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San Diego State University Innovation Credit Letter

July 31, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to offer my endorsement and approval of the STARS Innovation Credit being submitted by San Diego State University as part of the campus STARS submittal.

The Associated Students of San Diego State University in 2011 approved two policies relating to the sustainability of our facilities. The first one was for our facilities to achieve net energy zero by 2020 and the second was to certify our facilities to LEED Existing Building; Operations and Maintenance at Silver level or higher. In addition, the Associated Students is constructing a new LEED NC Platinum Student Union which will also be certified LEED Platinum EB;O&M after construction.

To accomplish these goals the students voted in 2008 to increase their fees to create a sustainability fund and a Green Love Sustainability Program.

The Associated Students have implemented multiple energy conservation projects with wireless HVAC control systems, LED exterior lighting, LED and high efficiency interior lighting and pool pump VFD control systems which are saving the equivalent of almost a million kWh per year. In addition, the Associated Students have installed 798 kW of solar PV renewable energy which is generating an additional 1,596,000 kWh of electricity per year.

The first Associated Students facility to be LEED EB;O&M certified is the Mission Bay Aquatic Center, which is a joint venture waterfront facility of the Associated Students and UC San Diego. A very innovative approach was developed to involve students from SDSU and UC San Diego in a joint venture LEED certification of the Mission Bay Aquatic Center. These students met bi-weekly for the entire 2011-12 academic year to learn and implement the LEED credits. The Mission Bay Aquatic Center project will be submitted as LEED Platinum.

On behalf of San Diego State University's Associated Students, I affirm that the Green Love Sustainability Program meets the criteria for AASHE's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and System, innovation credits.

Sincerely,

Glen R. Brandenburg
Director of Facilities and Sustainability
Associated Student of San Diego State University