

AASHE STARS 2.2. Innovation Credit

Title: Creating new partnerships with industry to help colleges develop carbon neutrality plans

Description:

During 2019-2020, UMN Morris partnered with Evergreen Energy to launch a new program that assists colleges in developing carbon neutrality plans. Evergreen Energy is one of the leading district heating companies in Minnesota. As a new venture, Evergreen provided an opportunity for several schools to participate in their inaugural program. UMN Morris applied to the competitive program – as was selected to work with Evergreen to further assess carbon neutrality options for the campus.

UMN Morris and Evergreen focused on how the campus could lower its thermal carbon footprint. Several different options were explored for how the campus could meet its thermal demands with a lowered carbon footprint. UMN Morris students worked closely with engineers at Evergreen to pull together energy data for suitable analysis.

Results:

One result of this project is a report that details several options the campus could pursue to advance its carbon neutrality goals. The report is also available to the public. The report offers a unique template for other schools to examine when contemplating their own carbon neutrality planning. Because of the successful inaugural experience, Evergreen decided to continue the program and offer this planning assistance to other schools. See the press release below for more information. A link to the report is also provided below.

<https://news.morris.umn.edu/news/ever-green-plan>

<https://www.ever-greenenergy.com/project/university-of-minnesota-morris/>

Submitted by:



Troy Goodnough
Sustainability Director
University of Minnesota
UMN Morris Office of Sustainability
600 E. 4th Street Morris, MN 56267
Phone: 320-589-6303
Email: good0044@morris.umn.edu