

Clean Wisconsin

(Founded as Wisconsin's Environmental Decade)

Your environmental voice since 1970.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State of the State: Clean Wisconsin's top issues among Governor's priorities *Organization working on solutions to meet goal of energy independence and protect Great Lakes*

Applauding Governor Doyle's State of the State address, Clean Wisconsin Executive Director, Mark Redsten, today noted that "We are pleased that two of Clean Wisconsin's top issues are among the Governor's priorities. Both issues – addressing global warming emissions as well as getting the Great Lakes Compact ratified - are extremely high priorities to our organization and our 10,000 members."

Redsten agreed with the Governor that the scope and consequences of global warming are massive and demand immediate action. "Clearly we think that investment in clean energy technology is good for the economy as well as the environment," said Redsten. "Through the Governor's foresight, Wisconsin can become a national leader in energy independence by developing clean energy technologies that combat global warming, build Wisconsin's economy, and staunch the flow of billions of dollars out of the state to import fossil fuels."

One of the first steps to energy independence is taking a hard look at how much energy is being generated – at great cost – then being wasted through inefficient use. Clean Wisconsin is currently working on three solutions to meeting the Governor's goal of energy independence:

- Generating minimum efficiency standards for appliances
- Reducing energy consumption at schools throughout Wisconsin through a major energy efficiency retrofit program
- Promoting electric rate incentives to reduce peak demands for electricity

Agreeing with the Governor that Wisconsin must live up to the responsibility of preserving Lake Michigan, Redsten noted that "ratifying a strong Great Lakes Compact will help avert large scale water diversions from the Great Lakes." The Great Lakes Compact is due to come before the legislature this spring.

"Environmental decisions our leaders make today will have a monumental and lasting impact on Wisconsin and our children's future. We hope that Wisconsin's legislature will follow Governor Doyle's lead on these important issues," concluded Redsten.

Clean Wisconsin, an environmental advocacy organization, protects Wisconsin's clean water and air and advocates for clean energy by being an effective voice in the state legislature and by holding elected officials and corporations accountable. Founded in 1970 as Wisconsin's Environmental Decade, Clean Wisconsin exposes corporate polluters, makes sure existing environmental laws are enforced, and educates citizens and businesses. On behalf of its 10,000 members and its coalition partners, Clean Wisconsin protects the special places that make Wisconsin such a wonderful place to live, work and play. Phone: 608-251-7020, Fax: 608-251-1655, Email: info@cleanwisconsin.org, Website: www.cleanwisconsin.org.

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