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PRESS RELEASE

"MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL" FORMED IN LANSING

SIX MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS HAVE FORMED A STATEWIDE COUNCIL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN MICHIGAN.

THE "MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL" IS AN ATTEMPT TO COORDINATE THE EFFORTS OF MICHIGAN'S MANY ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON COMMON ISSUES BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE AND STATE AGENCIES IN LANSING. THE SIX ORGANIZATIONS ARE THE DETROIT AUDUBON SOCIETY, EAST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL, FLINT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM, MICHIGAN AUDUBON SOCIETY, MACKINAC CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB, AND THE WEST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL.

KEN SIKKEMA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WEST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL AND ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE "MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL", SAID:

"THE FORMATION OF THE MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL IS A HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN MICHIGAN'S ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT. WHILE THIS STATE IS BLESSED WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF LOCAL AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, WHAT WE HAVE OFTEN LACKED IN THE PAST IS THE MECHANISM NEEDED TO COORDINATE OUR ACTIVITIES ON THOSE STATEWIDE ISSUES WHICH HAVE A HIGH PRIORITY FOR ALL OF US. WE HOPE THAT THE MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL WILL MAXIMIZE OUR EFFECTIVENESS AS A MOVEMENT AND AS INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS."

SIKKEMA ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT GRANT TRIGGER HAS BEEN HIRED TO DIRECT THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL IN LANSING. MR. TRIGGER HAS RESIGNED FROM HIS POSITION AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER WITH THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SEMCOG) TO TAKE THIS POSITION. MR. TRIGGER COMES TO THE COUNCIL WITH A GREAT DEAL OF EXPERIENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN MICHIGAN, HAVING WORKED FOR A



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PRIVATE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING FIRM, WITH THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SEMTA), AND HAVING RECENTLY COORDINATED SOLID WASTE PLANNING IN THE SEVEN COUNTY SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN AREA. MR. TRIGGER HAS A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, IS A FORMER BOARD MEMBER OF THE MACKINAC CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB, AND IS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ADVISORS OF THE EAST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL.

SIKKEMA NOTED THAT THE "MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL" WILL ACTIVELY SEEK THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE.