



Honor the Earth

Ms. Dawn Mikkelson &
Mr. James M. Fortier
Aquaries Media
136 E. 10th St.
St. Paul, MN 55101

April 18, 2005

Dear Ms. Mikkelson & Mr. Fortier,

I am writing in support of the documentary film Green Green Water.

Honor the Earth is a national Native American organization working on environmental and energy justice and Indigenous lifeways preservation. Our work is founded on the premise that the key resources lacking in the Native environmental movement are money and political allies. We support front line struggles in Native America to preserve our lifeways, our environment, promote alternative energy, and to restore buffalo herds to Native lands. We undertake grassroots organizing with Native and non-Native peoples, build coalitions, provide financial and technical support to grassroots Native organizations, raise public awareness of the Native perspective and struggles, and leverage philanthropic support for Native issues.

Since 1993, Honor the Earth has had the privilege of working in partnership with and awarding grants to over 100 grassroots Native organizations. From sacred sites protection and energy justice initiatives to language and lifeways restoration, these groups work diligently to protect their land, their lives, their culture and traditions against great odds. Politically and geographically isolated, Native communities all too often operate with insufficient funding, little infrastructure or training, and lack basic resources. In one decade, we gave away over \$800,000 to over 100 grassroots Native environmental groups in North America. Despite our success, there is a dire need to continue the expansion of education and financial support in Indian country.

Green Green Water is a much needed film as it gives voice to those who too often remain invisible as powerful companies like Manitoba Hydro come into small communities with proposals for environmentally devastating projects. Over the years, we have supported Northern communities and grassroots organizers such as Pimicikamak Cree Nation and Justice Seekers (Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation) in their struggles against mega-dams. As a way to build a bridge between energy consumers and communities impacted by the energy generation, Honor the Earth has focused specifically on Manitoba Hydro, of which the U.S. is a primary importer (through Minnesota-based Xcel Energy) of the electricity produced and exported from Canada. *Green Green Water* is necessary for continuation of this work and will significantly impact audiences while inspiring conversations about the survival of sustainable Indigenous communities. *Green Green Water* is an essential part of the dialogue about a just energy future.

I am proud to be an advisor on this project and look forward to its completion. Together we can make change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Winona LaDuke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Winona LaDuke
Executive Director

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