



# Channel Islands

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Jose Chanes  
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April, 23, 2015

Dear AASHE STARS Program Staff,

This letter serves as affirmation that California State University Channel Island's project Bio-synthetic Lubricating Oil Use in Two-Stroke Engines meets the criteria for the AASHE STARS Innovation Credit.

This project was originally conceived, planned, and executed by a student of the Environmental Science and Resources Management curriculum program as their capstone project. The intent was to study, document, and report on the environmental and health benefits of using biologically based lubricating oils to mix with fuel oils in outdoor power equipment versus the traditional petroleum-based lubricating oils. The information derived from the study will be not only valuable to the campus, but once published, the information will be helpful in the decisions of other institutions, companies, and entities in making the change to this more sustainable, lower health-impacting practice.

Reduction of Greenhouse Gasses is an imperative focus for concerned societies. All reasonable efforts are being made by CSU Channel Islands to improve our performance and practices in this area. This project afforded us a new avenue for making continual progress in this area, in addition to providing an educational opportunity. As the Associate Director of Infrastructure and Energy, I was provided the results of the studies as they were developed using personnel under my direction.

In consideration of the capstone project results, the campus has subsequently converted its two-stroke outdoor landscaping equipment such as weed-eaters and trimmers to using the bio-synthetic oil. This will not only reduce the campus emission of Greenhouse Gasses, but reduce the potential health impact of volatile organic compounds on personnel operating the equipment.

CSU Channel Islands is committed to improving sustainable practices throughout the campus and community while continuing to reduce emissions and petroleum-based product usage. Thank you for this consideration for an innovation credit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jose Chanes'.

Jose Chanes  
Associate Director of Infrastructure and Energy