



Promoting excellence in
environmental education

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Ryan Britton
Managing Partner
EarthSky Communications, Inc.
3500 Jefferson St., STE 210
Austin, TX 78731

Dear Mr. Britton,

EarthSky Communication, Inc.'s proposed **Interactive NASA Science and Technology Education Pipeline (INSTEP)** project is quite timely and encouraging. I am confident that EarthSky, as a previous recipient of NOAA awards, is capable of producing quality science media products that will serve to educate not only K-12 students but also the general public. Earth science, space science and astronomy literacy is essential in inspiring the next generation of scientists in this country and the family members and friends who will support them. I am encouraged by EarthSky's initiative to equip educators with interactive multimedia tools which effectively engage students in learning content and principles important to NASA. The connection between space science and Earth science is even more compelling as it offers the chance for students to make connections not only between the different Earth systems but also between the Earth and the universe.

This project is a new and innovative way to engage students with Earth science, space science and astronomy content that so often is not covered in many classrooms. Inspiring the next generation of scientists in the United States is more important than ever and EarthSky's INSTEP project is a step in the right direction.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (505) 883-3114 or via email at dthrall@swcp.com.

Best regards,

Dr. Debra N. Thrall
Board Member
North American Association for Environmental Education