



October 18, 2016

Senator Bernie Sanders
1 Church St., Suite 300
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Senator Sanders,

The Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI) strives within civil society to help phase out greenhouse gas emissions and safeguard the planet for future generations. We are a small group with a big mission, and so we try to deploy *seminal pathways to change-making** by upholding principles of teamwork & exemplary leadership.

Your dedicated public service in congress and over a lifetime, your extraordinary presidential campaign and now your progressive endeavor called Our Revolution all embody these empowering principles. It's refreshing how you have led by example for the common good, standing against pollution and not being beholden to the monied, special interest or fossil fuel lobbies. It's inspiring how you stand up for the rights and well being of the disenfranchised, the working poor and the struggling middle class because government and the emerging green revolution alike should empower all of us, not just those at the top. And it's paramount as you have boldly and persistently upheld as a platform priority that we as a society *address man made climate change with a carbon tax**.

It is for all of these reasons and more that we are proud to present you with the 2016 Climate Courage Award. It is an honor to present this award to you. In your name and at your staff's request the seed grant check that goes along with the award will be given to the Vermont Energy & Climate Action Network (VECAN).

Keep up your brave and bright leadership!

Sincerely yours,

Robb Hirsch
Executive Director & Founder
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*We think a most seminal way that the US can demonstrate our responsibility in freedom is to enact a nationwide revenue neutral carbon fee & dividend. CCLI is building a grassroots movement in our home community of Santa Fe to enact a local more progressive version called the *environmental impact fee & community empowerment initiative* to help become carbon neutral by 2040, uplift those in need and encourage our nation by example (just like other cities have led by example on minimum wage). Support us and check it out at: www.takeresponsibility.us.