Climate change is a global challenge that is disrupting national economies and affecting lives. People are experiencing the significant impacts of climate change, which include changing weather patterns, rising sea level, and more extreme weather events. Without action, the world’s average surface temperature is projected to rise over the 21st century and is likely to surpass 3 degrees Celsius this century.

As one of the world’s largest communications companies, AT&T recognizes that climate change is happening, that greenhouse gas emissions are contributing to it, and that transitioning to a more resource efficient world will be a primary determinant of success in the 21st century global economy.

While we are committed to operating in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner, we also seek to enable customers to make more sustainable choices. AT&T offers products and services that enable our customers to be more energy efficient and reduce their emissions. We do this by moving work to people rather than people to work, connecting rather than traveling, managing business remotely and in real-time and improving transportation and distribution systems.

The Global e-Sustainability Initiative’s SMARTer2030 report finds that increased use of ICT can enable a 20% reduction in global carbon dioxide emissions by 2030, holding them at 2015 levels — translating into a benefit nearly 9.7 times higher than our industry’s own footprint. Using that information, AT&T set a goal to enable carbon savings 10 times the footprint of our operations by 2025. We will strive to achieve this by enhancing the efficiency of our network, and by delivering solutions that help customers reduce their own carbon emissions.

We believe that our technology is empowering the transition to the low-carbon economy. The emergence and expansion of the Internet of Things (IoT) in particular has the potential to scale significant carbon savings, as everything becomes more connected and smarter.
Some examples of our efforts include:

- **Smart Cities** – Cities currently account for 60-80% of energy consumption and 75% of carbon emissions worldwide. We recently announced a dedicated Smart Cities Organization and a Smart Cities framework. We’re bringing the framework to the initial spotlight cities of Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Chapel Hill (NC) and Montgomery County (MD), and will partner with local universities, such as the Georgia Institute of Technology, to study the impact of our solutions. Examples of smart energy solutions within a city that can affect carbon emissions include:

  - **Smart lighting**: Smart lighting lets maintenance crews remotely manage a city’s entire lighting system. Maintenance crews no longer waste time and fuel driving around town to find and replace broken bulbs.

  - **Smart meters**: AT&T provides cellular connectivity to smart-grid devices like Smart Meters that allow for better outage management, helping to make energy grids more efficient and reliable.

- **Smart Companies** – Our technology empowers companies to be more efficient, save money and reduce environmental impact. Services like fleet management and asset tracking help companies optimize and gain visibility into their global operations. Industrial IoT solutions like Cargo View with FlightSafe® and AT&T Telematics help companies know the location and condition of all materials in transit, as well as optimize routes for efficiency.

  - **Smart Agriculture** – Soil sensors advise farmers on the best day to water, plant, fertilize and harvest for maximum yield, while using energy and water more efficiently.

We’re working towards a 2020 goal to reduce the electricity consumption relative to data growth on our network by 60 percent. So far we have:

- Relative to our new target for electricity consumption of our company relative to data growth (93 MWh electricity/Petabytes of network traffic), AT&T achieved an 18.9 percent reduction in 2014.

We are committed to an overall GHG reduction goal which reduces our Scope 1 emissions by 20 percent by 2020, using a 2008 Scope 1 baseline of 1,172,476 mtons CO2-e.1. We have achieved:

- An adjusted 1,052,504 mtons CO2e of Scope 1 emissions, which equates to a 10.23 percent reduction compared to our 2008 base year.