



## Corporate Personhood

*"Corporations do everything people do except breathe, die and go to jail for dumping 1.3 million pounds of PCBs in the Hudson River." - Colbert Report, The Word, 9/15/2009*

### Pentel & Wallace Seeks To End Corporate Personhood

Because of head notes written by a court clerk of the Supreme Court in 1886 on the court case *Santa Clara County vs. Southern Pacific Railroad*, we have been told that we need to accept the decision that corporations are people.

As we embark on removing big money or central money from politics, one of the barriers that has to be removed immediately is the idea that a corporation is a person. The Pentel/Wallace campaign views the corporation as subordinate to the common people and our governance. The interference of corporations, be it Xcel Energy, Flint Hills Energy, Monsanto, 3M, Wells Fargo Bank, cannot be allowed.

A corporation can live indefinitely. They can also exist in several locations at once. A person cannot do this. A corporation can spend a pittance of their wealth to influence and manipulate the culture and our government to its own design. Meanwhile, a person, the average citizen, cannot compete; their voices are not being heard because they do not have the financial capital to counter this power construct.

For example, Xcel Energy easily spends \$700,000-\$2,000,000 lobbying each year in Minnesota, and commands 30-50 registered lobbyists to orbit and infuse themselves into our government. This is done to guarantee policies are established and propaganda perpetuated in order to ensure we remain dependent on their coal and nuclear products and services (with few other fuels in the mix). This occurs even though *We, the People* would prefer local, efficient, and renewable energy sources.

Corporate Personhood has allowed the insidious tentacles of power to embed themselves within our legal and political systems for the last 100+ years. From this powerful position they have manipulated the methods for which we measure our society's overall health, and they have been able to externalize crucial cost measurements from the proverbial bottom line: mountaintop removal, compounded infinite nuclear waste, the black hole of sprawl, flight of capital economic planning, poisons that lead to cancer of our family members, extinction of our natural creatures, the sick inhuman practices and waste from concentrated factory farms, the dead zone in the gulf of Mexico, as well as an infinite hosts of other ills occurring throughout the world.

By allowing these practices to continue, we have now put all genetic history at risk. The general public has been coerced into complacency through the massive machines of distraction (TV, movies, entertainment and *instant gratification* compulsive consumption) and disengagement brainwashing (*you can't make a difference, grow-up, be realistic, nothing will ever change, people have no power, that's just the way it has been and always will be*, and other messages). Many watch helplessly as the corporations run amuck and act inversely to common sense and the greater good. Proof in point—the current economic crisis and the downfall of big businesses within the insurance industry, the auto industry and the banking industry. All at a time when warrants, arrests and greater reprimands should be dispersed, instead, these corporations, and the people who hide behind them, are being, in essence, rewarded for their bad behavior by being given funds to rescue them from their own self-destructive consequences.

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Corporations, unlike people, do NOT have voting rights, and yet, through the misuse of power, profits and people, they still dominate the political and economic scene. The people who work for these corporations are either unaware, in denial about the ramifications of the actions of the corporations for which they work or, fully aware. They have learned to rationalize the corporations' actions (which is fundamentally bringing about the systematic destruction of the planet) and/or to invest in green washing, charitable giving, or funding non-profits to create the illusion that these actions and groups will lead us to the solutions in proportion we need.

Here is an illustration of the perverse double standard we face: if an individual human being were to walk into an auditorium and kill ten people with a shot gun, that person would be given the death sentence in Texas or imprisoned for life in Minnesota. But, if a company like 3M, Dow, Dupont, or Xcel Energy were to contaminate a whole region, our homes, poison the Mississippi River, and cause immune deficiencies or cancer and death for our family members, all while using risk assessment as a cover as they have done for decades, the system seemly honors and rewards corporations with such things as tax cuts, increased public funding, guaranteed monopolies and liberal policies. Even if any of the many possible applicable laws were actually enforced, they would be sporadic and minimal in their implementation. The corporation at best might receive a nominal fine, pocket change in regards to their bottom line—pennies on the dollar in regards to their ridiculous profit margin—then they continue business as usual. No additional measures would be pursued to limit their influence or change their inappropriate behavior such as enforcement on existing law, policy amendments or legal adjustments. This is highly dysfunctional and reveals that people have been conditioned to have low expectations and to accept mediocre to horrific standards for business practices. Pentel & Wallace with its higher level expectations and return on investment (ROI) standards would seek to have these corporations dissolved and the CEO, as well as the board of directors, imprisoned as appropriate in relation to their crimes. When did people decide immediate gratification was worth destroying the planet? At what point did the masses concede the world and their lives to big business? How long do we acquiesce to the denial, deception and diversion? Time is of the essence, when do we meet the challenge as protectors of our planet, home, fellow creatures, family, and self? When? It is time for the citizens within the State of Minnesota to take the lead. This starts with ending corporate *personhood*. To change this we simply need to add a word to the 14th amendment of the US Constitution that reads, "All 'human' persons born or naturalized in the United States..." By adding *human* before *person* there can no longer be a misinterpretation on *what person* is and what a corporation is NOT.

**For example, if corporations were not "persons" then they:**

- would not be allowed to lobby or use a proxy to do so ( i.e. The Chamber of Commerce; the Business Partnership).
- would not be allowed to influence their employees to support or bundle money for parties and candidates.
- would not be allowed to run political ads.
- would not be allowed to control our public airwaves in general.

**Sources:**

- A) *The Program on Corporations, Law and Democracy*, <http://www.poclad.org/> POCLAD, P. O. Box 246, S. Yarmouth MA 02664-0246 phone (508) 398-1145, fax (508) 398-1552
- B) *Reclaim Democracy*, 222 South Black Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715, 406-582-1224, <http://reclaimdemocracy.org/>
- C) <http://www.movetoamend.org/>
- D) <http://www.commondreams.org/views03/0101-07.htm>
- E) <http://www.thomhartmann.com/2001/12/31/to-restore-democracy-first-abolish-corporate-personhood/>

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## Money in Politics

### **Pentel & Wallace Mandate Ending Big Money in Minnesota Politics**

Even though there are many good candidates and elected representatives, the amount of money that influences our government continues to make a mockery of the idea of representative democracy.

Dan Weeks from ACR (Americans for Campaign Reform) 2009:

First, when someone is deciding whether or not to run for office the first question they ask themselves is, *do I have enough money or can I raise enough money to run?* As a result, money becomes a barrier to entry into the political process. Second, 1/10th of 1% (0.1%) of the population provides 3/4 (75%) of the money that's used to fund political campaigns. That gives a very small and wealthy minority of the population a very large majority of the power in determining who runs, who wins, and how issues are addressed.

Overall, the tiny percentage of people who give are using the public commons (Earth, government, and airwaves) to enrich their private interests.

In 2004, per capita, Minnesota was the most lobbied state in the country. Over \$50 million dollars were spent lobbying policy makers and regulatory agencies. In 2005, \$55 million was spent. Lobbying by these special interest groups has taken over our government and has thus defined our culture. Their power of influence and numbers are so massive that the average citizen is no longer heard. In fact, the average citizen has become irrelevant in the political arena. As these special interests define policy because of their profit driven needs, they gradually dismember the earth. This dysfunctional pattern must cease. It can only end when the expectations of we the people are raised and we take a stand against continued toleration of this dysfunction.

Pertaining to the direction of reform in the financial industry at the end of 2009:

*"Whatever the intentions, this 'reform' would effectively legitimize the existence of a corporate state. This concentrated power would be neither socialism nor capitalism, but a grotesque hybrid that combines the worst qualities of both systems. Government and politics would become even more responsive to big money, but also able to tamper intimately with private enterprise, picking winners and losers based on political loyalties, not on performance. Capitalism with its inherent tendency toward monopoly would have the means to monopolize democracy."* - William Grieder: 3/23/09, *Common Dreams News*.

Presently, corporations are setting policies and agendas at the State, Federal, and now Global level through the World Trade Organization. To name just a few offenders: Cargill, Goldman Sachs, 3M, Wells Fargo, Xcel Energy, and Exxon/Mobil. These corporations and their front groups (The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and MN Business Partnership Inc.) have staff who go into work every day to dominate our government as they reinforce and promote the growth economy model while they centralize control over markets and increase profits. And whatever the rationalization for allowing this behavior is, Ken Pentel for Governor and its supporters are going to have to become mentally and physically strong and as determined, if not more so, to achieve our mandates.

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As long as a small percentage of individuals hell bent on financial gain at all costs are allowed to maintain externalities like not paying financially for the consequences of their pollution, the ramifications of extinctions, infusion of cancer into our society, and other critical issues not included in the proverbial bottom line, they will have an advantage over the average citizen. Citizens, the everyday people, are in turn left damaged and demoralized. People who understand and want to deal with these issues are not willing to kill habitats to extinction or leave massive toxins for the next generation. They are people who desire to do the right thing yet have no power to implement the right actions. Why should the masses set on moral fair play continually lose, and, in essence, concede the planet, fellow creatures, and the future of their children, because they don't have the financial wherewithal to challenge this insane mechanism? **No More!**

The Pentel/Wallace campaign will attempt to return the power to the people and implement the transformations needed to make it a more just, honest, and ecologically sound government and financial construct.

The time wasted by the dominant political parties and candidates raising funds is needed now for solving the most pressing problems that humans have ever had to face. We need people who are thoughtful and have the interest of the ecology and the common people at heart. We cannot afford to have decisions or implementation of policy set by a handful of rich individuals or misguided people in corporations whose only goal is to control markets and enhance their profit margin.

Our society has been driven and conditioned into complacency. The mass majority is aware that this has been going on for decades but we have been so ingrained with low expectations for ourselves and more specifically our politicians and government that we allow this to continue. This does us all an injustice, making us weaker, and leading us ALL to a lower and lower quality of living.

There are many ways to remedy this. Time is of the essence. We must act now.

#### **Sources:**

-*The Center for Public Integrity*, 910 17th Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006 USA, (202) 466-1300, <http://www.publicintegrity.org/> (Follow their programs called *Lobby Watch* and track Minnesota.)

-*Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board*, 190 Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155, Hours: 7:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday, except for state holidays, 651-296-5148 or 800-657-3889, <http://www.cfboard.state.mn.us/> <> (Follow: *Lobbyist Principal Expenditures-By Expenditure Amount*)

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## Establishing a Minnesota Currency

*“The privilege of creating and issuing money is not only the supreme prerogative of government, but it is the government’s greatest creative opportunity. By the adoption of these principles, the long-felt want for a uniform medium will be satisfied. The taxpayers will be saved immense sums of interest. The financing of all public enterprises, and the conduct of the Treasury will become matters of practical administration. Money will cease to be master and become the servant of humanity.” – Abraham Lincoln, Senate Doc. 23, 76th Congress, 1st Session*

Pentel/Wallace for Governor seeks to establish the Minnesota Currency as one tool in the toolbox toward building the ecological economy. This will allow us to take greater control over the currency of Minnesota, and start to reel in ecological overshoot by not being forced to grow and chase the interest on the debt.

### **Here is a further explanation by monetary specialist Rich Kotlarz:**

*“At this time the Federal Reserve (the Fed) creates the monetary credits that are then effectively ‘borrowed at interest’ by the Federal Government from the Fed through the sale of ‘interest-bearing’ bonds to the Fed in exchange for the monetary credits so created.”*

So, we bond for money through private banks with the shackles of interest on the debt, and the public government, once again, is beholden to private interests. Or, to simplify, we are dependent on a privately controlled, debt-based, money system.

### **One of the most clear and concise statements comes from Wright Patman (1893-1976), Congressman from Texas and former chairman of the House Money and Banking Committee:**

*“The dollar represents a one dollar debt to the Federal Reserve System. The Federal Reserve Banks create money out of thin air to buy Government Bonds from the U.S. Treasury . . . and has created out of nothing a . . . debt which the American People are obliged to pay with interest. In many years of questioning high experts on the matter, I have yet to hear even one plausible answer to the question [of] why the Government should extend money-creating powers to the private commercial banks to be used, without cost, to create money which is lent to the Government at interest.”*

Here are historical examples of similar efforts:

- In 1690, the Massachusetts Bay Colony inaugurated the issuance of public (“interest-free”) money.
  - The colonists printed their own money (Continental Currency), which brought the wrath of the British Crown. The Continental Currency helped fund the American Revolutionary War.
  - To fund the civil war President Lincoln and Congress printed non-interest bearing Treasury notes (i.e., the Greenbacks).
  - Currently there are groups in local communities that print local currency (i.e., Madison and Ithaca “Hours”).
- The particular Minnesota Currency and its application, which we are proposing, would be unique to the country. It would be a “supplement” to Federal currency that stays within the boundaries of Minnesota. The simple explanation of how it initially might work is:
- We could start by treating the state currency initiative as a monetary proposal that would close the gap in the state budget.
  - Minnesota Department of Revenue would print the currency or voucher.
  - The currency would cycle inside the borders of Minnesota avoiding the interstate commerce laws.
  - This currency would be redeemable in state taxes.

For example:-We could supplement the cuts in jobs and/or pay scale for state employees using Minnesota Currency.

Once this currency is in circulation it will have a dollar-for-dollar value in payment of Minnesota state taxes.

-Contractors, installers, home owners, farmers, and those that do eco-friendly construction

could agree to take a substantial amount of payment in Minnesota Currency.

-We could make no-interest loans in Minnesota Currency available to low income and remote locations in Minnesota

These are just a few possibilities on of how we could get Minnesota Currency into circulation.

**For some guidance and /or a primer for money in our time, look at the following:**

[concordresolution.org](http://concordresolution.org) (go to: “context” tab in a link titled “New View On Money”)

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## Proportional Representation

**Pentel/Wallace for Governor and Lt. Governor mandates Proportional Representation for the Minnesota State House of Representatives to ensure fair and equitable representation of the electorate.**

### What is a Proportional Representation Voting System?

Proportional representation (PR) is a democracy based voting system that ensures the right of fair and equitable representation of voters in proportion to the percentage of votes received. So, if the Minnesota House of Representatives were a 150 member body with 10 seats assigned to one of 15 voting regions and your political party received 10% of the vote in your voting region your party would win 1 seat in the House. In essence, PR assures that political parties or candidates will have the percent of legislative seats that reflects their public support through a fair and equitable voice of the electorate. A party or candidate need not come in first to win seats as in a "Winner-Takes-All" voting system, which only allows for 1 seat per district. In a Proportional Representation voting system, a voter selects a candidate to represent them without fear of "wasting" a vote regardless of whether or not their candidate comes in first. Their electoral voice is fairly and equitably represented in the legislature by a representative number of seats in proportion to the votes received (PR Voting systems are discussed in more detail as found below). This democracy based electoral system is successfully implemented by a majority of the world's successful democracies (i.e. Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Australia, Germany, Sweden, Spain and Austria.). And in proportional representative systems there is generally a 75-95% voter turn-out.

### What is a "Winner-Takes- All" voting system?

We currently vote in a "winner-takes-all" voting system where the candidate that receives a majority of the vote "wins" and those in the minority lose. For example, if the electorate votes 49.999% for candidate A and 50.001% for candidate B in a given district, candidate B wins. In other words, the voters representing 49.999% of the electorate receive no representation in the legislature as the representative acquiring 50.001% becomes your elected "voice" of majority. Because of this engineered voting system phenomenon, we are often forced to vote for the "best of the worse" (we vote for a candidate that we do not fully support) in fear that our vote may be "wasted" or, worse yet, we refuse to vote as we do not feel represented by the candidates. As a result, of all the world's democracies, the United States has one of the lowest percentages of voters participating in elections and we do not have fair and equitable representation of the people in our legislature. The existing system of "winner-takes-all" is obsolete. Proportional Representation resolves this by ensuring fair and equitable representation of the electorate.

I know Proportional Representation ensures fair and equitable representation of the electorate, but how does it work?

Of the many PR voting systems, the following briefly discusses the most common and how they work:

**List System** - The most widely used form of PR, a voter selects one party and its slate of candidates to represent them. Party slates can be either "closed" or "open," allowing voters to indicate a preference for individual candidates. If a party receives 25% of the vote, they receive 25% of the seats in the legislature, 9% of the vote receives 9% of the seats, and so on. A minimum share of the votes may be required to earn representation; typically a 5% threshold is used. This type of PR is ideal for large legislatures on state and national levels.

**Mixed Member System (MM)** - This PR hybrid elects half the legislature from single-seat, "winner-take-all" districts and the other half by the List System.

**Preference Voting (PV)** is also known as **Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)**. A voter simply ranks candidates in an order of preference (1,2,3,4, etc...). Once a voter's first choice is elected or eliminated, excess votes are "transferred" to subsequent preferences until all positions are filled. Voters can vote for their favorite candidate(s), knowing that if that candidate doesn't receive enough votes their vote will "transfer" to their next preference. Preference voting is ideal for non-partisan elections (i.e. city councils.).

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## **How might PR be of use to us?**

PR is proven to assist in the breaking of political impasse on important yet difficult issues (i.e. Environmental health, health care, and social security.) through the inclusion of full electorate representation (small party representation) which allows new ideas and views to be heard. In essence, PR does not allow for ideological bias as small parties are allowed to be represented and, as a result, are capable of facilitating a greater and more informed discussion on policy issues and options thereby enhancing the ability to reach sound, equitable consensus; your electoral voice is heard and decisions are made “all for one and one for all”. For example, Germany’s PR voting system resulted in representation from the “German Greens”. The German Greens, never winning a single district election and receiving less than 10% of the electoral vote, raised numerous perspectives and positions that, initially in the minority, received national consensus.

## **So How Do We Change From “Winner-Take-All” to PR, fulfilling a democratic promise of “one person, one vote”?**

PR is implemented through a simple vote of the legislature and/or through voter initiative in Charter or Home Rule Cities. For example, Minneapolis, which is now electing local officials using Ranked Choice Voting, and St. Paul, where the voters have approved the use of Ranked Choice Voting for future municipal elections. By building, supporting, and voting for Ecology Democracy Party representatives, such as Ken Pentel and Erin Wallace, political will is immediately mobilized to elect the Minnesota House of Representatives through a voting system of proportional representation ensuring democracy through fair and equitable representation.

## **Where Can I Learn More About Proportional Representation?**

*Real Choices, New Voices.* Douglas Amy; Columbia University Press, 1993.

*Tyranny of the Majority.* Lani Guinier, 1994.

*Electoral Systems and Party Systems* Professor Arend Lijphart; Oxford University Press, 1994.

*United States Electoral Systems: Their Impact on Women and Minorities.* editors Dr.

*Wilma Rule and Dr. Joseph Zimmerman;* Praeger Publishers, 1992.

*Voting and Democracy Report,* 1995. CVD’s survey of electoral reforms.

*Dubious Democracy: 1994 U.S. House Elections.* CVD’s ground-breaking statistical analysis showing reasons for low voter turnout

*A Radical Plan to Change American Politics* by Michael Lind, Atlantic Monthly, August 1992.

*Choosing an Electoral System,* edited by Arend Lijphart and Bernard Grofman, Praeger Press, 1984.

*The Power to Elect,* Enid Lakeman, Heinemann Press, 1982.

*Seats and Votes,* Rein Taagepera and Matthew Shugart; Yale Univ Press, 1989.

*PR: The Key to Democracy,* George Hallett; National Municipal League, 1940.

*Considerations on Representative Government,* John Stuart Mill; Park, Son and Bourn, 1861.

*Women, Elections and Representation,* by Robert Darcy, Susan Welch and Janet Clark; Longman Press, 1987.

Fair Vote Minnesota, <http://www.fairvotemn.org/> , PO Box 19440 Minneapolis,

MN 55419- 0440 [info@FairVoteMN.org](mailto:info@FairVoteMN.org) (763) 807-2550

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## **Ecology-Based Economy**

In an ecology-based economy we would measure the health of the economy based upon the health of the natural resources. For example, when our water and soil become healthier then the economy would be healthier. This is the position of strength on Earth and can literally leave a better world for the next generation." - Ken Pentel

### **What is an Ecological Economy?**

The main focus is ecology. We must move from a human centered to ecological centered view. We are healthier when the whole Earth is healthier. The health of human beings cannot be separated from the health of our natural resource base. An ecological economy is an acknowledgment that we cannot continue a growth economic model on a finite resource base. Consciously continuing down this path leads to traumatic collapse among humans and mass genocide for the indigenous animals and species of the planet who have no say in how humans mismanage the planet. Counter to the current economic model in which we were born, the ecological economy recognizes humans are stronger when our fellow creatures are stronger. Gross Domestic or National Product (GNP) is obsolete as an indicator of economic health.

### **Robert Kennedy, speaking in 1968 at Kansas University, states following comments on what the GNP really measures:**

*"For too long we seem to have surrendered personal excellence and community value for the mere accumulation of material things. Our gross national product now is over 800 billion dollars a year, but that gross national product, if we judge the United States of America by that, that gross national product counts air pollution, and cigarette advertising, and ambulances to clear our highways of carnage. It counts special locks for our doors and the jails for people who break them. It counts the destruction of the redwoods and the loss of our natural wonder in chaotic squall. It counts Napalm, and it counts nuclear warheads, and armored cars for the police to fight the riots in our city. It counts Whitman's rifles and Speck's Knives and the television programs which glorify violence in order to sell toys to our children. Yet, the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play; it does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage neither our wisdom nor our learning, neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country, it measures everything in short except that which makes life worth while. And it can tell us everything about America except why we are proud that we are Americans."*

An ecology-based economy internalizes costs not in the bottom line by using measurements such as whole-cost, full-cost, or life-cycle cost. If we were to add up the whole cost or life-cycle cost of the Prairie Island and Monticello Nuclear electric power facilities, we could not because the number is infinite, the by-products are toxic for 10,000 to 100,000 years. The inane profit driven obsession that rigged our government and economy allowing this to happen has put the upper Mississippi River Basin in danger. It has also imposed the burden on future generations who will now have to work millions of hours to pay off the infinite costs during our short time on earth. These costs include impacts from mining and the tailing waste, CO2 releases turning uranium into pellets, routine releases of iodine 131, strontium 90 and tritium, the decommissioning of the facilities and the waste, as well as, increased risks of a terrorist attack, natural disaster or human error that could lead to the Upper Mississippi River being contaminated indefinitely by way of a meltdown. Each economic exchange would inherently restore air, water, and soil to health and sustainability. When persistent poisons are dumped, topsoil is eroded, nuclear reactors keep running, coal keeps burning, driving miles increase, extinction of species grows, the Minnesota economy will be failing. A successful, natural outcome of an ecological economy for Minnesota will restore our state's habitats leading to investments that enable saved over wasted energy, healing farming practices, durable over disposable products, and walkable, bike, train, and bus friendly cities.

## **Ecology Based Economy**

An ecology-based economy offers a commensurate response proportional to the problems. In the face of many ecological problems the last 50 years we have been guided to solutions such as picking up litter, recycling, using compact florescent light bulbs, putting in a low-flow shower head, walking to work, buying reusable bags for grocery shopping, and growing our own food. All of these in isolation have their merits but, as a whole, keep the consumer thinking we are solving the ecological crisis proportionate to the problem. Once dysfunctional design, engineering and manufacturing is unleashed (and the proverbial genie is out of the bottle) we can no longer be guided to incremental changes in the face of exponential problems. As we use whole-cost accounting energy, the way we grow food, and transportation we will inherently remedy the over-consumption of limited resources and begin the needed repair.

## **What would a Pentel & Wallace ecological economy mean for Minnesota?**

In addition to using new measurements such as whole-cost accounting one of the tools as Governor, Ken Pentel will use to achieve an ecological economy will be to enforce the Precautionary Principle (Do No Harm) as embodied in the Purpose of the Minnesota Environmental Act of 1973: (a) to declare a state policy that will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between human beings and their environment; (b) to promote efforts that will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of human beings; and (c) to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the state and to the nation. HIST: 1973 c 412 s 1; 1986 c 444

As an example to calculate impacts on human health, we can look to the 2002 Report by the Minnesota Project: Public Health Benefits Of Converting the Riverside Coal Plant To Natural Gas. In this report, there are human health costs that are not in the bottom line of coal electric power plants such as: bronchitis, asthma, mortality, and a host of many other predetermined illnesses. At the time of the report, if we were to add up these costs from eight coal power facilities just within Minnesota, approximately \$185 million each year would be added to the bottom line of the electric bills for Minnesotans.

Through implementation of the ecological economy, whole-cost accounting, the precautionary principle, enforcement of existing law, passing new laws, and court challenges, the natural outcome will be far more efficient energy use, because we will no longer lose so much energy in long distant transport as energy production moves closer to energy use. There will be stringent efficiency standards in housing and building codes, house-to-house small-scale renewable energy production will lead to savings in billions of dollars not spent on wasted energy, dollars will stay in communities for retraining and retooling creating 2-10 times more jobs locally for a healing energy future. Most important, we start to eliminate the massive risk to our habitats and human health.

An additional benefit in an ecology-based economy can be seen by eliminating redundancies and waste in production in general, leading to more human-scale economies which would inherently enable minimum-impact and minimum-risk outcomes, such as subsistence, barter, communal, cooperative and co-housing economies. Now we start to see the steady state economy emerging and the cost of living will go down and quality of life indicators will rise. All living things will enjoy a cleaner, healthier environment. People will have increased free time available to become more whole and healthy individuals rather than being just producer-consumers and working for waste that is leading to the rapid deterioration of all key life support systems on earth. We will have more time for families, friends, and more social, civic, contemplative and creative time.

Our struggle to phase out of the existing economic dysfunction leading to a healing economy will continue to be met with a variety of proven deceptive messages and harsh practices by those who are emboldened by the unsustainable growth/GDP economic model. They will maintain monopoly control over our vital dependencies in areas like water, food, energy, and transportation as well as our government, finance and information flow. These people and their surrogates will attempt to divert us away from the need for greater respect, balance, and a healing relationship with our home.

**Ken Pentel and Erin Wallace are asking:** How much more ecological collapse do we allow before we find the collective courage to change? When do our expectations meet the necessary actions? Now is our time. Join in the effort and let's transform the political and economic culture of Minnesota to be "of, by and for the Earth and the people of Earth."

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## **Public Funding**

**Pentel & Wallace mandates that candidates seeking public office and elected public official are publicly funded**

The time that is wasted raising money is needed for solving the most pressing problems that humans have ever had to face. We need people who are thoughtful and have the interest of the common people at heart rather than the interests of a tiny clique of rich people who generally make their money off extinction of species as well as stealing from and dumping on future generations. If you get enough signatures and/or votes then you will receive a certain amount of money to fully fund your campaign.

The MN Public Finance System—As of 2006 98% of the candidates running for state office use the MN public finance system<sup>1</sup>, and almost 100% of those elected used it. We could then just expand the existing system to 100% of public financing. So, if you get enough signatures or votes you get on the ballot. This would include an increase of money to parties as well—implementation would take 2 years.



**Ken Pentel**  
WITH THE ECOLOGY DEMOCRACY PARTY  
FOR **GOVERNOR**  
& ERIN WALLACE FOR **LT GOVERNOR**

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**Publicly Available Campaign Airtime**

**Pentel & Wallace Mandates Free Airtime for Parties and Candidates**

The public airwaves have been commercialized. Those with the most money can get access to the television and radio. Free speech is turned into paid speech. 'We the people' then end up with information byway of the common airwaves leading us to a rapid ecological decline. This level of low expectation must end. Pentel & Wallace will mandate all political parties and candidates who get enough signatures and votes will receive an evenly shared amount of publicly financed airtime.



## **Philosophy: Holism**

Ken Pentel For Governor and Erin Wallace for Lt. Governor Philosophy will focus on the Macro, big picture, or systemic change. If we can enable the whole economy to be focused on healing then we will inherently strengthen the Micro, small, beautiful examples of how people can achieve balance with the planet. We embrace holism.

### **Definition of Holism:**

- The view that an organic or integrated whole has an independent reality which cannot be understood simply through an understanding of its parts
- Relating to, or concerned with, wholes or with complete systems rather than with the analysis, treatment, or dissection of parts (e.g., holistic medicine attempts to treat both the mind and the holistic ecology views humans and the environment as a single system).
- Holistic or “wholistic” healing approaches all parts, mental and physical, of the individual, not just the symptoms of a person.

Pentel & Wallace will focus on structural change, and if people ask us about how we plan to approach social policy it will be part of a holistic approach. We strive to restore the habitat that humans are dependent upon, so all living communities are restored and allowed to live in balance with other living systems. First we invest in those that are hurting the most, then the whole condition becomes healthier. We apply this philosophy and practices as the pathway to strength, health, and sustainability.