



January 16, 2019

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

The Ohio State University, established by the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862, was founded nearly 150 years ago on the principle that education transforms lives. As climate change and energy conservation are among the foremost issues facing our society today, understanding, respecting, benefiting from and protecting our environment has been a focus of our university throughout its history.

Ohio State is deeply committed to developing durable solutions to the pressing challenges of sustainability and building a culture of sustainability through collaborative teaching, pioneering research, comprehensive outreach and innovative operations, practices and policies. In fact, a long-term comprehensive energy management partnership launched last year is already accelerating our academic and operational sustainability goals.

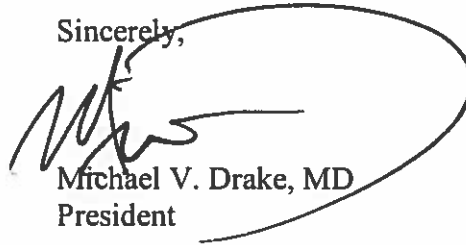
Ohio State has made progress toward these objectives through new coursework and outreach activities, alternative energy research, resource stewardship such as the Zero Waste program at Ohio Stadium, and improving the experiences and expertise our graduates take with them beyond the physical campus to their communities across the globe.

As one of the largest universities in the United States, we embrace the opportunity and responsibility to take a leadership role in sustainability and to foster engagement with our local communities on the topic.

We are committed to maintaining the access, affordability and excellence that have defined our nation's finest public institutions since their inception. Despite progress to date, we recognize that more must be done to advance our efforts and society broadly towards a more sustainable path. We will continue to work to provide our students, faculty, staff and community with opportunities to further their understanding and awareness of sustainability.

I therefore fully support and affirm the accuracy of the information gathered and submitted for the AASHE Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). We are excited to share our progress and successes with our peers and to learn from them in return. Participating in the STARS process has allowed our university to assess our sustainability efforts from a broad, comprehensive view – helping to inform and validate our progress and future goals. The STARS Program is one more step toward a truly sustainable Ohio State, leveraging opportunities across constituents, activities and divisions for a safer, more livable and more sustainable future. I am proud to present The Ohio State University's STARS Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Drake", is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael V. Drake, MD
President