

August 2, 2011

Paul Rowland, Executive Director
The Association for the Advancement for Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite B500
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Rowland,

I am pleased to submit the Sustainability Tracking and Reporting System (STARS) inventory for the University of Minnesota -Twin Cities campus. We appreciate the opportunity to support AASHE's peer-reviewed framework to measure and communicate progress toward becoming more sustainable through this transparent inventory. As one of the largest land grant institutions in the country, we hope our participation helps in the further development of this initiative.

As a University, we are already incorporating sustainability into teaching, research, outreach, and the operations that support them, as set forth by the University of Minnesota Board of Regents Policy: Sustainability and Energy Efficiency adopted in 2004. Goals and measures were developed to implement our policy using a systemwide approach. Our campus AASHE STARS submission developed a baseline for many current sustainability initiatives.

The Twin Cities Sustainability Committee was charged with completing the inventory, utilizing their diverse knowledge to collect and consolidate data for the STARS submission. Their efforts over the past few months created a repository of information that reflects the breadth and depth of the campus' work to advance sustainability, and the leadership role the University has played in this arena. Our work in sustainability initiatives has been a source of excellence for the institution and we will continue on this path to demonstrate leadership through future sustainability initiatives.

We are honored to be a STARS Charter Participant, among other leading institutions conducting the inventory. Thank you to those at AASHE who helped move this effort forward and provide a framework in which to view campus sustainability.

Sincerely,



Eric W. Kaler
President