



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

Cutler Hall
1 Ohio University
Athens OH 45701-2979

February 16, 2018

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear STARS Steering Committee,

In 2005, Ohio University became the first public institution in the state of Ohio to employ a full-time staff member dedicated to sustainability, thus creating the Office of Resource Conservation (now called the Office of Sustainability). Since that time, the University has substantially grown its sustainability programming by committing to a goal of carbon neutrality, establishing a University-specific Sustainability Plan, organizing a state-wide sustainability summit and serving as a sustainability resource to peer institutions. The University is constantly assessing its progress toward sustainable infrastructure and programming by benchmarking with other institutions and with its own internal data. The University believes strongly that sustainability requires the support and collaboration of all members of a community and, therefore, works to offer a platform of support to the remainder of the campus and, in some cases, the community.

When I entered into my position as the 21st President of Ohio University in June of 2017, I immediately expressed my commitment to sustainability by issuing a campus-wide statement about our important role as leaders within sustainability in our region. During my investiture in October, I announced Strategic Pathways for our institution, which highlighted sustainability as a priority for our campuses. These statements, quite clearly, outlined for our employees and students that sustainability will remain a priority for Ohio University and that all members of the campus community must meaningfully engage in executing sustainable programs and education now and into the future.

Ohio University is pleased to submit its second STARS Report. This letter is to serve as verification that the information included in our STARS Report is accurate to the best of the abilities of all reporting agents within our institution.

Sincerely,

M. Duane Nellis, Ph.D.
President