UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

STUDENT SENATE

CLASSIFICATION ______ ALLOCATION FOR CONTINUED DAVIES WINDSOURCE ______

RENEWABLE ENERGY POWER CREDIT PURCHASE

________________________________________

NUMBER 57-B-14  DATE ______ February 3, 2014

INTRODUCED BY ______ EMY MARIER, STUDENT OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTOR

AND MATHEW RIEDEL, ON-CAMPUS SENATOR

1 WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is committed to becoming more environmentally sustainable and becoming carbon neutral; and

2 WHEREAS, Facilities Management and Planning is committed to achieving carbon neutrality; and

3 WHEREAS, Xcel Energy offers a voluntary Renewable Energy Credit Purchasing Program called Windsource allowing for the purchase of renewable energy resources which can further the University’s goal toward Carbon neutrality; and

4 WHEREAS, the Student Office of Sustainability is committed to bringing
renewable energy resources to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 Wisconsin Act 141 “set goals of 10% renewable energy for state government by 2008 and 20% by 2012,” and UW-System has met this state-mandated percentage to be derived from renewable resources; and

WHEREAS, the actual kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage of the Davies Student Center is 1,644,287 kWh annually; and

WHEREAS, purchasing 1,315,430 kWh of renewable energy credits from Windsource at $0.0137 per kWh or 80% of the actual energy usage of the Davies Student Center, will allow for 100% of the building to be renewable equivalent; and

WHEREAS, Xcel Energy’s Windsource Program requires a one-year contract that has a current contract date of December 1 that will be changed to March 1; and

WHEREAS, changing the contract will not apply the new monthly rate to reflect the actual kWh usage of Davies Student Center until February 2014, meaning from December 2013 to February 2014 the cost of the Windsource program will use the rate from the original contract which was based on the estimated kWh usage; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the Windsource purchase will be added to the monthly University Center’s utility bill from Xcel Energy to be reimbursed from the Student Office of Sustainability’s Environmental Responsibility account; and

WHEREAS, Xcel Energy receives no profit from Windsource purchases; and

WHEREAS, the annual Windsource Program contract will be evaluated and
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate approves the allocation of $17,533 from the Student Office of Sustainability’s 2013-2014 Environmental Responsibility Account for the purchase of 1,279,600 kWh of renewable energy credits from Xcel Energy’s Windsource Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this allocation proposal is outlined in more detail in Attachment “A;” and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Larson transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Dr. Joseph Abhold, Dean of Students; Mitch Freymiller, Chair, University Senate; Martin Hanifin, Vice Chancellor, Administration & Finance; and Mark Reeves, Director, Business Services; Charles Farrell, Director, University Centers; Dr. James Boulter, Associate Professor, Chemistry Department; Dr. Christina Hupy, Sustainability Fellow; Terry Classen, Director, Facilities Management; Michael Traynor, Building & Grounds, Facilities Management; Lynn Peterson, Building & Grounds, Facilities Management; Dave Osborn, Manager, DOA Sustainability Program; and James Hanke, Economic Development and Community Outreach Manager, Xcel Energy.