## SAN DIEGO MIRAMAR COLLEGE



10440 Black Mountain Road San Diego, California 92126-2999 619-388-7800

January 17, 2023

Office of the President 619-388-7834 619-388-7901 Fax

Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Steering Committee Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) 1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100 Denver, CO 80202

RE: The San Diego Miramar College STARS Submission

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of San Diego Miramar College, I am pleased to present the enclosed submission to be included in the STARS framework and program.

Opened in 1964, San Diego Miramar is the third credit college within the San Diego Community College District, situated on 140 acres north of the Miramar Naval Air Station. It is the regional hub for law enforcement and fire science training and is one of the fastest-growing community colleges in California.

Miramar College's Sustainability and Resilience Plan serves as a guide for the integration of sustainability into all areas of the campus. Miramar College is committed to providing a safe and healthy campus for its students, faculty and staff while protecting the environment for future generations. This Plan strives to create a roadmap that serves as a guide to integrate the social, environmental, and financial well-being of Miramar College.

We are proud to serve as a model for many of the criteria in the District's Green Building Policy. It calls for building renovations and new construction projects to generate at least 5% of their total energy from renewable sources such as solar or thermal.

A 1MW carport at Miramar generates 1,643,087 kWh of clean energy annually, saving at least 339 metric tons of CO2 emissions. A campus fuel cell uses hydrogen's chemical energy to produce electricity, generating approximately 8,760,000 kWh of electricity annually. There are some emissions associated with the production and conveyance of natural gas; these are considered in our calculation of the college's carbon footprint.

The campus also features a solar pool heater, providing 31,500 therms to support a joint-use aquatics facility serving our campus community and nearby residents.

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A Transit Station serving multiple bus lines is located within the Miramar College property, positioning Miramar as a highly accessible and convenient campus for students, faculty, staff, and visitors who utilize public transportation.

As we began working on our submission, it was clear STARS would be an essential tool in advancing our sustainability and college initiatives, contributing to a Campus Plan, strengthening our vision for a carbon-neutral future, and setting collective goals for climate action and making an impact. STARS has pointed us toward new strategies that can enhance our practices; the ability to learn from other higher education institutions has also informed our efforts.

To the best of our knowledge, the information presented in this evaluation is current and accurate. Our Environmental Sustainability Committee and Facilities Management oversaw the STARS assessment process; faculty, staff, and students provided the data.

We look forward to strengthening our partnership with AASHE.

Sincerely

P. Wesley Lundburg, PhD

President

San Diego Miramar College