



Recycle Ann Arbor • *a program of the Ecology Center*

2950 E. Ellsworth Road • Ann Arbor, MI 48108 • (313) 971-9676

February 21, 1990

To The Ecology Center Board of Directors-

Lately there has been a lot of commotion regarding our legal status with the EC: should we or should we not be a subsidiary responsible for our own financial matters? After much planning and discussion, including changes in structure approved in April 1989, EC staff and the Board agreed that we should seek subsidiary status without hesitation. However, as we can observe, our representatives to the EC have made a diligent effort to move this process forward but have encountered unexplained impediments that have been left unaddressed by either the Board or the EC.

It is time for us, the workers, to speak out on this matter.

Recycle Ann Arbor must be responsible for keeping its own books, managing its own accounts payable and receivable, and for educating the public at large about the need for, and nature of, the services we provide. To do this we must have the legal authority to manage our finances ourselves, or hire the appropriate services that accomodate our needs without the constraints of past practice or assumed obligations.

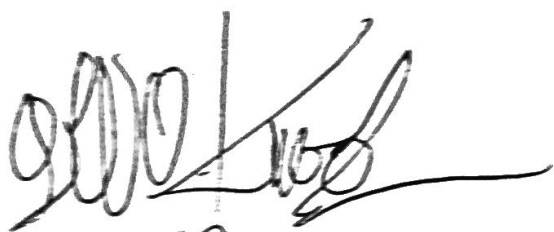
We believe in the EC and in its goals and pursuits, and we gladly underwrite a portion of its operating budget. However, as would any benefactor, we need to know how our money is being spent, and why. Any for-profit or not-for-profit organization should have the ability to track their receipts without insult or complaint. When our vendors tell us that we can no longer use charge accounts because the EC has failed to pay our bills with money **THAT WE HAVE EARNED**, it is an RAA worker who can no longer purchase tools or parts or services to keep our machines running and our trucks on the road. To be able to continue doing our job, we need to do it efficiently. It is not unthinkable that our operations would grind to a halt because of the current methods of money management; things **CANNOT** continue as they are. Our integrity as a service provider is being threatened. The status quo is obsolete.

At this time, RAA staff morale is very high and we find our tasks both challenging and rewarding. At the current rate of growth, we believe that the tonnages we are handling are just reason for increases in both salaries and benefits. The concurrent increase in revenues, however, seems to go to the EC and is never heard from again. Such inadequate bookkeeping and incomplete financial records prevents us from earning the wages and benefits that we so richly deserve.

It is our desire that the Board expedite the process of making RAA a subsidiary so we can set this time-consuming matter aside and get back to our primary function - recycling. It is in this manner that we feel we can best serve our community and environment while earning a decent wage for the physically demanding work that we perform.

Respectfully submitted-

The Ecology Center staff of
The Recycle Ann Arbor program



John Bingham

Brian C. Allinson

Paula

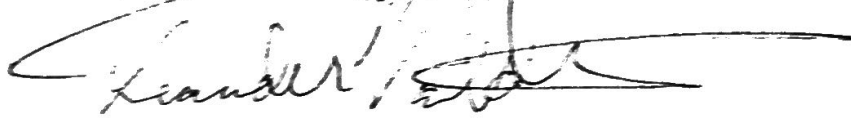
Gregory B. Vanden

Leonard Taylor

Dan Clark



K. Edward Barch



Linda

William H. Erskine

Samuel R. Pope

John W. Wessling

Raymond L. Havens

Chad Clark