



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

February 26, 2020

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
Sustainability Tracking Assessment Rating System

Dear Sustainability Colleagues:

I write to affirm my understanding that our STARS 2.2 Report has been compiled by my colleagues responsible for the respective content areas and that the report is now complete.

As with prior STARS submissions, this report builds on our University's long-standing commitment to sustainability; dating from the 1990 creation of our first (Green-1) Committee, hosting of nine Greening of the Campus Conferences from 1996-2012, adoption in 1999 of the Talloires Declaration, creation in 2001 of the Council on the Environment (COTE), signing in 2006 of the ACUPCC, signing of the Climate Leadership Commitment in 2015, and our commitment to achieve climate neutrality by 2030.

Our commitment to sustainability is also reflected in our recent recognition as a Maxima Cum Laude member of the Climate Leadership Network Honor Society, our inclusion on The Princeton Review's Green Honor Roll, our commitment to design all new facilities on our campus to meet LEED silver certification or better, and completion of our ground-source geothermal system—the largest in the country—which has cut our institution's carbon footprint roughly in half.

Since our 2008 Charter Membership in the development of the STARS rating system, our University has found that this form of public reporting sets a benchmark for us to measure our progress and to plan and implement our sustainability practices in the coming years.

We look forward to continuing this work, and I am grateful for the leadership provided by AASHE in creating STARS, which enables our University to measure its sustainability performance.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey S. Mearns
President

Office of the President