



July 14, 2022

AASHE

2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

On behalf of Utah State University, it is my pleasure to present our fourth Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) report. Individuals in each reporting area across campus compiled the most accurate available information for USU's sustainability initiatives and accomplishments.

Over the past three years, USU has continued its work on resource conservation. In the midst of a two-decade drought, the university has undertaken numerous water conservation measures. Water use in buildings and on the landscape have dropped over 50% from a 2009 baseline. Additionally, USU is in the process of studying measures to address drought and promote resiliency.

Since the last report, the Greenhouse Gas Steering Committee of faculty, staff, and students presented their recommendations to the university. Many of these recommendations are already underway. The majority of Utah State University's Logan campus and campuses statewide have converted to energy-efficient LEDs. As of fiscal year 2021, university emissions have decreased 30% since 2009.

Sustainability is also in students' academic programs and engagement activities. The Student Sustainability Office awards grants to help students pursue their ideas. The Food Recovery Network, Gleaning Team, and Student Nutrition Access Center divert leftover food to people in need. Through these programs and others, USU students volunteered over 200,000 hours in 2021. The hours of service have strengthened the community.

While preparing students for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Utah State University remains committed to sustainability in its operations, academic, and service missions. This STARS report is a snapshot of USU's journey in sustainability.

Sincerely,

Ben R. Berrett, PE

Associate Vice President for Facilities