Whereas the Comprehensive Energy Management Project (CEMP) provides a unique opportunity to become an international leader in sustainability,

Whereas the process that has produced this potential partnership has rolled out over several years in three phases, and has included input from the entire campus community, including faculty experts,

Whereas our utilities employees who choose not to accept a job with the partner will be offered employment with the university at their current compensation levels,

Whereas, the total value of $1.165 billion includes a $1.015 billion upfront payment to the university and a $150 million commitment to support strategic initiatives, including student financial aid, faculty competitive compensation, academic space, and sustainability goals, as well as the establishment of a $50 million Energy Advancement and Innovation Center for energy research and technology commercialization,

Whereas within 10 years, conservation measures would improve our energy efficiency by 25 percent, reducing our carbon footprint, with the ultimate goal of assisting the university in reaching carbon neutrality by 2050, and ENGIE-Axium would provide additional and significant capital funding to accomplish this goal,

Whereas the academic initiatives will establish Ohio State as a global leader in sustainability innovation and scholarship, thus attracting new students, faculty and funding;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University Senate supports the proposed recommendation to the Board of Trustees that Ohio State enter into a partnership with ENGIE-Axium that would advance and enhance the educational mission of The Ohio State University; and

Let it further be resolved that the University Senate requests an annual report to be published jointly by the Office of Administration and Planning, the Office of Academic Affairs, and the Office of Business and Finance; that said report detail (1) endowment distributions, earnings, and balance, (2) sustainability projects and other initiatives funded through CEMP revenue, (3) progress toward achieving the applicable sustainability goals, (4) operations of the research center, (5) company performance on energy delivery, infrastructure investment, and human resources, and (6) the previous year’s baseline metrics; that said report be reviewed and approved annually by the Senate Fiscal Committee, the Council on the Physical Environment, the President and Provost’s Council on Sustainability, and the University Research Committee in their respective capacities; and that said report be published and communicated to the university annually and discussed by University Senate at least every five years; and

Let it further be resolved that Shared Governance participants be full partners in shaping the implementation of this contract, influencing the distribution of proceeds, and cementing the sustainability mission.