

ICE is cool to global-warming theory

By Bob von Sternberg
Staff Writer

The message is blunt enough: "If the Earth is getting warmer, why is Minneapolis getting colder?"

Actually, temperature records show that Minneapolis has gotten warmer during the last two decades. But the idea that old operatives ICE don't buy it, ICE (the International Council on the Environment) is a contrarian group of electric utilities and coal companies — mostly from the Upper Midwest — that is trying to lobby the press out from under the widely accepted theory of global warming.

The reason is simple: Power plant emissions from burning coal are considered a major contributor to the warming of the planet. Countering those emissions costs a ton of money.

The quote about Minneapolis is from an earlier advertising campaign that ICE will launch this week, which has already been reported in the pages of the Star Tribune. The position of the federal government and most climate scientists is to even out step with the mainstream coal and utility industries, which have dropped much of their earlier opposition to attempts to curb global warming. Northern States Power Co., the region's biggest utility, has drifted away from the group's stance.

"We're hoping to provide at least another perspective from what you find to see in the media," said Gale Klaps, an ICE spokesman. "The preponderance of what you hear is that global warming is a hard reality. We want to see more balance."

ICE was unknown to the president of the Climate Institute, a group of climate scientists based in Washington, D.C. But its message was dismissed. "I think you have a handful of individuals on the fringe that are trying to discredit the problem and hope it's going away," said John Toppan.

By taking on global warming, companies called the greenhouse effect, ICE is dipping its way into the big, juicy worldwide environmental issue of the 1990s.

Carbon dioxide and other gases that trap heat (in effect, creating a planetary greenhouse) have been accumulating in the atmosphere, leading scientists to warn that catastrophic warming of the planet could occur within a century. The burning of fossil fuels that emit carbon dioxide get most of the blame.

Although the debate has been raging for years over the causes and consequences of global warming, arguments over whether it's actually occurring have been fiercer.

BREAST IMPLANTS

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the White House.

ICE, its spokesman said, has about two dozen member utilities and coal companies. The group is headquartered in Grand Forks, N.D., home of Minnesota Power Cooperative, a utility with 85,000 customers in Minnesota and North Dakota that's heavily reliant on its coal-burning power plants.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the White House.

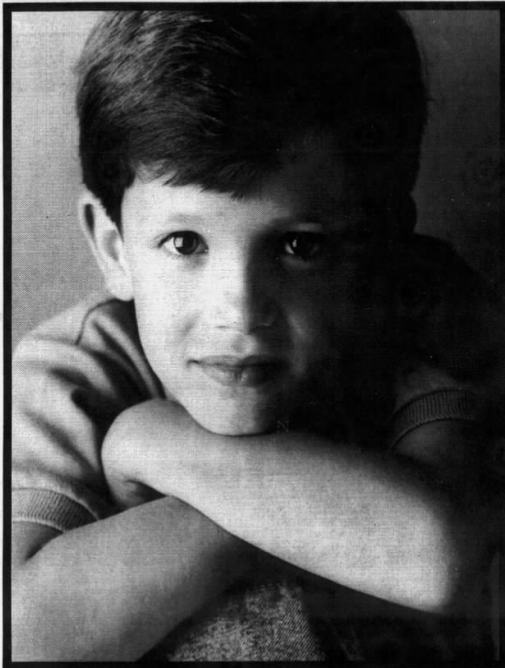
ICE, its spokesman said, has about two dozen member utilities and coal companies. The group is headquartered in Grand Forks, N.D., home of Minnesota Power Cooperative, a utility with 85,000 customers in Minnesota and North Dakota that's heavily reliant on its coal-burning power plants.

Call Zimmerman Reed for free consultation and support group referrals.

ZIMMERMAN REED
812/341-0400
1-800/328-4827 EXT 1442
No fees unless you recover

Warning continued on page 78

"GOOD MORNING. I'D LIKE TO CALL THIS SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING TO ORDER."



The course of tomorrow's American industry will be set by children in today's American school system. Are we in the business community, whose very future relies on this next generation of leaders, preparing them adequately for this enormous challenge?

Ashland Oil and its employees are doing all we can to make it happen. We're helping schools in our region develop programs designed not only to keep children in class, but also to develop the skills and


desire to become successful.

Much more can be accomplished. But only when firms of all sizes take part through ongoing business-education partnerships. We urge you to contact the Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation at 612-287-1875 to learn how you and your company can get involved.

Because what it all comes down to is simply this: either American business gets behind education. Or it just gets behind.

Better education is the bottom line.

Ashland Oil is SuperAmerica, Ashland Petroleum, Valvoline Motor Oil, Valvoline Power Oil Change and Ashland Chemical.



DEAR MR. H


Dear Mr. H: I have a dream for the old frame houses on our block. I'd like to see them all painted with rich, beautiful colors — like San Francisco's "painted ladies" and the restored Victorians on St. Paul's "Hannay Hill." I'm ready to start on our house this summer. Can you help me with this?

Old Home Enthusiast

"Dear Old Home: I'm delighted to know of your interest in beautifying old houses. And I appreciate your enthusiasm for a look at our Fuller-O'Brien Victorian Colors. This beautiful palette consists of 70 rich and historic colors of the latter half of the 19th century which are again being sought after and used by today's architects, designers, and homeowners. The colors are based on those found on buildings in the Cape May, N.J. historic district where many of the 600 Victorian-style buildings are being restored. Examples of colors are Prince Albert (deep purple), Boston (muted grey), Alexander's (vibrant green), green Victoria (green), Atlantic Terrace (sandy brown) and Duchess of Windsor (mauve), plus 64 others. Stay by Mr. H's side to make your selection and start that house and block's journey on its way to new beauty."

P.S. Victorian Colors work beautifully on ramblers and contemporary houses, too.

For help in solving your household decorating and color problems, write to: Mr. H, P.O. Box 10000, Minneapolis, MN 55408.



Hirshfeld's

KACHORINSKI
Minneapolis • St. Paul • St. Cloud • Brainerd
• Duluth • Grand Rapids • Mpls. • St. Cloud
• Woodbury • Stillwater • Burnsville