



April 22, 2009

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

We are writing to express the strong support of the Land Stewardship Project (LSP) for the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA). LSP is a membership organization based in Minnesota with a mission of fostering an ethic of stewardship for farmland and creating a more sustainable food and agriculture system. Most of our 2,600 member households are rural, and hundreds of them are family farmers. Farmers predominate our federal and state policy steering committees, and support both family farm policies and policies that protect and enhance the land, water, and communities of the Upper Midwest. We applaud both Congressman James Oberstar (D-MN) and Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI) for authoring and championing CWRA companion bills in the U. S. House and U.S. Senate.

The protection of Minnesota's and our nation's waterways and water quality is vitally important to the health of the land and the vitality of our communities. We urge you, and the entire Minnesota Congressional delegation, to publicly support the Clean Water Restoration Act, which will protect our water and maintain critical components of our nation's landmark Clean Water Act.

The Land Stewardship Project has been a leader in developing and advancing federal policy to support effective conservation through farm practices and farming systems on working farmlands, such as the Conservation Stewardship Program. We have played a major national role in advancing new beginning farmer policy, such as the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program in the 2008 Farm Bill, with strong leadership and support from the Minnesota Congressional delegation.

The success of our nation's farmers, economically and as stewards of the land, is a central concern for our organization. Passage of the Clean Water Restoration Act will support, not impede, more successful family farms raising crops and livestock in a healthy and prosperous land.

We urge you to support passage of the Clean Water Restoration Act this year.

Sincerely,

Mark Schultz
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