

Yale OFFICE OF FACILITIES

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September 8, 2016

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee,

On behalf of Yale University, I am pleased to submit the results of our campus-wide assessment of sustainability programs and activities for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking Assessment Rating System (STARS). I also affirm this report to be an honest and accurate appraisal of our sustainability activities and accomplishments.

Yale has been committed to addressing climate change since 2005, when the university put forth a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 43% by 2020. The University's first Sustainability Strategic Plan was issued in 2010, followed by a second Plan in 2013. We are now about to launch our third Sustainability Strategic Plan in October 2016. The forthcoming Plan expands on the previous two Plans—which were focused exclusively on operations—to include the University's academic mission, and prioritizes leadership in sustainability teaching, research, service, and operations. Furthermore, to meet the ambitious goals outlined in the new Plan, Yale is committed to finding greater efficiencies in energy use; the design and maintenance of resilient buildings; ensuring sustainable consumption and disposal patterns; and engaging the Yale community in making sustainable choices.

The scope of Yale's dedication to sustainability and the environment is broad, and continues to expand. Recent sustainability successes include the installation of a solar array on our West Campus, which provides 1 megawatt of installed capacity, and the Yale Carbon Charge Project, which is exploring carbon pricing on Yale's campus. As a result of our work on the Carbon Charge Project, Yale became the first university to join the Global Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition. In addition, Yale's commitment to global leadership is exemplified in its Environmental Performance Index, which ranks countries' performance on environmental issues, and the Yale Project on Climate Change Communications, which analyzes public perceptions surrounding climate change.

Yale University is proud to participate in the AASHE STARS program, and we look forward to learning about our official STARS rating.

Sincerely,



John H. Bollier
Associate Vice President, Office of Facilities