

January 10, 2014

AASHE STARS Steering Committee
1526 Wynkoop Street, Suite 100
Denver, CO 80202

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, I am pleased to affirm that our submission to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Our efforts toward sustainability over the past few years have returned remarkable dividends. Our students, staff and faculty have worked hard to decrease the impact of our campus on the environment and continue to develop and support programs that create a more livable, resource-efficient, and socially inclusive community around us.

Four years ago we created an energy master plan with the robust goal of a 15% reduction in our energy consumption by 2015. With the adoption of a Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) Silver building standard, investments in better energy management programs, earth-coupled heat pumps, and a demonstration solar power installation we are on track to reach our goal. Our recycling rate has increased each year and is now above 50%. Our students continue to support our efforts with a variety of leadership programs and events focusing on sustainability.

Our research teams at the W. B Daugherty Water for Food Institute, Public Policy Center and Energy Institute continue to improve technology and advance our scientific understanding of issues relating to the environment, food security, and social justice.

Sustainability is an integral component of our mission as a leader in research, education, outreach, and service learning. Therefore, UNL is committed to reasonable, cost effective efforts at sustainability and will continue to support them.

Our Bronze rating by the report reflects the many contributions we have made to improve our status and develop graduates capable of addressing some of the most pressing issues of the new century. Our rating also draws attention to the journey ahead of us in becoming a more sustainable campus. I want to thank AASHE for providing the opportunity to track our sustainability performance.

Sincerely,



Harvey Perlman
Chancellor