

February 15, 2011

To the AASHE STARS Reviewers,

In 2009, WKU's Director of Housing and Residence Life, in partnership with Energy Management and the Office of Sustainability, invested in Lucid Design's Building Dashboard product for WKU Residence Halls. The Building Dashboard provides real-time feedback on energy use in buildings. The interactive dashboard converts kilowatts into meaningful (and fun) units such as kilowatt hours, money, greenhouse gas emissions, energy embodied in the making of hamburgers, and other such units. The dashboard can be used to set up competitions between buildings and in 2009 we conducted our first annual "Reduce Your Use" competition for 15 residence halls. Each hall competes to see who can most reduce their energy use in the month of October. The winning hall receives a traveling trophy to display for the winning year.

To further engage students, we use the competition for further sustainability education. We provide residents with opportunities to earn energy "offsets" by attending lectures, workshops, or other sustainability events. In October 2010, the top three winning halls each reduced their energy use in October by approximately 25%.

Due to the success and engagement resultant from providing the dashboard for residence halls, we plan to provide a dashboard for all campus buildings as they become metered. This spring (2011) we will add 20 campus buildings (academic and administrative) to the dashboard to be followed by additional buildings this fall.

To view the WKU dashboard, visit: <http://www.buildingdashboard.net/wku>

Thank you,

Dale Dyer, Plant Operations Manager

And

Christian Ryan-Downing, Sustainability Coordinator