



University of Colorado at Boulder

**Department of Facilities Management  
Office of Planning, Design & Construction**

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1540 30<sup>th</sup> Street, UCB 453, Boulder, Colorado 80309-0453  
Phone: (303) 492-5681  
FAX: (303) 492-2921

**INNOVATION CREDIT LETTER**  
**Sustainability Tracking, Rating and Assessment System (STARS)**  
Innovation Credit 2 - LWEEP

November 3, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to offer my endorsement and approval of the STARS Innovation Credit entitled **Innovation Credit 2 – Laboratory Water and Energy Efficiency Program (LWEEP)** being submitted by the University of Colorado at Boulder as part of its STARS package.

My experience includes a BS in industrial engineer, 1975, a MS in industrial engineering in 1976 and over 23 years of experience in manufacturing engineering, electronic manufacturing, automation design, telecom product development, and in a leadership position in high tech telecom product development organization. Most recently, I have eight years of experience in energy conservation engineering and received certified as an energy manager. I currently work for the University of Colorado at Boulder in Facilities Management as the Assistant Director of Engineering and Energy Resource Conservation Officer. My position with Facilities Management encompasses campuswide energy conservation, providing me with the opportunity to provide a wide range of assistance and support to this program.

LWEEP focuses on both behavioral changes as well as changes to create and implement technical solutions for research facilities by improving the efficient use of energy and water resources. LWEEP is a conservation collaboration between the CU Environmental Center, campus Department of Environmental Health and Safety, and the Facilities Management Engineering and Resource Conservation Departments. Dr. Kathy Ramirez directly operates the program and supervises the EcoLeader representatives who assist in identifying and implementing changes to improve laboratory energy and water efficiency.

In my opinion, the submittal of Laboratory Water and Energy Efficiency Program (LWEEP), identified as Innovation Credit 2, meets the criteria for such credits as the appended detail to this letter describes.

Thank you for your time and commitment to achieving sustainability in higher education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Tabrizi', written over a large, stylized flourish.

Moe Tabrizi  
Assistant Director of Facilities Management  
Engineering and Campus Energy Officer

### **STARS Innovation Credits Criteria**

- 1) Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, ground-breaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.
  - 2) In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as Tier One credits.
  - 3) The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome should have occurred within the past three years.
  - 4) The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.
  - 5) An institution can only claim a particular activity as an innovation credit once. When re-submitting for a STARS rating, an innovation credit that the institution submitted previously cannot be re-submitted.
  - 6) Practices, policies, and programs that were once considered innovative but are now widely adopted (e.g. being the first institution to enact a policy 20 years ago that is now common) may not be claimed as innovation credits.
  - 7) Multiple activities or practices whose sum is innovative can be considered for an innovation credit as long as those activities or practices are related. For example, three innovative waste reduction programs in research laboratories could be listed together under a single innovation credit for Greening Laboratories. Listing a series of unrelated accomplishments or events under a single innovation credit is not accepted.
  - 8) While the practices that led to receiving an award may be appropriate for an innovation credit, winning awards and/or high sustainability rankings in other assessments is not, in and of itself, grounds for an innovation credit.
  - 9) Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution's region or school type are eligible for innovation credits.
  - 10) When the innovation is part of a partnership, the summary provided must clearly describe the institution's role in the innovation.
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