

July 6, 2008

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

Dear Mr. Britton,

I'd like to extend my support to EarthSky and the proposed INSTEP project. Projects that engage students in STEM topics are more important than ever, and developing content and tools for teachers to effectively inspire and engage their students is vitally important. I am also encouraged because the INSTEP project's K-12 resources will not only be available to students and teachers but will help to increase the general public's knowledge of NASA's mission and its success through the voices of NASA's own scientists.

EarthSky, a longtime partner of NASA, has been taking complicated science and research, and conveying it to the general public in ways that everybody can understand for almost 20 years. I have particularly enjoyed working with EarthSky recently to ensure that the public is aware of NASA's Terra satellite mission and discoveries. I look forward to hearing the radio shows/podcasts and seeing the Google Balloons once they are produced.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-614-5753 or by email at [Holli.Riebeek@nasa.gov](mailto:Holli.Riebeek@nasa.gov).

Best regards,

Holli Riebeek, SSAI  
Science Writer  
Terra Outreach Coordinator  
NASA's Earth Observatory