



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
AMHERST

College of Natural Sciences  
106 Stockbridge Hall  
University of Massachusetts  
80 Campus Center Way  
Amherst, MA 01003-9246

Office of the Dean

voice: 413.545.2766  
fax: 413.545.1242

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is being submitted to affirm the eligibility of the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Farm Photovoltaic project for Innovation Credit 2 of the STARS application.

As Director of the Center for Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts, I was directly responsible for pursuing appropriate funding to install 70 photovoltaic panels on a the South Deerfield research farm, a CFA facility.

These high pole-mounted photovoltaic arrays perform dual functions, providing both electrical energy for farmers forage and shade for livestock. This research site will demonstrate potential benefits to farmers and to the energy industry as an alternative to ground placement of PV panels, which effectively removes the land from future agricultural use. Research will determine correct spacing to allow healthy pasture growth underneath for grazing by livestock.

The PV panels were installed in Fall 2010.

Sincerely,

Stephen Herbert,  
Associate Dean, Agricultural Research and Outreach, College of Natural Sciences  
Director, Center of Agriculture  
Director, UMass Extension  
Director, UMass Experiment Station