

February 25, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

As project director and director of facilities management, I am honored to provide leadership and support for the solar photovoltaic array project, which is detailed as an Innovation for the AASHE STARS report.



In 2007, the College signed the Presidential Climate Commitment, which includes our goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2032. Through the Climate Action Plan, we have identified many pathways toward this goal, including renewable energy, demonstrating how the pursuit of carbon neutrality enhances the mission of the College. This project is a crucial component of our pathway toward carbon neutrality, providing up to 100% of our electrical needs. The project will also result in significant utility savings, some of which will be used for energy efficiency projects and academic research.

In February 2015, the Hampshire College Board of Trustees approved the plan to generate nearly 90% of our electricity from ground-mounted solar arrays, with a goal to reach 100% through additional panels on rooftops, parking lot canopies, and research-oriented panels on active farmland. Over the next several months, Hampshire College will work with Solar City, Solar Design Associates, and Gerhlicher Solar to create a power purchase agreement (PPA), meet regulatory requirements, and build a solar array consistent with all related regulations, guidelines and goals.

In closing, I fully endorse the innovation credit in support of our work on renewable energy on campus. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this project.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Archey
Director of Facilities & Grounds
Hampshire College