

January 9, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

Kristin Aschenbrenner came home to Iowa from South Dakota, and brought with her an energy and commitment to Iowa soil and water that only a native Iowan could bring. Kristin came to work at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) as head of government relations. She brought skills, learned elsewhere, of organizing people around ideas. Her devotion to the cause of environmental quality, in the most expansive definition of this, is unequalled. “Protecting the Lands and Waters on Which all Life Depends” is a monumental goal. Kristin lives this quest every day.

Kristin took seriously the mandate of Iowa voters who, in 2010, overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment to establish the Iowa Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. She has managed and organized the energy of hundreds of volunteers, staff and contractors to convince Iowa legislators to fulfill the mandate provided by Iowa voters.

I have been on the receiving end of Kristin’s organizational and motivational efforts. Because of her skills, her enthusiasm, and her devotion, I redoubled my efforts to help “Fund the

Trust.” I spent many hours, side by side with Kristin, convincing legislators and policymakers of the importance and necessity of the legislation needed to fund the trust. Because of Kristin’s resolution, we have built a solid foundation of trust and support for environmental issues in Iowa. Our path is well defined and supported by Kristin. She is a force to reckon with. We will prevail because of her. And Iowa will be a better place.

Robert G. Riley, Jr.