Energy Shortage: Staff Directive  
(of 1 November 2022)  

The Executive Board of the University of Zurich,  
on the basis of § 31 para. 4 of the University Act,  
resolves the following:  

1. Object and Purpose  
This directive governs the rights and responsibilities of staff at their workplace with regard to energy use on the premises of the University of Zurich (UZH).  
The directive aims to ensure energy efficiency and to reduce energy costs at UZH.  

2. Night Work  
Night work refers to work carried out between 8:00pm and 6:00am.  
Night work outside of regular work schedules that has not been explicitly ordered by a direct line manager is prohibited on UZH premises.  
Line managers may grant exceptions.  
The Guidelines on Mobile Working at UZH apply to night work carried out by employees working from home.  

3. Use of Electric Heaters  
The use of electric heaters purchased by organizational units and privately owned heaters to increase room temperature is prohibited.  
Facility Management may grant exceptions in justified cases.  

4. Energy Efficiency Measures  
Employees are required:  
a. To avoid keeping devices on stand-by unless it is necessary  
b. To only use electronic equipment when necessary and as energy-efficiently as possible  
c. To switch off lights when leaving a room, especially in the evening  
d. To ventilate rooms in an energy-efficient manner  
Employees are instructed to follow the recommendations of the canton (https://www.zh.ch/de/umwelt-tiere/energie/energieversorgung.html#330071, website in German only) and the Swiss government’s energy-saving campaign (https://www.nicht-verschwenden.ch/en/homepage) in a way that is suitable and proportionate.  

1 In its resolution of 21 September 2022, the Government Council of the Canton of Zurich mandated internal measures to be implemented by the canton's administrative bodies to confront the energy shortage (RRB 1267/2022). These measures are implemented through this directive if they are aimed directly at employees.
5. Entry into Force and Validity

This directive enters into force on 1 November 2022 and remains valid until 30 April 2023.