



To the more than 2250 who [signed](#) No Donations Until Divestment, to former student organizers for divestment at Princeton, to the broader movement for climate justice around the world, together we have moved Princeton in the right direction.

For the first time, the Board of Trustees has decided on fossil fuel divestment in some form. But if you are looking for climate leadership, you won't find it in [Princeton's announcement](#). Instead of taking decisive action to reduce Princeton's contribution to climate change, the Trustees announced they are divesting from coal and tar sands (the University of California [did this](#) almost 6 years ago) and companies involved in future climate disinformation. They also announced the endowment would be carbon neutral but they did not commit to any time frame and instead opted to form yet another committee. The time for action is now. We cannot wait any longer.

In a week where the [IEA](#) urged immediate climate action and an end to new investments in fossil fuels and Shell was [successfully sued](#) for its totally inadequate emissions reduction plan, Princeton has fallen far short of the mark. The pledge for endowment neutrality leaves the door open for fossil fuel investments for decades more. We will all pay the price for Princeton's timidity.

For the class of 2046, the rest of the Princeton community and the world, we will continue the fight to ensure that Princeton no longer funds the climate crisis. We will ask for Divest Princeton members and climate experts to have a seat at the table and we will push for deadlines and a meaningful definition of "net-zero". We will push for rigorous screening of companies that promote disinformation and we will demand that Princeton ends its greenwashing of fossil fuel companies.

To all the Princetonians who have committed to withhold donations until divestment, we have shown that our collective power is strong. Now we must stay the course and continue to withhold donations until Princeton actually divests.

What happens next?

To ensure that the announcement is meaningful, we will need to push Princeton. We will need to make sure that timeframes are ambitious and that the committee members are committed to climate action. It is up to us that this doesn't become an exercise in Greenwashing.

What about donations?

We pledged to withhold donations until Princeton divested. This announcement doesn't guarantee divestment. So we will continue to withhold donations until Princeton divests from fossil fuels.

Finally:

As well as being critical of the announcement, it is important to take a moment to recognize that this is a significant moment in Princeton's history. We have all worked so hard on this, building on the organizing of activists from Princeton and around the world. Thank you for your help getting us here. We started with two alums and a Facebook post to Not donate to Princeton until it divested and together, we have slowly and surely built the campaign that won this first victory.

Now, we must push Princeton to go the distance.

Divestprinceton.com May 28, 2021