



October 1, 2011

Mike Lopach
Founder
Adobe in Action
PO Box 8717
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Dear Mike:

The Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI) is a New Mexico based non-profit organization dedicated to civil society education and action for the advancement of climate, clean energy and conservation leadership. We have many functions as you can see on our website www.takeresponsibility.us and one of our roles linked to our *Conservation Quest* project is to encourage the conservation of energy and water at once. In doing this we give out an annual medal and financial prize to an individual and/or an organization in New Mexico that makes a meaningful difference in integrating solutions to water and energy challenges as well as to the climate crisis.

This year CCLI is awarding its Conservation Quest Champions Prize to you with Adobe in Action (www.adobeinaction.org) in honor of your efforts to provide sustainable adobe housing for low income families in Northern New Mexico. In this challenging economy when people are struggling to afford housing and other basic essentials, it is admirable that you and all the good people involved with Adobe in Action are working not just to help provide any home for a deserving family in Espanola but a home that is both energy efficient with the use of classic adobe bricks and sustainable with passive solar design. Using adobe bricks made with local materials reduces the carbon footprint as less timber is used and energy is saved from transportation avoidance. Furthermore the capability of adobe bricks to retain solar heat in the winter and stay cool in the summer makes for less auxiliary grid tied home heating and cooling which ultimately cuts back on energy and water usage. We commend you on combining sustainability with heritage values while meeting real economic needs in our time. We further want to commend you on the collaborations your organization is fostering by linking hands with Habitat for Humanity as well as with Northern New Mexico Community College (which hosts the only certified Adobe Building program in the country) to have NNMC students do experiential education in the adobe construction process for the First House.

Let us know how CCLI may help in any future conservation and/or climate collaboration of yours. Keep building a more sustainable future. And we ask - if you do not mind in regards to your receiving this Conservation Quest Champions Medal and Financial Prize - to please provide us a response letter on your organization's letterhead so we may post it on our website.

Sincerely yours,

Robb Hirsch
Executive Director