KCC Helps Organize Harker Press Conference

Obviously thinking the environmental community would be busy planning turkey dinners, Secretary Carl Bradley chose a slow post-Thanksgiving work day to order Don Harker to clean out his office on Wednesday, November 22, 1989. But by 4:15 p.m. that same day, Kentuckians For The Commonweal (KFTC), KCC and Kentucky Resources Council were already planning our response to this outrage.

On Monday, November 27, 1989, KFTC's Vice Chair Jean True convened the conference, introducing KCC President Rosanne Kruzich, to lead off. Representatives from Kentucky Resources Council, Sierra Club, Community Farm Alliance, Kentuckians For Health Concern also made statements. The following comments are excerpts from President Kruzich's remarks:

We are here today to express our disappointment with the failures of this administration in protecting Kentucky's public health and environment. The administration's firing of Don Harker, Director of the Division of Waste Management, underscores the message that Kentucky's environment, and the public health of our citizens, can be trashed and gambled away. This sad, disappointing message is underscored more and more frequently in the environmental decisions emanating from the Natural Resources Cabinet.

What KCC and others have learned through the years, is that in order to devise appropriate solutions to our environmental problems, everyone needs to participate in the policy-making discussion. KCC is committed to the democratic process that values every voice—whether it be from an industrial executive, a government official or a private citizen. With the firing of Don Harker, with the delays in solid waste regulations, and fast-tracked permit decisions, KCC, and the citizens of this commonwealth, are hearing a message that reasonable concern about environmental policy has no place in the decision-making process.

We urge all citizens to express their concerns about our environment and the actions we can all take to make the Governor keep his promise—to eliminate politics from environmental regulations.

KFTC's Patty Wallace's call to bring Bradley and Governor Wilkinson the "grinches" who stole Christmas gifts to remaining Division of Waste Management staff, to help them cope with Wilkinson's administration. These included a "barf bag," rose-colored glasses, ear plugs and a magnifying glass to help look for the long awaited waste regulations. Sierra Club's Hank Grady called Harker a person that citizens could talk to, someone who recognized the state had environmental problems and was trying to address those problems.

KCC's press conference video tape can be obtained by writing KCC, PO Box 1152, Frankfort, KY 40602, or call (502)227-9555. Frankfort's local cable channel aired the tape during early December.

Calendar of Events

During the 1990 legislative session, Saturday morning strategy meetings for KCC and other friends of the environment will be held at the PlanGraphics office (202 West Main St.) in Frankfort, 9:00 to 12:00. All KCC members are welcome to attend these meetings. Dates are: January 20, February 3 and 17, and March 3, 13, and 31. For more information contact Mary Mayhew at 406/231-7778 or Karen Armstrong-Cummings at 502/227-9555.

Environmental Networking

The forces of different environmental organizations are coming together to form a network that will help coordinate their efforts. The goal is to increase the impact of these organizations by working together on common issues.

KCC 1990 Legislative Priorities

1. Kennedy's Habitats
   - Encourage legislation to protect endangered species and habitats.

2. Water Quality
   - Support legislation to improve water quality in the state.

3. Land Conservation
   - Advocate for legislation to protect land important to the environment.

4. Air Quality
   - Push for legislation to reduce air pollution.

1990 Legislative Calendar

- January 15: Session Opens
- February 15:马丁·路德·金纪念日
- March 20: Last Day for New House Bills
- April 10: Last Day for New Senate Bills
- April 20: Last Day for New vetoed Bills
- May 5: End of the Regular Session

KCC Guardian

January 15, 1990

KCC 1990 Legislative Priorities

- Habitat Protection
- Water Quality
- Land Conservation
- Air Quality

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The legislative committee schedule is as follows:

- [Details of the schedule are not readable due to the image quality.]

KCC Support for Heritage Land Conservation

KCC Legislative Lobbying Workshop

February 15, 1999

Stay in touch with Your Legislative Contact.