



NAVIGATING THE FUTURE

The Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy set a demanding course in 2007, navigating complex environmental issues throughout Minnesota. From helping push important bills through the legislature, such as establishing an initiative to identify the relationship between pollution and chronic disease, to fighting construction of dirty coal-fired power plants, MCEA gained ground across the environmental spectrum.

Just as important, Minnesotans noticed. These and many other critical environmental issues have made a forceful impact on the psyche of Minnesotans statewide and support for our efforts are rising rapidly. As we look to the future, we are hopeful that we can lead the state to even greater progress in protecting our environment.



To our supporters

If you have found this letter, then our innovative approach to the MCEA 2007 Annual Report has been successful. We are trying something new this year by shrinking our paper report but keeping all of the traditional features here on the website.

Our reasoning is simple. We take immense pride in living our environmental ethic and in squeezing every penny out of the donations we receive for program work. By cutting the annual report from about 14 pages to four, we are saving trees. Likewise, the smaller size saves printing and mailing costs. Still, we weren't ready to go entirely electronic. The printed report is both a good marketing tool and a format that many of our supporters like to receive. We would be happy to hear what you think of the change.



Martha Brand and Vanya Hogen

The savings will allow us to devote our money to the mission we all share: protecting Minnesota's natural resources. As you have been reading, this past year has been tremendously successful. We won a lawsuit to protect a lake in Alexandria and change water policy for all lakes. Our threatened appeal to the Minnesota Supreme Court resulted in the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's backing down on a weak air permit it had issued to a proposed coal-powered ethanol plant. We stopped one proposed coal-burning power plant by Excelsior Energy, Inc. and continue to fight the Big Stone II coal plant. We conceived of, and passed, the landmark tracking toxins and bio-monitoring bill in the Legislature and helped pass several bills aimed at stopping global warming, as well as others designed to protect wetlands and shorelands.

This coming year will be just as busy and we have every reason to believe, just as successful. We will continue to press climate change in the courts and at the state agencies. We will continue to promote sound public policy at the Legislature and through administrative actions. We will work diligently to protect our forests, prevent harm from mining, and ensure Minnesota's clean water legacy.

As always, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to you for your financial support so that we can continue, on your behalf, to hold our governmental agencies accountable and lobby the Legislature to protect our irreplaceable natural resources.

Vanya Hogen
Board Chair

Martha Brand
Executive Director



2007 waypoints

The Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy created a bill and championed it at the Legislature, which provided the Minnesota Department of Health with money to establish a system to **study the link between diseases and hazardous substance in the environment**. The tracking toxins and bio-monitoring bill also allows the health department seek volunteers to be tested for hazardous substances.

MCEA and its partners **opposed the Big Stone II coal-fired power plant** near Milbank, S.D., because of its projected huge carbon dioxide emissions. Two administrative law judges agreed with MCEA that the utilities had not proven that the plant's electricity was needed or that it was cheaper than cleaner alternatives, but recommended in the utilities' favor. The final decision belongs to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in early 2008.

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy is contributing comments to **shape the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's nutrient standards** for the state's lakes and rivers. MCEA also is submitting comments for new anti-degradation rules for the state's most pristine waters.

MCEA argued before the Minnesota Court of Appeals in June that a **water discharge permit** for a proposed sewage treatment plant expansion wasn't strict enough and would add more pollution to Lake Winona in Alexandria, Minnesota. The court agreed, sending the permit back to the pollution control agency for tougher limits.

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, as part of a public education campaign for the successful transit amendment, released a **landmark transportation report** to the public and the media. The report argues the most successful regions have well-planned and adequately funded public transit systems and the lack of such a transit system is causing the Twin Cities to fall behind in regional economic competition.

MCEA, following the tragic collapse of the Interstate 35W bridge, was instrumental in getting all leaders to agree that the **new bridge should be strong enough for light-rail** transit. Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy also released a digital map with the condition of more than 300 Minnesota bridges.

MCEA continued pressing the Forest Stewardship Council to **take away its certification of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources management of state forests**, because it does not place sufficient limits on off-road vehicles. During the legislative session, MCEA successfully lobbied for a bill that limited off-road vehicles to marked trails, but that was superseded by a law passed late in the session.

More 2007 waypoints

Clean Energy

With our environmental allies, MCEA helped pass a package of clean energy bills that require 25 percent of our electricity come from renewable energy by 2025, requires measurable improvements in natural gas and electricity energy efficiency, and that Minnesota cut its global warming pollution by 80 percent by 2050.

Excelsior Energy, Inc. proposed a 600-megawatt coal-gasification power plant on the Iron Range. MCEA and other groups successfully opposed it before the public utilities commission on the grounds that it would not capture and sequester the carbon dioxide which aggravates global warming.

MCEA's court challenge of the air permit for Heron Lake BioEnergy's request to construct a coal-fired ethanol plant was slated for argument before the Minnesota Supreme Court when the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency withdrew the permit and rewrote it.

Wildlife and Natural Resources

We petitioned the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to begin rulemaking for new shoreland rules to protect shallow lakes and bays. The department refused, but the Legislature ordered the rulemaking process begin by the end of 2007.

MCEA filed suit recently against Kittson County, its board and Glenn Anderson Construction Co. for illegally draining some wetlands and filling others in the Beaches Lake Wildlife Management Area.

Public Health

Citing known health problems, MCEA petitioned the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to conduct an environmental assessment worksheet on pesticides atrazine, acetochlor, and chlorpyrifos. The department rejected the petition.

Water Quality

The Minnesota Supreme Court ruled against MCEA in the Annandale-Maple Lake case, which was argued in May 2006 but not decided until May 2007. The court decided that the pollution control agency had correctly issued a permit for a new sewage treatment plant in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act.

After strong lobbying by MCEA, the Legislature passed the Great Lakes Compact to protect water from being taken out of the Great Lakes basin and provided \$54 million over two years for the Clean Water Legacy to test and clean up Minnesota's waters.

Land Use and Transportation

MCEA was part of a coalition of 850 businesses, governments and nonprofits that successfully passed an amendment to the state constitution in November that will provide a dedicated funding source for roads and transit.

Mining

The PolyMet/NorthMet sulfide mine project near Hoyt Lakes is being closely monitored and MCEA has retained a number of scientific experts to assist with environmental review and permitting of all aspects of this new, very large copper and precious metals project to ensure compliance with air, water, wetland, and mining laws. It's an issue that is expected to intensify in 2008.

MCEA has intervened in an appeal by Northshore Mining Co. The company has asked the court to eliminate the existing permit limit for its emissions of asbestos-like fibers. Since state and federal officials have not determined what a safe level is for the fibers, MCEA believes it is important to be cautious and the strict limit must be maintained.

Pinpoint an issue

What's important to you? Reducing algae in our lakes? Lobbying for renewables? Choose an issue to support through MCEA and know your contribution will make a real difference. MCEA thanks all our members and supporters whose generous contributions make our work possible. Here we recognize all of those who made contributions from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of our records. If you notice any errors or omissions, please accept our apologies and let us know how to correct our records.

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Ember Reichgott Young
Robert and Beverly Reid
Ron and Lynne Reigle
William J. Rendall
Cindy Reuther
David J. Rhude
Carl Richards
Henry B. Roberts
Mark and Becky Roloff
Ellen and Robert Rosen
Marvin Rothfusz
David Rouse
Ronald J. Rozeske
Juliann Rule and Lawrence R.
Schug
Bradley and Teresa Sagen
Burt and Florence Sandok
Stacy Sandstrom
Georgiana and John Sauer
R. Reed and Pamela Saunders
Carl Schenk
Lise Schmidt

Susan Schmidt and Dan Krivit
Kevin and Susan Schreurs
Carl and Mary Schroeder
Gail and Henry See
Seema Shah
Steve and Susan Shakman
Harry and Melanie Shearer
Lee Sheehy
Stan and Lucy Shepard
Sue and Dave Shields
Bill Skinner
Jeff Sliper
Gloria W. Smith
David and Dianna Soehren
Peter W. Sorensen
Darrell and Pam Spencer
Nancy Springer
Rich Staffon
Mary and Dick Stanley
William K. and Carol Steele
Mark and Charis Stenberg
Shelly Steva
Oliver H. Stocker
Robert and Jo Ann Strand
Curtis Strombeck
Kris Sundberg
Andrew and Tammy Tauferner
Sandy Tauferner and Myron
Mortell
The Taylor Group
Barbara and Donald Terao
Maya and Peter Tester
Ronald Thorsrud
Howard and Betsy Tobak
Yona Toso
Gilbert Tosterin and Gilliane
Monnier
Tom Triplett
Melissa Bachman Ugland and Erik
Ugland
David N. Vanhattum
Gina Vermilyea
Jeanine Vorland
Philip Voxland
Louise Waddick
Doug and Peg Wangenstein
Ann and Dale Warner
Thomas F. Waters
Duane and Jane Weibel
Michael Welch and Elaine
Eschenbacher
Chip Welling and Barb Thoman
Steve Wells and Jane Scallen
Lee and Susan West
Jenny Wettersten
Robert and Florence White
Charles and Marty Wick
Kathy Widin
Julie Wiersma and Ron Manshack
Tom and Prudy Wilson
Alex and Marguerite P. Wilson
Terry Wolfe
Ted Wunderlich
Joan Wurtele
Ann Wynia
Stephen Yahn
Samuel Yamin
Steven O. York
Jeanne, Jeff and Edmund Zlonis

In Honor

Les Bendtsen in honor of Kent
White
Shawn and Jessica Bonds in honor
of the Wolf Wilhelm Family
Elise Diedrich and David Weeks in
honor of Clara Weeks
Peter and Mary Gove in honor of
Chuck Dayton
Martha Gulner in honor of Wendy
and Terri Rossi
Kersey Family Fund of the Fidelity
Charitable Gift Fund in honor of
Chuck Dayton
Siobhan Lockhart in honor of
Martin Brice
Mary Anne Reha in honor of her
sister Jean Reha.
Nancy Triplett in honor of her
brother Tom Triplett and JoAnne
Berkenkamp
Melissa Bachman Ugland and Erik
Ugland in honor of Bruce and
Barb Bachman and Linda and
Dave Felker

In Memory

In memory of John C. Barzen:
John C. Barzen
In memory of Bill Lauer:
Linda Malmberg
In memory of Janet Sigford:
Jud Anderson and Judy Dehaan
Anonymous
Tara and Sally Bellville
Jeffrey and Nancy Benson
Richard Borens
Martha Brand and Jerry Rosen
Gene Christenson and Debbie
Meister
Elizabeth Close
Roy Close
Mary Lou Dankowski
Rosalie Dowdall
Anna Marie Ettel
Jim Fournier and Karen Zeleznak
Anne B. Green
Elizabeth and Leo Guertin
Janet and Kenneth Hager
Shirley Hall
Charles and Sandra Hoglin
Anne Keller
Janet and Hugh Lampert
Hannah and Kenneth Larkin
Lynn and Dwight Larson
Peter and Rosalie Leba
Timothy Lind
Mark and Michelle McCart
Doris Nyquist
Pacific Foundation Fund of The
Minneapolis Foundation
Philip M and Marian G. Raup
J.E. Rotell
Georgiana and John Sauer
Annette Schardin
Elizabeth Shippee
Roberta Shipps
Dale Sigford

Maxine Sigford
Harlan and Margaret Smith
Hollis and Karl Stauber
Valerie Steussy
SummerHouse of Shoreview
Masanao Takahashi
Anne and Milt Ulmer

In memory of Evelyn Stanley:

Karol Gresser
Lorna Johnson
Rob Langenstein
Vera and Mark Mednikov
George Stanley

Organizations

Clean Up the River Environment
Crow Wing Environment
Protection Association
Friends of the Mississippi River
Southeastern Minnesotans for
Environmental Protection
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

Tribal Governments

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux
Community



White Pine Legacy Circle

White Pine Legacy Circle members
have pledged their intent to make
a bequest or other planned gift to
MCEA.

Anonymous
Peter Bachman and Janet Rice
Mary E. Horak Binger
Chuck Dayton
Bob Dunn
Dick and Carol Flint
Dee and Nick Long
Mike Madigan and Kay Erickson
Jim and Peggy Perry
Steve Thorne
Angus Vaughan
Peter W. Vaughan

We also thank the many
environmental organizations and
partners across the state whose
dedication to protecting and
enhancing Minnesota's natural
resources helps make our work
possible.

Foundations

Elmer L. and Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation
Anonymous
The Edward R. Bazinet Foundation
Otto Bremer Foundation
Bush Foundation
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
Carolyn Foundation
The Energy Foundation
Faegre and Benson Foundation
The Garfield Foundation
HRK Foundation
Lang Family Foundation
Leonard, Street and Deinard Foundation
R.C. Lilly Foundation
Marbrook Foundation
The McKnight Foundation
The Minneapolis Foundation
Nandale Foundation
The Nash Foundation
Northern Environmental Support Trust
Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

Corporate

Applied Power Products
Bluefin Bay Resort
Compass Capital Management, Inc.
Kestrel Design Group, Inc.
Lakewinds Natural Foods and Home
Madigan, Dahl and Harlan, P.A.
Nelson, Tietz and Hoye, Inc.

Employee Matching

Assurant
GMAC-RFC
The McKnight Foundation
Ryan Companies
The Saint Paul Foundation
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Workplace Giving

Clean Water Action
Minnesota Environmental Fund
United Way
Wells Fargo Community Support Programs

A PROUD MEMBER OF

MINNESOTA
Environmental Fund 

Donated Services and Interns

Legal Services

Peter Bachman
Angela Bohmann
John Davidson
Chuck Dayton
Richard Duncan
Richard Heede
Peter Hennigan
Tim Kelley
Mike Madigan
Ellen Sampson
Bryon Starns
Steve Thorne
Ed Tillman
David Zoll

Professional Services

Will Agar
Ann Bancroft
Craig and Honey Blacklock
Bill and Sharon Clapp
Aubrey Danielson
Jack and Kirsten Driscoll
Sara Evans
Lea Favre
Peter Flint
Nancy Gibson
Tom Helgeson
Andy King
Amy Lichty
Alida Messenger
Linda Nervick
Nancy Piragis
Janet Rice
Deborah Rose/DNR
Mike Shipman
Michael Shoop
Craig Smith
Connie Starns
Hollis Stauber
Joe Thorne
Waters of Superior Gallery
Mary Werbalowsky
Julie Zelle

Interns

Samantha Bohrman
Amba Datta
Elena Doucet-Bier
Brett McNeal
Kari Rudd
Joe Steinberg
Michelle Wilwerding
Eric Zard

2007 audited financial statements

Information based on the audit by Sherry D. Heffernan, Ltd. Complete audit available upon request.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2007

Assets

Cash & Certificates of Deposit	\$ 1,074,034
Unconditional Promises to Give	\$ 570,623
Accounts Receivable	\$ 102,226
Investments (Endowment)	\$ 1,023,212
Other Assets	\$ 38,183
Total Assets	\$ 2,808,278

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$ 69,122
Unrestricted Net Assets	
Undesignated	\$ 773,153
Designated by Board for Long Term-Investments	\$ 494,506
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$ 923,890
Permanently Restricted Net Assets (Endowment)	\$ 547,607
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,808,278

Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2007

Support

Individuals*	\$ 501,161
Corporations	\$ 10,301
Foundation Support*	\$ 893,100
Workplace Giving	\$ 35,792
Earned Income	\$ 186,370
Net Gain on Investments**	\$ 186,269
Special Events Revenue Net	\$ 5,018
Total Support	\$ 1,818,011

Expenses

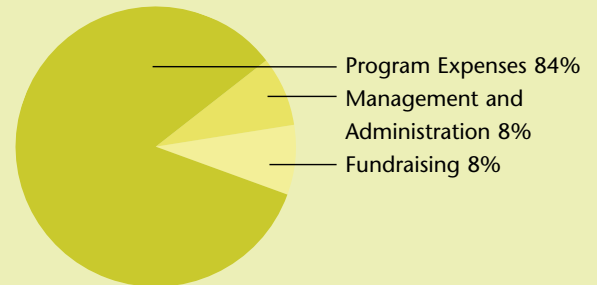
Program Expenses	\$ 1,520,941
Management and Administration	\$ 139,734
Fundraising	\$ 140,322
Total Expenses	\$ 1,800,997

Increase in Net Assets \$ 17,014

2007 Sources of Support



2007 Operating Expenses



2007 Program Expenses



*These amounts include multi-year grants and contributions. In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, revenue is recognized in the year the grant is awarded, even though the related expenses will be incurred in current and future years.

** Net gain on Investments includes investment income of \$140,508 from the Endowment funds. This income is not available for general operations until it is released by the Board of Directors.

Reviewed by auditor 9/20/07

Guiding the process

The Minnesota Center of Environmental Advocacy's Board of Directors is essential in navigating the organization through the straits of environmental issues.



Front row, left to right: Robert G. Dunn, Dee Long, Vanya Hogen, Mary Horak Binger, Byron Starns. **Back row, left to right:** Kent White, Michael Kleber-Diggs, Roger Holmes. **Not pictured:** Kim Carlson, Merritt Clapp-Smith, Charles K. Dayton, Janet C. Green, Cecily Hines, Douglas A. Kelley, Steve Piragis, Nancy Speer.

Vanya S. Hogen, Esq., <i>Chair</i>	Roger Holmes
Mary Horak Binger	Douglas A. Kelley, Esq.
Kim Carlson	Michael Kleber-Diggs
Merritt Clapp-Smith	Dee Long
Charles K. Dayton, Esq.	Steve Piragis
Robert G. Dunn	Nancy Speer
Janet C. Green	Byron Starns, Esq.
Cecily Hines, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Kent White, <i>Treasurer</i>

Going the distance

The staff of MCEA, under the leadership of Executive Director Martha Brand, handles the day-to-day work of keeping the organization focused on the important issues that protect and improve Minnesota's environment.



Front row left to right: Jim Erkel, Sandy Tauferner, Kris Sigford, Martha Brand, Allison Wolf, Samuel Yamin. **Middle row left to right:** Matt Norton, Janette Brimmer, Joan Wells, Lew Beccone. **Back row left to right:** Paul Aasen, Kevin Reuther, Sharon Kunau, Dave Bach, Geoff Maas. **Not pictured:** Beth Goodpaster, Chuck Laszewski, Henry VanOffelen.

Paul Aasen, *Advocacy Director*
Dave Bach, *Development Director*
Lew Beccone, *Database Administrator*
Martha Brand, *Executive Director*
Janette Brimmer, *Legal Director*
Jim Erkel, *Land Use and Transportation Program Director*
Beth Goodpaster, *Clean Energy Program Director*
Sharon Kunau, *Administrative Assistant*
Chuck Laszewski, *Communications Director*
Geoff Maas, *Geographic Information System Manager*
Jeri Lu Mattson, *Financial Manager*
Matt Norton, *Forestry Advocate*
Kevin Reuther, *Staff Attorney*
Kris Sigford, *Water Quality Program Director*
Sandy Tauferner, *Administrative Director/Legal Secretary*
Henry VanOffelen, *Natural Resources Scientist*
Joan Wells, *Development Associate*
Allison Wolf, *Legislative Director*
Samuel Yamin, *Public Health Scientist*

