modeled on the anti-apartheid campaigns of the 1980s, it has now spread to over 300 campuses across the country along with other institutions of government and investment.

"We are delighted the city has sent this clear message to the fossil fuel industry and the world that Madison values a healthy, stable climate for all over and against the richest corporations in world history. Its simply wrong to profit from wrecking the planet," remarked Stephanie Kimball, 350Madison Coordinator.

“As a student I am delighted that Madison took this next step in a long string of sustainability initiatives. I hope the UW Foundation follows suit.” Emilia Burns, Climate Action 350 UW Co-coordinator., noted.

“In this way and others we see how people can think globally about climate change and act locally to do something about it.” said Dick Smith, Coordinator for 350 Madison's public-employee divestment campaign.

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**\*\*ATTENTION NEWS MEDIA: Reporters are invited to interview Judy Skog, 350-Madison City Divestment Coordinator, 608-217-6600 (cell), [jskog83@gmail.com](mailto:jskog83@gmail.com); Dick Smith, Coordinator for 350 Madison's public-employee divestment campaign, 608-469-2977 (cell), [dsmith1568@charter.net](mailto:dsmith1568@charter.net); Emilia Burns, Climate Action 350 UW Co-coordinator., 952-215-4899, [ekburns@wisc.edu](mailto:ekburns@wisc.edu) ;**

**(Representatives of 350Madison were present for the 6:30 pm Council meeting Tuesday, 7/2/2013 at 210 MLK Blvd, City County Bldg, room 201)**

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