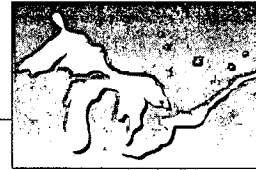


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Great Lakes United



MEMORANDUM

To: GLU Board Members
From: Burkhard Mausberg
Date: March 27, 1995
Re: Update on GLU Activities

Dear Board Member:

Here is a quick update on activities at Great Lakes United. It has been busy, so I will summarize only the highlights (in no particular order):

- GLU's task forces are up and running, and over the past months they have had conference calls, held meetings, and issued mailings. Here are the planned activities for the next few months:
 - The *Biodiversity Task Force* will hold a strategy and planning meeting on April 29 and 30 in Detroit. GLU will invite basin activists to develop a common strategy for dealing with Wise Use/Share and Takings/Compensation issues. Specifically, participants in this meeting will plan educational materials, identify the needs of grassroots groups, develop a "Rapid Response Network," and other items. The fisheries programme/symposium is also progressing. The Steering Committee has developed a good agenda and we have to fundraise for the planned activities.
 - The *Clean Production Task Force* will kick-off its "Little Zeros" work with the "Little Zeros Bus." The idea is to hold a one-day workshop in Ann Arbor with Great Lakes activists working on various "little zeros," then pack the resource people in a bus and drive to Hamilton and do a similar workshop the next day. The "Little Zeros Bus" is scheduled for departure on the weekend of May 6 and 7. The *Clean Production Task Force* is also developing a paper on transition planning for the IJC. Specifically, the paper deals with dioxins as a case study and will outline options for a planned phase-out of PVC, which is the largest source of dioxins. The paper will be presented at an IJC workshop and a final version should be ready in April.
 - The *Healthy Communities Task Force* is finishing its project to evaluate pollution prevention activities in RAPs. Surveys have been sent out and are currently being summarized in a report. The preliminary results were presented at a March 11 workshop in Rochester, N.Y.. At the same time, we are preparing to undertake four

an international coalition to conserve and protect the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence River ecosystem

training workshops for RAP citizens in Michigan later this year, as well as identifying successful activities in RAPs. Since Mary has resigned, the Executive Committee is now exploring options as to what to do with the Windsor office, the position and the Great Lakes Protection Fund grant.

- Finally, the *Sustainable Water Resources Task Force* is developing a report documenting the various stresses on the Great Lakes in terms of water quantity. The report will deal with diversions and other major uses of Great Lakes water and their resulting effects. We would like to release the report around the tenth anniversary of the Great Lakes Charter coming up this December. Also, we have prepared a funding proposal for a summer student to help get the Task Force going.
- We have had little luck in hiring an appropriate candidate for the Clean Production Task Force. The one candidate we had chosen decided to withdraw her application. Thus, the Task Force decided to hire Fé de Leon and Jay Palter on a contract basis to undertake the "Little Zeros" work. We will try to hire a person for the long-term by the beginning of May.
- GLU has developed a very preliminary communications plan, especially as it relates to our newsletter. You should have received the most recent newsletter lately (the last in the current format and with the current content). Look forward to a brand new newsletter in June.
- Planning and preparation for the GLU AGM is gearing up. Donna and I visited Sarnia last week to meet with the CEP labour local, and to choose all the sites. Mailings for the AGM should go out within two weeks. **Remember: Please mark June 2-4 on your calendar for our Annual General Meeting.**
- GLU will receive CDN\$100,000 over two years from the Canadian Environmental Network (CEN) to participate in the Strategic Options Process (SOP). The SOP is a multi-stakeholder process to develop regulations for toxic chemicals at the federal level. The funding will allow GLU to open an office in Ottawa, Montreal or Toronto to coordinate input into the SOP and to alert, and work with, GLU members on the issue. We have posted the job, and will sign a contract with the CEN soon.
- The GLU office is undergoing major changes:
 - we did a significant, two-day clean-up of the office, cleared out old junk, and re-organized the office. We are still not quite done, but by the end of April, our office set-up will be quite different.
 - we have purchased American Fundware, an accounting software package which will allow us to do our bookkeeping electronically and keep better track of our income and expenses;
 - we are planning a capital donations campaign to replace our outdated equipment and chairs (which are literally a pain in the back);

- we are looking into software to allow better fundraising and membership services; and
- we have begun a program to involve volunteers at the GLU Buffalo office.
- I have attached a number of press clippings which are dealing primarily with the assault on the Lakes from Washington and Albany.
- I have also attached draft minutes of the last Board meeting. Thanks to Jeanne for her excellent minutes!
- I have included an update on our grants and contracts. Hopefully we will get some of the funds applied for recently.
- The US Auditors are coming April 3-5, so keep your fingers crossed.

These are the major highlights and I hope they have given you a glimpse of our work here at GLU. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Burkhard

GREAT LAKES UNITED BOARD MEETING

February 25-26, 1995

Chicago, Illinois

Minutes

Present:

John Jackson (Chair), Dan Emerton, Sally Lerner, Jan Conley, Jack Weinberg, Paul Muldoon, Yves Corriveau, Steve Sedam, Camilla Smith, Brennain Lloyd, Sarah Miller, Rick Peters, Jane Wilkins, Robin McClellan, Jeanne Jabanoski, Burkhard Mausberg (staff), David Mahony (staff).

1. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES - John Jackson

The minutes of the Board meeting in Windsor, November 4-6, 1994 were amended as noted. The agenda for the Chicago meeting was approved.

2. UPDATES: STATUS OF GLU PROGRAMMES, STAFFING, ETC
- Burkhard Mausberg

Burkhard distributed a handout to update Board members and provided a brief overview of GLU programmes, staffing and other related matters.

3. ISSUE UPDATE: CEPA - Paul Muldoon

Last November environmental groups submitted a report to the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development regarding the effectiveness of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). Paul indicated that the review was going well until several recent events: the federal government has announced a 35 per cent cut in the federal budget which will likely mean the loss of 1600 Environment Canada employees; the federal government is requesting that the provinces harmonize their legislation with federal legislation, and the proposed Regulatory Efficiency Act which allows industries to renegotiate environmental requirements outside of the regulatory process. Given all of these events, the review of CEPA is falling by the wayside, however environmental groups will appear before the Committee again next week to argue for a strong report.

Paul also reported that GLU and CELA have received permission from the federal court to sue Canadian Environment Minister Sheila Copps for non-compliance under CEPA. Of 44 substances scheduled to be assessed for toxicity, she could not assess 13 substances because of a lack of information. GLU and CELA filed a notice of objection and, since she refused to respond, Copps must now review her own actions.

Yves noted that last week the Quebec Court of Appeal decided that a section of CEPA is unconstitutional. Yves pointed out that this is a question of national interest, not just a question of local commerce. Paul said that all Canadian environmental law groups will be discussing next week whether to intervene in this case before the Supreme Court since the Department of Justice did not introduce the relevant legislative facts. CELA could represent GLU again in these matters.

John suggested that the Clean Production Task Force consider the issue that afternoon and make a recommendation back to the Board. GLU could undertake the public profile work on the issue. Jane raised the question of both time and money. Paul said that in the first case we are subject to costs however the federal court normally doesn't award costs against public interest intervenors. The Supreme Court case represents a minimal risk of costs.

ACTION: CELA will represent GLU in the intervention before the Supreme Court of Canada.

4. ISSUE UPDATE - LAKE SUPERIOR - Jan Conley

Governments have not enforced a binational agreement designating Lake Superior as a demonstration zone for zero discharge. GLU, National Wildlife Federation and the Lake Superior Alliance have now requested that Lake Superior be designated one of the Outstanding National Resource Waters, the highest protection under the Clean Water Act. The designation would mean that no new toxic substances can be added to the lake. A similar designation has been requested in Canada under the Canada Water Act. In Jan's view, if we can't achieve this for Lake Superior nothing will happen on the other lakes either. There has been no response to the petition yet.

5. ISSUE UPDATE - OWMC - John Jackson

People are still celebrating in the Niagara peninsula since the announcement of the death of the Ontario Waste Management Corporation's proposal for a hazardous waste incinerator and landfill. The citizens' groups won the hearing at the end of November and the provincial government decided two weeks ago not to review the decision. What this means is that there will be no hazardous waste incinerator and landfill; instead there is a new direction which is firmly rooted in pollution prevention. John and the citizens fought this one for 14 years which proves that persistent citizens can defeat persistent toxics.

6. ISSUE UPDATE - ENERGY FROM WASTE PROJECT - Yves Corriveau

In Montreal, the Foster Wheeler proposal to build an incinerator to produce energy from solid and commercial waste was blasted by a hearing panel. The proposal also could not get support from the Quebec government as it would have meant the death of provincial recycling programs.

7. FINANCIAL UPDATE

a. Financial Statement - Jane Wilkins and Robin McClellan

Jane said that things look a lot better than they did and credited Burkhard with doing a good job of getting money in the bank. Robin said that on the U.S. side we substantially reduced the deficit last year however we did it at the expense of our staff. It will be tougher to reduce it this calendar year even though we have more income, most of which is restricted and cannot be used for deficit reduction purposes. We now have to increase donations and general fund revenue. We started 1994 with a \$50,000 deficit and a total deficit of \$20,000 in unrestricted funds. Burkhard has put a lot of work into ensuring that we know where we are with the finances through improvements in our financial statements, etc. We are starting 1995 with an unaudited deficit of \$20,785 in unrestricted funds and an overall deficit of \$5,513.

Dan asked how we did with the financial blitz at the end of the year where we were each asked to fundraise. Robin said that the figures are not broken out, however the U.S. side didn't come close to its target. We made \$1100 in new organizational memberships, \$600 in individual memberships and \$800 in contributions. Dan asked how we did personally and Robin suggested he call the office and ask Reg. Robin said we will try to have a list sent out for our next meeting. John said we should also have a list of new or expired members for each Board meeting. Camilla reinforced the importance of knowing how we do in fundraising campaigns. Jeanno asked to have our totals in the Renaissance campaign from June to December.

ACTION: Board members will be provided with an account of total funds raised in the Renaissance campaign from June to December, 1994.

ACTION: A list of new and expired members, both individual and organizational, will be made available at each Board meeting.

b. 1995 Budget - Burkhard Mausberg

The 1995 budget was distributed to Board members and includes a significant change from previous years in that we are not dividing it into U.S. and Canadian budgets but organizing it by Task Forces and general sources of income. A second part of the budget detailing expenses and sources allows us to track our grants from funders and shows that we are meeting the requirements of individual grants. This section also shows the financial support for each Task Force, the largest item of which is salaries. Burkhard review the salary allocations and reported that we would like to hire a development director however we don't currently have funds to so.

This year we will have to raise approximately \$83,000 from sources other than restricted funds in order to break even in 1995 and Burkhard is confident that the funds can be raised. He noted that this figure includes a development person and a number of positions which

haven't yet been filled. Robin noted that because of the deficit in general funds we have between \$50,000 - \$60,000 in the bank. Steve thought GLU was to get money from the Long Point bird monitoring program however Burkhard explained that it is only \$2,000 for each year or \$7,000 over 3 yrs.

8. UPDATE - EARTH DAY - Dan Emerton

Dan is planning to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Earth Day in Flint with the six other UAW locals in that region. He has not had a lot of response from the UAW to organizing a conference and may have to restrict activities to his own local. He asked if GLU or other groups had plans underway. Robin said that groups in New York State are organizing a rally at the State house as part of an education and lobby day. Dan was planning an education program that might include a river cleanup, a conference and events for children. Jan suggested that he talk to local Chambers of Commerce. In her area they have an Earth Day fair. Dan has already talked to the City of Flint however there isn't much interest. Jan suggested the local university as another possibility.

Steve said that there is a move in the U.S. to enact an Environmental Bill of Rights to respond to what's happening in Congress. They hope to have two million signatures by June so the UAW local in Flint could circulate petitions in shopping malls and other locations. Sally asked about timing and Steve said Congress will begin to dissect individual pieces of legislation in the summer. John asked whether there is a central clearinghouse for Earth Day activities. Brennain said there is both a Canadian and Ontario campaign but nothing concrete yet. Sally suggested that people get in on the Internet for more information. Jan suggested that Sally send material on Michigan activities to Dan. Jeanne or Brennain can forward information to Burkhard on Canadian activities and Sally can send her Internet findings to him as well.

Jan suggested that GLU prepare a press release for Earth Day that member groups can also distribute. Steve suggested that we talk about positive accomplishments over the last 25 years as well as what's happening today. Steve offered to meet with people at breakfast tomorrow to develop an outline.

ACTION: The GLU office will obtain information on central clearing houses for Earth Day activities in the U.S. and Canada and mail it to all GLU members. A press release will be prepared to commemorate Earth Day in the Great Lakes Basin.

9. FUTURE OF WORK IN THE GREAT LAKES - Sally Lerner

Sally distributed a paper detailing general global trends that will affect the Great Lakes Basin. The globalization of the economy is predicated on technological change which allows money and work to be moved around the globe. NAFTA and GATT have flattened barriers to allow this movement to happen with very few safeguards for environmental or labour concerns. Technological change may allow us to progress, depending on who gets to

decide how it is used. Our capabilities for automating jobs took out the heart of work in our basin and the same change is currently sweeping through the service sector. Papers are being written about stopping technology however Sally argues for leveraging it to something good for people.

There is an increasing polarization between "symbolic analysts" (knowledge workers) who get good jobs and large numbers of people out of work (those without more than secondary education) or with "McJobs" (temporary and low paying). An interesting phenomenon is that temporary agencies are among the largest employers in North America. The concept of a rising career in one organization is now less and less possible and the first people who experienced this were those in the manufacturing sector. In the U.S. now only 16 per cent of workers are unionized.

Historically there has always been a new sector that opened up as technological innovation made changes, for example from agricultural to manufacturing to service industries. Optimists say that this new sector will emerge again whereas Sally doesn't believe it will emerge. Paul said he knows a lot of university graduates who don't regard jobs as important, but want to pursue music, poetry, etc. Sally said this is a trend although it won't work for everyone and suggested drug dealing is another choice made by people without jobs. Brennan said there has been a dysfunctional concentration on incomes and it is not necessarily bad that this is changing. Sally agreed and said it can be seen as an opportunity if we steer it properly. She suggested people read Jeremy Rifkin's new book, The End of Work. If change is not managed properly, one scenario is that the polarization will continue with more people becoming drug dealers and crooks and the U.S. elite withdrawing to compounds while the rest of us are controlled through prisons, armed forces, etc.

Another scenario is that we all begin to understand that this is not what we want and begin to devise a society where we can achieve it. This may mean fewer material goods and a move to bioregional consciousness, activism, art, more parenting, etc. Sally advocates a guaranteed annual income; rather than a move to a mean society, how can we capture back the new wealth of nations by taxing it and redistributing income? We could also create a huge environmental protection industry which is not currently seen as productive. If we got the tax setup right, we might bring in basic income to get through this transition. In the Great Lakes Basin, we may see an influx of population as other areas run out of water which could present us with an opportunity for implementing change. John asked whether Sally had thought about how it affects our work in GLU. Sally said she thought it was particularly relevant to the Clean Production and Healthy Communities Task Forces.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Nominating Committee - Steve Sedam

The committee will hold a conference call in the next few weeks following contact with a prospective slate of Board members. The committee still has not been informed whether all Board members want to remain on the Board. Steve hopes to have a slate by mid-April. Jack said he was not happy with the way the slate was chosen in the past. Board members

should be well informed in advance of the formal preparation of a slate to afford them ample opportunity to comment on choices or provide alternatives. John said that the Board doesn't vote on the slate. Sarah asked if we have targetted some sectors that we don't currently have and Steve said we have identified young people (high school or college), more cultural diversity (in particular African-Americans), skills as treasurers (for example a c.p.a.), and experience in fundraising work (formerly with foundations or fundraising). The committee has also considered groups that have been involved in Great Lakes issues outside the GLU Board, groups that have been peripherally involved that might increase their involvement as well as more labour representation.

In response to Jack's comment, Steve said that the Board should express its opinions to the Nominating Committee. Steve read a tentative list of candidates that was weak in the northern part of the Basin. Robin felt it was also a little weak on grassroots representation. John suggested that Board members give comments to the committee over the next few days.

b. By-laws Committee - Brennain Lloyd

Brennain said that the committee had been directed by the Board at the last meeting to consider only by-laws that conflict with or act as barriers to current Board practice. The first item proposed was a change to Article VI on page 3, second paragraph: instead of "native representative", the wording will be "First Nations/Tribal representative". Article VII, Section 2 A. (2) should be changed to bring delegates and voting procedures in line with our adoption of consensus decision making: before "A majority vote", insert "A consensus decision or..." At the end of that same sentence, after "Robert's Rules of Order" add "or these bylaws". Paul suggested that consensus decision making be defined in the by-laws however Brennain felt that it was not necessary since modified consensus decision making had already been defined in a policy paper. John suggested that the By-laws Committee consider rewording this.

Referring to Article VIII, Section 3.C. on page 5, Brennain noted that the by-laws were written before GLU had staff and therefore a range of duties were given to the Secretary that may no longer be necessary. Paul pointed out that corporations use this wording because of the legal duties of a corporate secretary. John suggested that we maintain the duties and asked the By-laws Committee to amend the language to reflect that the duties are largely oversight.

In Section D. of the same Article, the title needs to be changed to the plural to reflect that we have two treasurers. Brennain indicated that there may have to be changes to the duties here as well. Sarah said that some of the language needs to be retained due to banking regulations and Robin agreed. John suggested that the committee reconsider this section. Robin suggested that the committee consult with someone familiar with U.S. corporate law, possibly our auditor.

In Article XI, Section 4. on page 9, Brennain pointed out that this provision prohibited Board members from this year or last year from applying for the Executive Director's position. Paul said that the only important principle in this provision is disclosure of conflict of interest. Jack said he was familiar with organizations that provide compensation to the president and that this section would not permit this. Robin suggested that we strike this section and replace it with a disclosure provision. John said that this section was included to prevent people from using their position on the Board to get proposals funded at which point they would resign and work for the funder. Yves said that is a very realistic concern which happens in practice. Jeanne spoke in favour of changing this section to one of disclosure. The Board agreed that this provision should be amended to allow it to be waived by a 2/3 vote of the Board.

ACTION: The By-laws Committee will amend the by-laws to reflect the directions of the Board.

c. Membership Development/Fundraising Committee - Steve Sedam

The committee recommended that the GLU mailing list be broken down by regions for political activities and membership recruitment; that libraries should be solicited for memberships since they have an interest in our activities (this should be tested first); that there should be an increased focus on individual memberships which will likely be more fruitful financially in the long term, although not at the expense of organizational memberships, and that a brochure be redrafted by the end of March and made available by the time of the AGM.

Regarding environmental workplace giving funds, GLU is currently enrolled in the New York fund and should apply to be an affiliate of all workplace giving funds in the Basin. Every state except Wisconsin has one and Steve will provide information on the Ohio fund. As an affiliate, we would receive contributions that are designated for our organization but nothing from general donations. The committee is also asking each board member to provide 10 names of individuals, friends and colleagues, to receive a membership appeal from GLU. Steve asked to see the Board policy regarding donations from corporations. Brennain suggested that we apply for a Section 25 grant to review all board minutes and AGM minutes, categorize them and make them available to Board members.

Brennain noted that a recommendation from the AGM committee is to have a merchandising table at the AGM. Reg will put together an inventory of our current supplies plus information on what our sales have been. Anything that we commission in the future should be regionally produced and ecologically sensitive. Dan said all products should be made either in Canada or the U.S. by union members. Burkhard said that staff has already started investigating those options. Jeanne suggested that interesting graphic designs be developed for additional products.

Camilla asked how much it will cost and how much work it will take to gain access to state workplace funds. Steve said we would take it step by step. Jane asked if these are parallel groups and what return we can expect. Steve said a Minnesota group made \$2,000 in one

year after the administrative charge was withdrawn. John suggested that we go into one at a time and let the Executive Committee make further decisions. Jan said that GLU's \$100 membership fee is a barrier for small groups to join.

ACTION: Our brochure will be redrafted and produced in time for the AGM.

ACTION: Each Board member will provide 10 names of individuals to receive a membership appeal from GLU.

ACTION: An application will be submitted for a Section 25 grant to develop a GLU policy manual.

ACTION: GLU's membership fees will be reviewed.

d. Publication/Public Information - Jeanne Jabanoski

Jeanne reported that the committee considered three main issues. The first is the necessity of establishing a permanent Communications Committee composed of Board members, staff and possibly external advisers to provide direction on a range of communications matters, as indicated in the strategic plan. The second is the need to make changes in the newsletter. The next issue will include the solicitation of comments from readers which will be used to guide future changes. Other changes to be made are: change the current format to a less unwieldy size; change the name; articles should be shorter and reflect the work of the Task Forces as well as the work of member groups and individuals around the Basin. The design of the newsletter should include more photographs, graphics and more use of subheads and boxes to ensure it is accessible. Steve suggested we offer a prize for the best name for the newsletter and Sally suggested that we publicize the contest in the next issue.

The third item dealt with by the committee was a proposal from Jay Palter regarding electronic communications projects. Among the projects proposed were an electronic update of GLU's newsletter for E-mail distribution; on-line conferences and newsgroups to discuss GLU's issues and campaigns; on-line coordination of Task Forces, and a pilot project for the GLU AGM including resolution development and registration. The committee felt that the AGM pilot project could not be executed but did feel E-mail training would be a good addition to the AGM. The other projects were well received however some members felt it might be hard to secure funding while others felt that there were similar projects and networks already underway. Jack said that electronically the hardware and software we use is generally considered obsolete and we need a program to help people revamp their older equipment to make it useful. Robin agreed and said that our on-line project should be focussed on text-based material.

ACTION: The President will establish a permanent Communications Committee.

ACTION: Burkhard will make the recommended changes to the newsletter.

ACTION: Burkhard will discuss the electronic projects with Jay Palter with a view to revising them and securing funding.

ACTION: Training on E-mail will be held at GLU's AGM.

11. IJC BIENNIAL - Jan Conley

The biennial will start on Friday, September 22 with tours of the area and other events: The environmental community has been allocated a half hour to make a presentation during the insight portion of the meeting. At the end of the presentations, a half hour panel with representatives from each presentation will answer questions from the Commissioners and the audience. A public hearing for citizens will be held Sunday from 1:30 - 5 pm. The children's presentation has been removed. The IJC is fearful that their funding will be cut and that this could be the last biennial meeting. Jan handed out petitions regarding IJC budget cuts for people to sign and submit. She also discussed a suggested speakers list and asked for suggestions for other speakers. One suggestion being considered is to have a youth forum with Commissioners in lieu of an insight presentation.

John pointed out that the insight presentations are sectoral. GLU has been asked to coordinate the half hour environmental presentation. Sarah said Paul had told her that the Science Advisory Board and Water Quality Board are not verbally reporting at this IJC meeting and suggested people organise to protest this. John said that citizens have been saying that they don't want to waste time with these presentations when we have written reports in advance so it is not clear how important these presentations are.

Brennain pointed out that the event does not have a northern focus that includes mining and forestry practices, as had previously been discussed. Jan replied that forestry is included under biodiversity and she has asked that mining be included in the Native American segment. Brennain suggested that time be allocated for caucuses around issues.

Jack pointed out that environmentalists fought in 1989 to open the meeting up to citizens which has increasingly been the case however this feeds into government's desire to cancel the Biennial. Jack said the fight to save the IJC may add drama that we need for this meeting. Jan pointed out that there will be a citizen rally at lunch on Saturday. Camilla asked whether we should get in touch with our membership via special mailing regarding the petition. Burkhard said he will consider sending out an Action Alert. John noted that the terms of two Canadian commissioners run out this year while Claude Lanthier's term will be extended by two years. There has been a move to have Henry Lickers appointed as a commissioner and we should endorse that idea.

Jack announced that Greenpeace will have a boat in the Great Lakes this summer that will be in Duluth for the IJC meeting. Jack will have the lead on this project and he needs thoughts and input from people. The mission will be largely educational on zero discharge and chlorine. There is also an emphasis on nuclear and energy issues, focussing on radionuclides as persistent toxic substances. There will likely be a major stop before the IJC meeting at Saginaw, the world headquarters of Dow Chemical, the world's largest producer

of chlorine. A panel of experts from around the world will present the case for a phaseout and invite their executives to attend. Greenpeace would also like to schedule events in Montreal and Toronto. The theme is "David and Goliath": the Chlorine Chemistry Council has a \$120 million campaign to poison you and your children and this is the grassroots response.

Sally asked whether we should try to answer the major claims of the Chlorine Chemistry Council. Brennain asked whether the link between radionuclides and other toxics is Jack's or Greenpeace's idea. Jack said this is contained in the IJC's last report. The boat will be around for approximately six weeks with eight or nine stops. On the U.S. side it will avoid big cities where it's harder to get attention.

Rick asked about a stop in a native community. Jack said Greenpeace has always stopped at Akwesasne after getting permission to pass to make a ceremonial entrance to the Great Lakes. Rick suggested Walpole Island, given the impact of spills on that community. Jack said Greenpeace would be interested in doing something with Walpole Island and asked Rick to let him know if they are interested.

ACTION: GLU will send a letter to the Canadian Prime Minister recommending Henry Lickers be appointed as an IJC Commissioner.

12. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - John Jackson

The Executive and Personnel Committees met and decided that John will send a letter to Burkhard and Mary asking them to explore further alternatives regarding her contract and terms of employment. John said that the letter will specify that she is working on the same terms as before until this is resolved.

Burkhard noted that as of March 1 he will have been with GLU for three months. In the contract he signed, we set up a review process at the end of three months and again at six.

ACTION: John will send a letter to Burkhard and Mary asking them to explore alternatives to her current contract.

ACTION: The Personnel Committee will set in motion its review process and will be in touch with all board members.

13. POLICY ON USE OF FOUNDATION NUMBER - Burkhard Mausberg

John pointed out that we began to get requests to use our number as soon as the Canadian charitable number was issued. A draft policy on use of the number was circulated. Sally thought that the policy looked good however Jack said that an administrative fee of one per cent is ridiculous. Sarah said that we should have a provision that we establish our own use of the charitable number before we start to let it be used by other groups. Burkhard is looking into Canadian foundations to start generating proposals for funding.

Yves noted that charitable groups are not allowed to spend over 10 per cent of their funds on lobbying. If other groups use our number, it could limit our ability to lobby. John asked Jack what percentage we should charge for an administration fee. Burkhard felt it should be flexible based on the type of project and the amount of administrative work required. Robin thought that we should have the flexibility to go to zero as well. John said that we could make a contribution to a project by waiving the administrative fee and Burkhard suggested that the floor should be five per cent.

ACTION: The policy will be revised to reflect a minimum five per cent administrative fee, with flexibility to waive, and that this policy will be adopted for the U.S. as well.

14. AGM COMMITTEE REPORT - Brennain Lloyd

Brennain distributed an updated version of the second draft agenda. The committee has three subcommittees: logistics are handled by staff in conjunction with the Communication, Energy and Paper Workers (CEP), a local group; the fundraising committee may have another silent auction as well as fundraising activities such as t shirts; the awards committee, consisting of Camilla and Sarah, will develop a proposal for who gets what awards, usually given to people leaving the Board who have made an outstanding contribution. Brennain has established a graciousness committee which consists of Board members wearing name tags and being nice all weekend.

Bruce Walker will be on the credentials committee and a business committee will be responsible for running elections and handling resolutions. May 1 is the deadline for all policy resolutions; emergency resolutions could come later but would have to be substantiated. There will be a basinwide press release at the end of the meeting which will be given out to people to take home and publicize.

Burkhard reported that the Great Lakes Protection Fund has hired a new Executive Director, Russ Van Herrick, who wants to meet with the Board. Burkhard will encourage him to come to the AGM to meet a range of GLU members.

Brennain reviewed the agenda in some detail. Several moderators are needed for the program. John said our policy has been to have Board members or staff as moderators and Board members agreed. Information about the Task Forces will be sent out in the promotional material for the AGM and some time should be allocated for resolutions. Burkhard asked whether we need a limit on the number of workshops. Dan raised the question of potential timing conflicts between the caucuses and workshops however Burkhard said people can move back and forth. Camilla said some regions, such as the St. Lawrence, will not be well represented at regional caucuses and Sarah suggested they link with Lake Ontario. Steve suggested that the caucus moderator could be the regional directors. Steve asked what the point of the regional caucuses is. Jack said that the lake workshops and organizational workshops are not same thing. As an example, in Lake Huron there are vast differences between Georgian Bay, Saginaw and the North Shore. Jan said

the regional caucuses give opportunities for networking. Dan suggested that they have a separate time slot.

Sally suggested that workshops such as skill building be scheduled at specific times. Steve said that it would be useful to have an interactive event at the end of the day. On Sunday, awards are scheduled after reports from the Canadian and U.S. treasurers. The meeting of the new GLU board will be held at 1 p.m. Jack suggested that we give an award to Gordon Durnil with the possibility of him speaking Saturday evening. Dan queried our policy of paying for travel expenses for facilitators. Steve asked when the slate of new officers is presented and John said at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday when the report of the Nominating Committee is introduced and nominations are taken from the floor. Jeanne suggested problems with the way we handle the people who are defeated in the elections and Camilla asked what other groups do. Jeanne said that they could stay on as advisors, could recognize contribution at the time, or they could stay on for next Board meeting in a transition.

Robin was in favour of an advisory board as long as it is not an automatic shunting of Board members. John suggested we ask ex Board members to be involved in Task Forces and Jack agreed. John suggested that the Awards Committee should consider what to do about recognition of defeated members. Rick asked whether we have extra newsletters to send out to communities with invitations to to come to the AGM. Rick said the tonic tour scheduled for Sunday afternoon doesn't make sense. Camilla suggested it be held Friday afternoon and the Board agreed.

ACTION: The AGM Committee will modify the agenda based on direction from the Board.

ACTION: Burkhard will draw up an AGM budget which will include travel accommodation, per diems, registrations fees, etc. for speakers to be approved by the Finance and Executive Committees.

ACTION: The Awards Committee should consider how to recognize defeated candidates.

ACTION: Burkhard will send Rick extra copies of the newsletter with invitations to the AGM.

15. REPORT FROM TRADE WORKSHOP - Sarah Miller

Sarah reported on the second GLU trade workshop which was held in Toronto last Monday. Twenty-three people met to look at how GATT and NAFTA will affect our ability to function in the Basin. Strategies were considered around issues such as whether NACE has the potential to override decisions from the IJC. We have made good connections with other groups working on trade issues and a report of the findings will be available at the end of March.

16. GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

- Robin McClellan and Jack Weinberg

Jack asked if the Board wants to rejoin the Council and, if so, we should consider a change in our representation. Steve is also a member of the council. As a followup to the paper on chlorine developed over two years and which Dow could not sign at the end of the process, Dow has now said it can't propose anything to replace it. Dow has now withdrawn from the Council and GEON, the PVC group, will likely withdraw too. This withdrawal could be seen as a failure to coopt environmental groups on the chlorine agenda. There is now a question regarding the future of this group and one issue it will consider at its next meeting in April is brown fields/green fields. This refers to the development of new industrial sites with old sites not being redeveloped and includes consideration of industry's desire for breaks on clean-up requirements and communities wish for clean jobs.

Jack said we felt that the Council was most productive for a dialogue between corporations and environmentalists. If the Healthy Communities Task Force is interested in brown fields/green fields, GLU representation on the Council might be people working on that issue. Jack has spoken to Doreen Carey who thought if GLU became active on that issue, it should define unique role because a lot of other groups are involved already. Steve put forward the idea of developing a set of principles which would allow brownfields/green fields developments to be critiqued. He said politically we are seeing industry backing away from a dialogue with us when the politics are in their favour. It is their role to demonstrate why they want to talk to us. Robin supported the brown fields/green fields issue but said that the Council needs new corporate interest. He recommended that we stay on the Council for the rest of the year since it is not a big investment in money or time (\$200 per year, \$50 per meeting). Jack said that he would like to be replaced.

ACTION: We will renew our Council membership for a year and the Health Communities Task Force will explore our involvement in the brown fields/green fields issue.

17. REPORTS FROM TASK FORCES

a. Clean Production - Jack Weinberg

The Task Force is working actively on developing a paper for an IJC workshop on transition planning for the virtual elimination of dioxin. We hope that this paper will shape the discussion for the next two years. It will include a pvc production and use case study. The Task Force will hold a pair of teambuilding workshops on May 6 and 7 in Ann Arbor and Hamilton with the same program running twice. This is part of our little zeros campaign which encompasses community-based little zero projects within the big idea of zero discharge. We are building teams around these projects, possibly six, and aiming at presentations at the IJC Biennial. Steve suggested that we include information on this in the next newsletter.

b. Sustainable Water Resources - Sarah Miller

The Task Force has applied for funds for a summer student to develop the Bruce Kershner paper on development pressure on Great Lakes water. There will be a press conference in the late fall on the anniversary of the signing of the Great Lakes Charter. Bruce Kershner might sit on a Steering Committee for this Task Force, as well as experts on groundwater, etc. The Task Force will also develop a proposal to the Laidlaw Foundation in the next month. Sally suggested Marie Sanderson and John Cherry as potential Steering Committee members. At the Task Force meeting, there was also some discussion with Rick as to how EAGLE's education regarding water conservation could connect to this work.

c. Protection of Habitat and Diversity
- Brennain Lloyd and Camilla Smith

Brennain distributed a position paper on the wise use/takings issue. GLU is trying to make sure that the activities of large groups and community-based groups are more efficient and effective. There are three main areas: a rapid response network which is a buddy and information exchange to preserve the conservation ethic in the Great Lakes; the development of a three to five year strategy, and, over the next several months, a summary and response mailing to ensure groups are involved and identify the issues they want to address. David will draft this for the newsletter. The Task Force will get together on April 29 for a one day session to start developing the three to five year strategy. Media workshops to develop media messages in response to the corporate right agenda will be held in September-October. These could be shared with the Clean Production Task Force. Because GLU only received half the funds requested from the Gund Foundation, Karen will consider funding possibilities for the rest of the work plan.

Brennain asked the Board to approve the position which will form the basis for resolution to the AGM. John suggested that the reference in the last sentence regarding the Contract with America should be moved up higher in the resolution and should include a Canadian example. Sarah suggested that the position needs to use the language of our traditional resolutions ("whereas", etc.)

Camilla explained that the fisheries initiative started with the MUCC resolution on gill netting. A steering committee was formed and a decision was made to have a conference on commercial fisheries (the parties in Michigan didn't want to have a conference on gill netting). Stocking of salmon is one issue that has emerged. While there is a need to articulate objectives for this conference better, the conference will proceed but it might be scaled down. Secondary reasons for having the conference include bringing advocacy groups to the table as well as disputing parties. Sarah said people should know that there is another conference on this topic at the CAW facility in Port Elgin and GLU needs a presence there. John suggested that David could go and Camilla might like to go if we can find the funds in the Task Force budget.

ACTION: The Board endorsed the position on wise use/takings and referred it back to the Task Force for revisions as a formal resolution to the AGM.

d. Healthy Communities - John Jackson

The Health Communities Task Force will bring its RAP experience to EAGLE to help develop RAPS in those native communities. These communities are either at the end of a RAP receiving pollution, in a RAP area or should become their own RAP area. It is also important that the information EAGLE is generating is integrated into RAPS. The Task Force will be exploring brown fields/green fields as an issue. John asked about the status of the GLPF grant and RAP work. Burkhard pointed out that David is working half time as a Healthy Communities coordinator and the other half is assigned to Mary. John said the Task Force had developed criteria for assessing what is going on in RAPS and what can be shared about RAP activities.

18. NEXT MEETING - John Jackson

John noted that we originally did not have another meeting between now and the AGM although the AGM was originally scheduled for earlier in the year. Robin suggested that we don't need to meet again before the AGM.

ACTION: The next meeting will be 1 pm. on Friday of the AGM or later if the toxic and tonic tours are scheduled in the same time slot.

19. MEETING EVALUATION - John Jackson

Robin said that this meeting has been the most productive yet, largely because of our new and competent Executive Director. All Board members offered thanks to Burkhard for his work. Steve thanked Greenpeace and Jack for the space and logistics. Jack said that we now have had a year of meetings under the strategic plan and this year has been a real turnaround year; shifting the emphasis to task forces is really working. Sally, as a member of the Nominating Committee, said that there had been a lot of talk about the need to get fresh blood and new ideas on the Board. She felt that we already have accomplished Board members and no-one should leave except under the feeling of extreme burnout.

Status of GLU Grants/Contracts

Source: The Joyce Foundation
Contact: Margaret O'Dell, Program Officer
Address: 135 South LaSalle Street, Suite 4010
Chicago, Il 60603
(312) 782-2464
Purpose: General support
Amount: US\$70,000; #340/16504
Period: Sept. 94 - Aug. 95
Status: ok
Reports: Dec. 1, 1994 - done
Aug. 15, 1995

Source: The C.S. Mott Foundation
Contact: Lois DeBacker, Program Officer
Address: 1200 Mott Foundation Building
Flint, Michigan
48502-1851
(810) 766-1714
Purpose: General support
Amount: US\$70,000; #94-243
Period: Jan. 95 - Jan. 96
Status: ok
Reports: Aug. 1, 1995
Feb. 1, 1996

Source: Great Lakes Protection Fund
Contact: Heather Potter, Administrative Associate; John Sherman, Program Director
Address: 35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1880
Chicago, Il 60601
(312) 201 0660
Purpose: Strengthen citizen involvement in RAPs
Amount: \$US109,000; #AOC594-1893
Period: Feb. 1, 95 - Jan. 30, 96
Status: need to hire staff
Reports: July 15, 1995 (interim)
April 15, 1996 (final)

Status of GLU Grants/Contracts

Source: The George Gund Foundation
Contact: Jon Jensen, Program Officer
Address: 1845 Guildhall Building
45 Prospect Ave. West
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 241-3114
Purpose: Biodiversity and Habitat Task Force; wise use and takings
Amount: US\$35,000; #94-406
Period: Jan. 95 - Jan. 96
Status: ok
Reports: Feb. 28, 1996.

Source: Canadian Environmental Network/Environment Canada
Contact: Craig Boljkovac
Address: Canadian Environmental Network
P.O. Box 1289, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J6
(613) 563-2078
Purpose: Participate in the Strategic Options Process
Amount: CDN\$100,000 over two years
Period: April 95-March 97
Status: Contract with CEN to be signed week of March 27
Reports: quarterly

Source: Long Point Bird Observatory
Contact: Michael Bradstreet, Executive Director; Amy Chabot, Project Coordinator
Address: P.O. Box 160
Port Rowan, Ontario NOE 1M0
(519) 586-3531
Purpose: Participate in monitoring wildlife in AOCs and coordinate communication among the U.S. and binational RAPs, PACs and project personnel
Amount: \$US7,000
Period: 1995-1997
Status: ok
Reports: none

Status of GLU Grants/Contracts

Source: The Laidlaw Foundation
Contact: Bruce Lourie, Program Manager
Address: 950 Yonge Street, Suite 700
Toronto, Ontario M4W 2J4
(416) 964-3614
Purpose: Assess impacts of trade agreements on the Great Lakes
Amount: CDN\$10,000
Period: Sept. 93 - May 95
Status: work completed
Reports: final report to be done in late April/early May

Source: The Laidlaw Foundation
Contact: Bruce Lourie, Program Manager
Address: 950 Yonge Street, Suite 700
Toronto, Ontario M4W 2J4
(416) 964-3614
Purpose: Assess pollution prevention in RAPs
Amount: CDN\$10,000
Period: April 93 - May 1995
Status: work incomplete; report not prepared
Reports: final report should be done in May 1995

Source: Settlements:
Auto Radiator Sales (May 1994)
American Packaging Corporation (July 1994)
PM Refining (October 1993)
Contact: Sam Sage
Address: Atlantic States Legal Foundation
658 West Onondaga Street
Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 475-1170
Purpose: Promote pollution prevention the Areas of Concern
Amount: ARS (US\$22,500); APC (US\$10,500); PMR (US\$11,500)
Period: April 93 - May 1995
Status: work incomplete; report not prepared
Reports: final report should be done in May 1995

Status of GLU Grants/Contracts

Source: Great Lakes Protection Fund
Contact: John Sherman, Program Director
Address: 35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1880
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 201 0660
Purpose: Cormorant study with Jim Ludwig
Amount: \$1,425 (final payment from GLPF)
Period: 1991-1993
Status: Final report to GLPF never done
Reports: BM will prepare final report in May

Source: The Joyce Foundation
Contact: Margaret O'Dell, Program Officer
Address: 135 South LaSalle Street
Suite 4010
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 782-2464
Purpose: Zero Discharge Alliance
Amount: \$5,000
Period: 1990-1993
Status: Money was not reported on; remains a liability to GLU; submitted proposal to Joyce
Reports:

Status of Grants/Contracts

Source: The C.S. Mott Foundation
Contact: Lois DeBacker, Program Officer
Address: 1200 Mott Foundation Building
Flint, Michigan
48502-1851
(810) 766-1714
Purpose: Organizing for 8th IJC Biennial
Amount: US\$109,000
Period: June 95 - May 96
Status: Proposal submitted; hope to hear in late May
Reports:

Source: The Beldon Fund
Contact: Karen Horton, Program Associate
Address: 2000 P Street N.W., Suite 410
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 293-1928
Purpose: Biodiversity and Habitat; Takings/wise use
Amount: US\$10,000
Period: Jan. 95 - Dec. 95
Status: Proposal submitted
Reports:

Source: North Shore Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program
Contact: Marjorie Fine, Executive Director
Address: 48 Shelter Rock Road
Manhasset, NY 11030
(516) 627-6576
Purpose: Biodiversity and Habitat; Takings/wise use
Amount: US\$30,000
Period: 1995
Status: Proposal submitted
Reports:

Status of GLU Grants/Contracts

Source: Educational Foundation of America
Contact: Diane M. Allison
Address: 35 Church Lane
Westport, CT 06880-3515
Purpose: Biodiversity and Habitat; Takings/wise use
Amount: US\$40,000
Period: 1995
Status: Letter of intent submitted
Reports:

Source: The Florence and John Schumann Foundation
Contact: John Meyers, Executive Director
Address: 33 Park Street
Montclair, N.J. 07042
(201) 783-6660
Purpose: Biodiversity and Habitat; Takings/wise use
Amount: US\$55,000
Period: 1995
Status: Letter of intent submitted
Reports:

Source: The Buffalo Foundation
Contact: W.L. Van Schoonhoven
Address: 1601 Main Seneca Building
237 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
Purpose: Office equipment
Amount: US\$15,000
Period: 1995
Status: Proposal to be submitted week of March 27
Reports:

New lake rules fail to impress cost-conscious critics

By JERRY ZREMSKI
News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The federal government Monday released pared-down rules aimed at curbing pollution in the Great Lakes, but the changes did little to silence critics who say the regulations will cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars.

In its final version of the Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative, the Environmental Protection Agency greatly loosened its proposed standards for mercury emissions and gave states more flexibility in meeting anti-pollution goals.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the benefits of today's plan most certainly outweigh the costs," said EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner.

But Gov. Pataki signed a letter refusing to endorse the plan. And Town of Tonawanda Supervisor Carl J. Calabrese, who testified before Congress on the issue last week, said the new plan would cost his town \$45 million in water-treatment plant improvements.

"What the EPA thinks is a significant concession is not a concession at all," Calabrese said.

The EPA released its first version of the Great Lakes plan two years ago. It immediately created a furor among local officials who said

that many communities — including Buffalo — would have to rebuild their wastewater treatment plants to comply with the new rules.

In the wake of the criticism, the EPA revised the rules, although it was unclear exactly how dramatic the changes are. EPA officials highlighted two main changes, but neither was enough to satisfy critics.

The rule released Monday takes effect in March 1997, giving states two years to devise their own plans for reducing water pollution. But if they fail to do so, the EPA would impose its own rules.

James A. Hanlon, deputy director of the EPA's Office of Science and Technology, said the agency had raised the emissions standards for mercury from 0.18 parts per trillion to 1.3 parts per trillion. He said the change would protect the environment from a deadly toxin while easing the fears of municipalities, which complained that the tougher standard would force them to install the latest technology at water treatment plants.

Burkhard Mausberg, executive director of Great Lakes United of Buffalo, said there is a good reason for a tough mercury standard.

"It's one of the nastiest pollutants around," having been linked to birth defects and other health problems, he said.

Calabrese and others said the change would have no practical effect.

The new standard is "well below the recognized level of detection of 200 parts per trillion and well below the levels that occur naturally in rainwater," said Suzanne Kelley, president of the Great Lakes Water Quality Coalition, a lobbying group consisting of polluters. "This requirement is not only extreme, but it is also one where the costs far outweigh any benefits."

While weakening the mercury requirement, the EPA also changed the rules to make it easier for states to control pollution. While the original plan would have forced states to cut emissions of toxic chemicals into the water, the new plan gives them the option to control air pollution if that is an easier way to reach the same goal.

The National Wildlife Federation, which fought for the Great Lakes plan, said the new version will replace the current hodgepodge of state pollution regulations that allows some states to sell themselves as easy places to pollute.

"This is a major victory for the public," said Mark Van Putten, director of the group's Great Lakes Natural Resources Center.

State governors, however, are not so sure about the new plan. Pataki and six other Great Lakes governors sent a letter to Ms. Browner to say that the plan should be regarded as "guidance," rather than a rule that the states must follow.

3/14/95 Buffalo News

Saturday's forum could be the start of a new era

A recent Sunday paper carried two stories that exemplify the dilemma the Masiello administration faces as it moves slowly into the environmental arena.

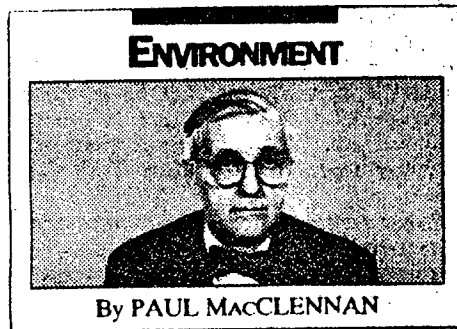
Item One — Olin Corp., faced with the challenge of toxic chemicals it dumped in a populated area of Niagara Falls, says a \$2 million coverup makes more sense than an \$18 million cleanup that would provide a permanent solution.

Item Two — Sixty leading British literary figures are in a pitched battle to preserve the Yorkshire moors — a brooding, lonely landscape made famous by the Bronte sisters — against those who would use the wind-swept moors for environmentally friendly power generation by wind turbines, an alternative to coal and nuclear generation of electricity.

The mayor faces a similar series of conflicts. The city is broke and economy the watchword even though it may have long-term consequences as he tries to revitalize an aging city. At the same time he is caught between those who would preserve the city and those who would exploit it.

Some of these forces will come into play Saturday as Mayor Masiello and his commissioners meet for two hours with a coalition of groups under the umbrella of the Buffalo Environmental Transition Task Force. The session, open to the public, starts at 10 a.m. in the Buffalo Historical Society, Elmwood Avenue at Nottingham Terrace.

Shortly after that forum, Masiello will have the Buffalo Environmental Management Commission's annual report that will recommend a series of steps the new administration should consider if it is to put its environmental house in order. The suggestions range from observing the laws requiring environmental review of new public and private projects, enforcing



codes such as the one requiring screening of parking lots and more aggressive steps on toxic issues, such as the 34 dumps dotting the city's waterfront area or mismanagement of the GE building demolition on the East Side.

Both task force and commission are hailing the leadership in City Hall as "a new environmental era for Buffalo." They say Masiello has been responsive to their overtures for change and that for the first time in 16 years the welcome mat is out at City Hall.

The task force is an amalgam of 30-odd local groups from Friends of the Buffalo River to the Parkside Greens, from Citizen Action to Great Lakes United, from the Polish Community Center to the Interfaith Center for Environmental Stewardship.

The task force has evolved over the past six months. It asked candidates in the mayoral race to respond to a questionnaire and published the results, then developed a blueprint for change. The forum will outline many of these concerns and recommendations, such as a recent community meeting sponsored by WNY-REACH outlined regional problems of concern.

It has investigated issues ranging from

recycling to environmental justice, drinking water, pesticides, waterfront development — in all 10 broad areas that it will outline to the mayor on Saturday. Its leaders include Karen Murphy, David Hahn-Baker, Mary Ellen Smolinski and Gary C. Carrel.

The nine-member commission comprises four mayoral appointees, four Common Council appointees and a representative of the business community. It is headed by attorney Richard J. Lippes, a long-time activist and former head of the state Sierra Club. Its members reflect a diverse set of approaches but its consensus decisions finger the environmental problems facing Buffalo. Members hope to convene a series of town meetings throughout the city.

For the task force, if it is successful Saturday in attracting a large audience, the job is just beginning. It must not fold its tent, but continue as a vital force in monitoring progress. Ideally, the commission and task force will work in tandem.

Some issues will be easy — banning or reducing the use of pesticides, creating a nature sanctuary at Times Beach, enlisting volunteers for park duty, upgrading the city's pioneer recycling program, providing safe drinking water information.

Others will be tough — such as alternatives to the use of Sevin on elm trees that will alleviate homeowner concerns about infestations of beetles in their homes, how to divvy up the Delaware Park ring and preserve the meadow, ramrodding the Scajaquada walkway through state bureaucratic roadblocks, pushing a cleanup of poisonous industrial dumps and contaminated sediments out of the Buffalo River, developing meaningful dialogue and action among neighbors and industry, preserving from economic development on the waterfront a pastoral open

space for watching a sunset, and rejuvenating neighborhoods to entice people to remain and others to move back.

Position papers available to the new administration include Timothy Tielman's new look at waterfront development to the Pest Management Board's "Safeguarding Our Future, Reducing Pesticide Use in Our Community." Parks advocates also have a long agenda.

Buffalo and Erie County hope to attract the next biennial Great Lakes Water Quality meeting of the International Joint Commission in 1995. Teamwork by the environmental community and the city-county governments could provide the 2,000 or so visitors that could showcase a community that turns negatives into a vital, reborn city on the lakes.

The Yorkshire moors are many miles away and the Olin dump is downstream. What must concern Buffalo residents next weekend is what we do to enhance our backyard. We must act locally while thinking globally.

If this indeed is to be the dawning of a new era for the city, attending Saturday's meeting will be a critical start.

Notes — The Niagara Frontier Section of the Air & Waste Management Association will devote its spring seminar to multi-media pollution prevention featuring federal, state and local experts. The day-long session, for which there is a charge, starts at 8 a.m. Thursday at the University Inn, Amherst . . . Lobbying on issues from West Valley to regulations governing packaging are on the agenda during the Fifth Annual Environmental Lobby Day in Albany from 9 to 5:30 May 2 . . . Two reports in recent issues of Rachel's Hazardous Wastes News on "Chemicals and Health" and "Waste Not" on the new waste to energy incinerators provide excellent background.

Environmental groups charge cutbacks by Pataki are political, favor polluters

By MIKE VOGEL
News Staff Reporter

Local environmental groups Wednesday accused Gov. Pataki of gutting state agencies to favor corporations "embarrassed" by pollution investigations and enforcement efforts.

"Our concern is that these cuts are political and not financial," said David Mahoney of Great Lakes United, as representatives of seven organizations protested state budget proposals.

"We are very concerned that this is just an across-the-board cut to help industry get away with what's been going on for years," he added at a news conference at a Delaware Avenue law firm.

The proposed Pataki budget plans to cut some staff from the Department of Environmental Conservation's undercover Bureau

of Environmental Conservation Investigation. Besides losing some staff, investigative units would no longer report to Albany, but to regional directors.

"The proposed cuts read like a plan to protect polluters," said Diane Heminway, Western New York director for Citizens Environmental Coalition. "We knew that the governor intended to be 'friendlier to business,' but we are shocked that he would cut staff working on investigating serious environmental crimes."

A DEC spokesman disagreed.

"I do not see this as having any serious effect on our efforts," said Peter Buechi, the DEC's acting regional director in Buffalo. "We have a BECI unit covering Regions 8 and 9 working out of Dunkirk, and we always have had good cooperation."

Buechi said the state has three

such units: one covers most of upstate; another reaches up the Hudson River and down to New York; and a third covers Long Island.

He said he did not know how personnel cuts might affect investigative operations: "I don't see how investigations will be affected. The reporting mechanism will be different, but there will still be undercover investigations."

Internal DEC memos provided recently to The Buffalo News back the groups' claims that the small investigative force, now independent of regional offices, might suffer: Three captains and two lieutenants would be cut from the 31-member staff.

Officials within the DEC, who asked not to be identified, said the cuts would affect cooperative investigations with federal Customs and other agencies.

Plan to revise Clean Water Act gives Great Lakes states option to comply

By JERRY ZREMSKI
News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Influential House conservatives Wednesday introduced a revised Clean Water Act that would give Great Lakes states the option of adopting or abandoning tough and controversial new anti-pollution regulations.

In addition, the bill would weaken many long-standing anti-pollution efforts — including advisories that warn people when fish are too contaminated to eat.

And, in response to a landmark legal case from Wyoming County, the bill would make it easier for farmers to spread manure without worrying that they might be polluting water.

Rep. Bud Shuster, R-Pa., chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, said the bill "focuses on continuing and improving the existing clean-water programs while reducing the existing regulatory burdens."

Rep. Sherwood L. Boehlert, R-Utica, said the so-called "bipartisan alternative" offered by Shuster appeared to be on a fast track to

passage — even though it greatly weakens federal water pollution protections.

In making the Great Lakes Initiative voluntary, the bill answers the concerns of officials such as Town of Tonawanda Supervisor Carl J. Calabrese who have said that the Great Lakes crackdown would force municipalities to spend tens of millions of dollars on new wastewater treatment plants.

Burkhard Mausberg, executive director of Great Lakes United, termed the move "a federal cop-out. We're never going to have a clean Great Lakes without general federal oversight."

The bill also would require federal officials to do a scientific risk assessment before placing further limits on toxic discharges and would make the Environmental Protection Agency's fish advisories voluntary, rather than something that states must implement when fish are contaminated.

Calling the bill "a retreat rather than an advance," Boehlert said: "I personally want to know if the fish I'm eating is safe."

In addition, the bill would prevent the EPA from identifying farm manure spreaders as "point sources" of water pollution.

In a case involving Southview Farms of Wyoming County, a federal appeals court recently ruled that such equipment is a point source, thereby making it subject to tougher anti-pollution standards.

The bill would not affect the Southview Farms case, which is currently on appeal before the U.S. Supreme Court. But it would ease the concerns of farmers nationwide, said Richard Popp, one of the owners of Southview Farms.

Popp said several influential representatives — including Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and Rep. Bill Paxon, R-Amherst — were concerned about the impact of the Southview Farms case.

Environmentalists, meanwhile, attacked the legislation, which is intended to replace the expiring federal Clean Water Act and reauthorize \$3 billion in funding for water treatment facilities nationwide.

VOLUNTEERS

By PAULA VOELL

Great Lakes United, an international coalition of organizations and individuals from the states surrounding the lakes, works on various projects to protect the lakes.

It has an immediate need for volunteers to work in its headquarters at Cassety Hall at Buffalo State College. Volunteers with experience in word processing, research, working with publications, library work, filing or general clerical experience are needed. An interest in the environment and conservation would be helpful.

For further information, contact Donna Neal at 886-0142.

WNED/Channel 17 is conducting a pledge drive from Feb. 25 to March 23. Volunteers take pledges by phone from viewers who wish

to support public television. The phone bank is in the television studio at the broadcasting facility in downtown Buffalo and volunteers see a live television production. Tours of the television and radio facilities are offered during each shift.

Individuals, as well as groups (civic organizations, church clubs, support groups), are encouraged to volunteer. Groups will be recognized on air.

Volunteers for evenings must be 18 years old and, for weekend days, 16 years old. Youth groups are encouraged to volunteer for morning and afternoon shifts on weekends. Adult supervision is required for such groups.

Help is needed from 6:30 to 11:30 p.m. weekdays. On week-

ends, there are morning, afternoon and evening shifts. Call Donna Heyden at 845-7000.

The **Erie County Home**, 11580 Walden Ave., Alden, has a large and active volunteer force, but needs help in its Karte Shoppe and Rainbow Boutique. Volunteers must be able to work at least one day a month — between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Also, several departments need office and secretarial help. Tasks include typing, program lay-out, copying and collating. Days and times are flexible. No experience is needed; training is provided.

For information, call Lauren Kennuth, director of volunteer services, at 937-5640.

VOLUNTEERS

By PAULA VOELL

Junior Achievement of Western New York needs volunteer classroom consultants. Its in-school programs are designed to provide economic education to students from kindergarten through 12th grade. A business background is not necessary, just a desire to share personal work experiences with students for one hour a week.

Orientation and step-by-step lesson plans are provided. Call Junior Achievement at 853-1381 for further information.

The **CARE Connection** (Community Action for the Rural Elderly) is a volunteer organization that serves the elderly and their caregivers in the Towns of Boston, Brant, Eden, Evans, Colden, Col-

lins, Concord, Holland, North Collins and Sardinia. Volunteer positions are available in the telephone information and referral office. Those who enjoy working with people, have good communication skills and would like to learn computer operations are particularly needed. Training will be provided.

Interested candidates may apply by calling Dorothy Beaman, Cornell Cooperative Extension, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 652-1170.

Rivendell Recreation Center, 12469 Warner Hill Road, South Wales, runs horseback riding programs to help mentally, emotionally and physically challenged chil-

dren and adults.

Volunteers 14 and older are needed to lead the horses, to work with riders and to care for the horses. Others are needed to help with fund raising activities and public relations efforts. Training will be held April 8. Call 457-3020 for information.

Great Lakes United, which is in Cassety Hall, Buffalo State College, needs volunteers on Tuesday and Wednesday to work with the staff to rearrange its offices, files and supplies. The work may involve climbing stairs and carrying boxes. Hours are between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Call Donna Neal at 886-0142.