Community Environmental Council

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February 10, 2012

Dear Lisa P. Jackson,

I'm writing to ask for the honor of presenting you with the **Santa Barbara Environmental Hero Award** on stage this year at the Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival.

The Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival began in 1970 by our organization, the Community Environmental Council, and was one of the first Earth Day celebrations in the country. Today it is one of the most consistently held and widely attended Earth Day gatherings in the U.S., with an **attendance of about 38,000 in 2011.** Among its features is one of the largest publicly-organized Green Car Shows in the country.

Santa Barbara considers itself the birthplace of the modern environmental movement and has attracted notable celebrities. In recent years, recipients of the Environmental Hero Award have included director James Cameron, actress Daryl Hannah, and Tesla CEO Elon Musk. In addition, past events have attracted notable musicians such as Jack Johnson, Kenny Loggins, and Jackson Browne.

The event will take place Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, April 22 at Alameda Park in Santa Barbara. **The award has traditionally been presented at 2 pm on Sunday; however we do have some flexibility and could look at Saturday if needed**. The entire commitment – from arrival through the ceremony and brief photo shoot – is about one hour.

If you have any questions about the logistics or intent of this award, please contact:

Sigrid Wright, Earth Day Festival Director
swright@cecmail.org
Office: (805) 963-0583, ext. 109
Cell: (805) 680-1404

I hope that you are able to join us for one of the most long-standing, well-attended community Earth Day Festivals in the country. It would be our honor to work with you.

Dave Davis
Executive Director
Community Environmental Council

FOSSIL FREE BY '33

Community Environmental Council

Environmental Hero Award

CEC's Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival

CEC's Santa Barbara Earth Day:

April 21 and 22, 2012 • Alameda Park, Santa Barbara, CA

The Community Environmental Council (CEC) hosts one of the longest-running Earth Day celebrations in the country, building on Santa Barbara's deep, historic roots to the environmental movement. More than 38,000 people attended this two-day event in 2011.

Every year, CEC awards an Environmental Hero Award to an eco-pioneer on the main stage at Earth Day. CEC has recognized the environmental achievements of:

2011: **Daryl Hannah**, actress

2010: **James Cameron**, film director

2009: **Elon Musk**, founding CEO of Tesla Motors

Santa Barbara's Historic Environmental Legacy

In 1969, the devastating images of a massive oil spill from an oil platform off Santa Barbara's coast galvanized California into action and caught the attention of the rest of the nation, including Senator Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day, who visited Santa Barbara shortly after the spill. The resulting swell of outrage and concern gave rise to the first Earth Day in 1970, as well as to the creation of the Community Environmental Council – one of the most established environmental organizations in the region, and the host of Santa Barbara's annual Earth Day Festival.

Today, CEC is leading a campaign to move Santa Barbara County away from fossil fuels in one generation – Fossil Free by '33. CEC's bold regional energy blueprint seeks to head off a nearly perfect storm of energy-related concerns, including rapidly diminishing oil supplies ("peak oil"), growing concern over our national security because of our dependence on foreign oil, volatile fuel prices, and climate change.

Visit us online to learn more about the Community Environmental Council (www.CECSB.org) and Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival (www.SBEarthDay.org).