



OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT -
ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Energy and Sustainability
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Meghan Fay Zahniser
Executive Director
AASHE
2401 Walnut Street
Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

March 22, 2016

Re: Letter of affirmation for UCSB's Optimizing Waste Management Through Stakeholder Involvement innovation credit

Dear Meghan:

I write in my capacity as the Director of Sustainability at the University of California Office of the President (UCOP). I am writing to endorse the University of California, Santa Barbara's (UCSB) program to optimize waste management services through stakeholder engagement as an innovation credit in the Innovation Credits category for the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS).

In an effort to improve waste management practices and decrease the workload required from custodial staff to service the indoor waste infrastructure, an innovative approach was taken by the staff at UCSB. They began a pilot program to walk the indoor square footage of 10 buildings with the respective custodian for that route in an effort to reduce recycling contamination in the landfill waste and reduce the time needed to service the indoor waste infrastructure. Their staff estimated that this program is expected to result in a 12 percent — or 18-ton — reduction of landfill waste each year and reduce the time needed to service the indoor waste infrastructure.

Despite the fact that the impacts of this project are recognized in the waste reduction STARS credits, it would still be appropriate for this project to count as an innovation credit because the innovation it represents has been recognized as a best practice award by a panel of recycling and waste management experts in California. The project was chosen for a Best Practice Award in the category of waste management in the annual Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Awards competition sponsored by the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC).

I thus believe that UCSB's program to optimize waste management services through stakeholder engagement is unique and could be used as a framework for other universities to follow.

Please let me know if I can answer any questions about this innovation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt StClair". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matt" being more prominent.

Matt StClair

Director of Sustainability

University of California, Office of the President

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