IUPUI

April 27, 2011

Dr. Uday Sukhatme Executive Vice Chancellor, Dean of the Faculties Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis Office of Academic Affairs 355 Lansing Street, AO126 Indianapolis, IN 46202

Dear Dean Sukhatme -

I am pleased to forward for your review and approval a curriculum proposal approved by the Law School Faculty to create a new Graduate Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law.

As the enclosed proposal details, the Environmental and Natural Resources Law (ENR) Certificate will serve as a gateway for students wishing to work in the rapidly-expanding fields of environmental and natural resources law as well as related disciplines. The ENR Certificate will assure that professionals entering these fields from our Law School have the essential knowledge and experience necessary to compete and lead effectively. It will also signal prospective employers in an increasingly competitive marketplace that our students have engaged in a rigorous course of studies providing a critical foundation for practice.

Beyond the direct professional benefits this Certificate will offer to students, the exposure to essential questions of how law responds to environmental and natural resource challenges facing policymakers, businesses, and the public today – challenges that feature in headlines and in public policy debates daily – will help students become better informed citizens and advocates regardless of their future work.

This is a proposal that our environmental and natural resources law faculty, along with our Academic Affairs Committee, have worked carefully to develop so that it best meets the needs of our students and the marketplace. The Law Faculty approved it by unanimous vote on April 12. Because the ENR Certificate reflects and builds on our existing strengths, we will be able to offer it with existing faculty and within existing budgetary resources.

We look forward to working with you as you review this proposal, and would be happy to respond to any questions or requests that may arise among members of the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee or the Graduate Affairs Committee in the course of their consideration.

Harri

Gary R. Roberts

Dean and Gerald L. Bepko Professor of Law

cc: Mary L. Fisher, Ph.D., Associate Dean of the Faculties