



June 5, 2017

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
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Dear STARS Steering Committee,

Central Community College (CCC) in Nebraska is pleased to submit its first Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Ratings System (STARS) report.

Central Community College has been a [Cum Laude Leader](#) since 2011 and signatory of the [Climate Commitment](#) as part of the [Climate Leadership Network \(previously the ACUPCC\)](#), and as a signatory of the [Sustainability Education & Economic Development \(SEED\) Initiative](#), we have made a commitment to educate, implement and model the practices needed for a sustainable future. For our communities and ultimately globally, we believe environmental sustainability is important and necessary for healthy communities, people and economic sustainability.

The overall sustainability performance of the college has improved tremendously since committing to a climate action plan with target goals. With a transition to a new Environmental Sustainability Director, we felt it was necessary to measure the past progress from FY16 with a STARS report to serve as a baseline for future progress and to determine nationally our progress based on a set of sustainability standard campus measures across the entire institution.

The long and near term CCC plan is to provide students and the community with a campus wide living learning laboratory for resiliency to climate change. We are committed to our climate action plan goals and are making great progress of implementing innovative sustainability strategies. Some major ongoing initiatives from this report include reducing emissions from commuting by adapting a four-day summer work week, increasing the hybrid vehicle fleet, and an Environmental Stewardship e-badge program which students can share with potential employers on their resume.

I affirm that the AASHE STARS submission information has been compiled by the Environmental Sustainability Director, Environmental Sustainability Manager, college wide staff, and faculty. Our first ever Bronze STARS rating accurately represents CCC's FY16 sustainability efforts.

Our 2018 STARS submission will include a 1.7 MW wind turbine at the CCC-Hastings campus that became fully operational in January 2017. Also construction will be complete in the Fall 2017 at the new Kearney Center which is utilizing high energy efficiency/renewable standards and will attract sustainability leaders to the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Greg P. Smith'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Greg Smith  
College President