



Wisconsin Environmental Education Board

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December 15, 2008

Governor James Doyle
State Capitol, Room 115 East
Madison WI 53702

Re: *WEEB 2009-2011 Biennial Budget Request*

Dear Governor Doyle:

As Chairperson of the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB), I understand the severity of the State's current budget situation, yet recognize it is a particularly critical time to invest in environmental education with renewed and sustained efforts, in the following manner:

1. ***Return WEEB GPR grant funding to its original level of \$200,000 per year for general environmental education (Reinstated 20.285 (1) (ee) eliminated in 2001, within schedule 36.54(2) for environmental education grants)***
2. ***Increase WEEB administrative resources 10% (\$1500) over the original 1990 appropriation.***
3. ***Add 0.5 FTE to administer the forestry education/school forest grant programs taken on since 1990.***

WEEB grants have historically reached many of Wisconsin's counties, delivering the science-based environmental education needed to inform and inspire our citizenry. Particularly for general EE, restored permanent funding will allow us to reach thousands more citizens throughout the entire State, rather than turning away hundreds of worthwhile projects as we currently have to do. Additional information can be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/index.htm>.

Executive Committee

Okho Bohm Hagedorn
Energy Industry

Robin F. Harris
University System

Debra McRae
Nature Centers and Zoos

Gerry Mich
Forestry

WEEB will gladly discuss the importance of our request to ensure the needed resources for environmental education throughout Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Okho Bohm Hagedorn, WEEB Chairperson