

October 30, 2011

Students for a Sustainable Future (SSF) which include  
St. John's Student Leaders (led by Safa Pinkens, Anne Kanim and Ingrid Lane)  
and Santa Fe Community College Student Leaders (led by Matt Sherman)

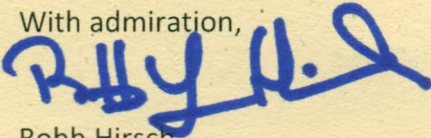
Dear Students for a Sustainable Future:

The Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI) – as a civil society oriented non-profit organization based in New Mexico and with a central focus on generating American awareness and action on behalf of climate restoration, clean energy and conservation – spearheads numerous yearly and on-going activities: we encourage personal responsibility through streaming civic engagement initiatives (such as Lead Your Revolution, Power Pledge and Conservation Quest); we plan annual leadership projects and events (such as the Climate Ride); we provide web and school based education programs; we offer paid student internships; and we give out annual seed grants & leadership awards. Our awards and seed grants focus on Climate Courage, Innovation, Education, Justice, Conservation and Direct Action. (Learn more about CCLI's awards and activities at our website [www.takeresponsibility.us](http://www.takeresponsibility.us)).

This year the Climate Change Leadership Institute is **awarding the 2011 Direct Action Seed Grant Award to the Students for a Sustainable Future (SSF)**. In doing so, we want to acknowledge SSF's early initiative and leadership in the planning of a dynamic direct action project aimed at holding the Natural Gas Industry more accountable in New Mexico and beyond. CCLI is worried about the unseemly climate and water pollution implications of gas burning and hydraulic fracturing. Furthermore it is concerning that the industry has not to date responded in a mature, transparent and responsible way to such vital environmental and human health concerns directly associated with natural gas extraction and production. We applaud *Students for a Sustainable Future* for emphasizing water testing as a part of your budding project as well as for incorporating key elements of direct action and civic awareness into your endeavor.

CCLI congratulates you for being the 2011 recipients of this award along with the financial and organizational resources that come with it. CCLI will stand by your side as an ally as you organize and implement your project endeavors. Finally we appreciate how students & young people like your-selves are taking on this active role to help shape a sustainable future for all.

With admiration,



Robb Hirsch  
Executive Director and Founder