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April 30, 2021

Karen Talentino
Professor of Biology
Saint Michael's College
One Winooski Park, Box 283
Colchester, VT 05439

Dear Karen,

Since 2001, Saint Michael's College has partnered with Efficiency Vermont—the state's energy efficiency utility—to reduce the economic and environmental costs of energy use for campus operations. With 70 energy efficiency projects completed during this timeframe, the College has demonstrated its commitment to sustainability through comprehensive upgrades to existing building systems, the construction of new high-performance buildings, and engaging the campus community in conservation efforts. Two of these projects earned statewide "Best of the Best" awards for the deep energy retrofit of an existing HVAC system in the McCarthy Arts Center and the new construction of Dion Family Student Center and Quad Commons Residential Hall, a complex that consumes 77% less energy than a basic code-compliant building through its integrated design and innovative technologies. Total campus electricity use would be 20% higher if not for these ongoing investments in energy efficiency.

In 2020, the College participated in the region's first strategic energy management program for colleges and universities. This "Continuous Energy Improvement" initiative instills a long-term systems approach to energy management by developing the skills, tools, and processes to incorporate energy efficiency into business planning, campus operations, and engaging the broader community. Despite the challenges that COVID introduced, Saint Michael's College remained committed to the program and made tremendous strides in the core energy management elements of leadership commitment, energy review & analysis, setting energy KPIs & targets, monitoring & analysis, and campus/employee engagement activities. The College has a solid foundation to build from as it aims to pursue even more aggressive sustainable energy goals.

Efficiency Vermont is proud of its twenty-year partnership with Saint Michael's College and is pleased to submit this letter of support to accompany its AASHE STARS application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TPerrin".

Timothy Perrin, CEM
Energy Consultant
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