

September 19, 2014

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100
Denver CO 80202

Re: University at Colorado Boulder 2014 STARS submission

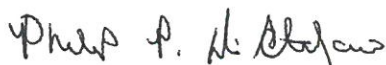
The University of Colorado Boulder has an unparalleled history of accomplishment in the field of sustainability. Decades of student, faculty, and staff leadership in academics, research, operations, and community involvement have consistently advanced CU among the vanguard of sustainability leaders nationally and globally. From the establishment of our environmental studies program over 50 years ago, to the founding of our student-led Environmental Center on Earth Day of 1970, CU has been a historic leader in this arena.

Consistent with that legacy of leadership, I am pleased to affirm the submittal of our Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Ratings System (STARS) Gold award. In 2010, we were excited to submit the nation's first STARS Gold award. With our current re-submittal, we are again pleased by another STARS Gold rating; however, we have challenged ourselves to raise the bar on our own leadership. Hence, the attached STARS Gold award is the nation's first STARS submittal that has been reviewed and assessed by a third party. Their findings were very helpful in better understanding our sustainability performance. With their assessment of our report, we have re-affirmed that all our sustainability findings are accurate, relevant, and current. Accordingly, I am satisfied our STARS Gold award is a credible expression of our finest virtue: leadership.

With this chapter compiled we look to new challenges. Sustainability continues to be a fundamental value in all we do. We seek the same continuous improvement in our sustainability performance that STARS promotes. Our goal is nothing less than being the global leader in sustainability—and that aspiration carries with it great responsibility to advance on all fronts while working with our colleagues, our community, and our global partners to transfer our success while continuously learning from others.

The challenge to transition society to a sustainable future is one we take very seriously. We appreciate the opportunity STARS offers to all institutions to credibly measure and monitor our sustainability performance so we can be better guided down this critical path.

Sincerely,



Philip P. DiStefano
Chancellor