



**Stantec**

November 21, 2008

Rick Wilson  
Executive Director  
Cathance River Education Alliance  
P.O. Box 187  
Topsham, Maine 04086

Dear Rick,

I want to thank you and the Cathance River Education Alliance (CREA) for the phenomenal job you have done building an environmental program and education center that serves hundreds of students annually. You have created a place where learning about science is fun and exciting, which is critical to engaging young scientists. One of the most important aspects of CREA is the hands-on approach to learning about our natural world. Students can actively collect and touch the organisms they are studying. These experiences are rich and long-lasting, and ones that unfortunately do not exist in many places.

I also want to applaud the efforts CREA has taken to build a sustainable education center. Using renewable energy to power an off-the-grid science lab teaches students about alternatives to fossil fuel. These students are going to be part of the generation that retools our energy infrastructure, and I am glad to see that CREA is exposing them to these concepts right now.

Thanks for your efforts to date. I have no doubt that the best is yet to come.

Respectfully,  
**STANTEC CONSULTING**

John P. Lortie  
Vice-President