



24/7 CFE AT A GLANCE

Be part of the global push for clean energy, every hour of every day.

The UN's Sixth Assessment Report makes it clear: we must do much more to rapidly decarbonize our energy systems to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Yet we remain far from achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7 – universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy by 2030.

Electricity lies at the heart of these global challenges, as it is both a large source of global carbon emissions, but is also key to decarbonizing large sectors of the economy, including buildings, transport, and industry. Access to affordable and clean electricity is also essential for economic growth, quality healthcare and education, and many other development goals.

To achieve net-zero emissions across the global economy by 2050, electricity must decarbonize even faster, while becoming the core of a just and accessible energy system.

We are a group of energy buyers, energy suppliers, governments, system operators, solutions providers, investors and other organizations on a mission to transform global electricity grids to “absolute zero” – or full decarbonization – by adopting, enabling, and advancing 24/7 Carbon-free Energy (CFE). 24/7 CFE means that every kilowatt-hour of electricity consumption is met with carbon-free electricity sources, every hour of every day, everywhere. It is both the end state of a fully decarbonized electricity system, and a transformative approach to energy procurement, supply, and policy design that is critical to accelerating its arrival.

Due to the remarkable ongoing progress in clean energy and enabling technologies, the transition to a fully decarbonized electricity sector is possible. But it is not inevitable. It will require a concerted and targeted effort by all stakeholders to develop and scale the energy policies, technologies, procurement practices, and solutions to transform the broader energy ecosystem to enable rapid and cost-effective achievement of 24/7 CFE for all.

The Compact signatories recognize that 24/7 CFE consists of the following key principles:



Time-matched procurement: matching hourly electricity consumption with carbon-free electricity generation. Hourly matching helps connect clean energy purchasing to underlying electricity consumption.



Local procurement: purchasing clean energy on the local/regional electricity grids where electricity consumption occurs. This is the only way to drive the electricity-related emissions that a consumer is directly responsible for to zero.



Technology-inclusive: recognizing the need to create zero-carbon electricity systems as quickly as possible. All Carbon-Free Energy technologies can play a role in creating this future.



Enabling new generation: focusing on delivering additional Carbon-Free Energy to drive the rapid decarbonization of electricity systems.



Maximizing system impact: addressing the dirtiest hours of electricity consumption where the most fossil fuel is used in generation.

Not all commitments listed above will be equally relevant to every signatory, but all signatories uphold the broader principles of 24/7 CFE. Each signatory is also encouraged to submit a UN Energy Compact, outlining their specific commitments and actions from now until 2030 to advance 24/7 CFE. These commitments should align with their core functions within the energy ecosystem and the broader goals of the initiative.

As part of the Energy Compact process, signatories progress will be annually tracked against key metrics.

Additionally, they are encouraged to include further commitments and actions that support SDG7, ensuring universal access to affordable and clean energy by 2030.