

Statements of Support for KEEP's 10-year Anniversary



Barbara Samuel

*Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Division of
Energy, Department of Administration*

"KEEP is a dream that became a reality, but it is much more than that. Thanks to the vision and stalwart dedication of its long-time leaders Jennie Lane and Randy Champeau and many other helpers along the way, KEEP has continued to stay vibrant, to grow and expand in new ways, while staying true to its underlying purpose. Hurray for the first ten years of KEEP! And may the next ten years be even more successful."

Kathy Kuntz

Director of Operations, Focus on Energy

"Ten years ago KEEP launched with an enormously ambitious agenda to increase and improve energy education in Wisconsin. Now, looking back, it is thrilling to see how much they have accomplished in a single decade. Wisconsin has the strongest comprehensive energy education curriculum in the country. More, our curriculum enables teachers and students to grapple with hard issues, promotes critical thinking, supports the state's educational standards and is pedagogically appropriate at all levels. Successes like KEEP are no accident. Lots of people had a role in creating and sustaining this program. Energy experts from utilities and non-profits reviewed curricula for technical accuracy while thousands of educators field tested the lessons and offered suggestions for improvement. Wisconsin's energy leadership recognized that KEEP was the right thing to do and they have maintained their support for the program, despite a variety of potential distractions. And, perhaps most importantly, the state's environmental leadership at the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education assembled a dedicated team that consistently delivers a program that exceeds all expectations."

Elizabeth Burmaster State Superintendent

"Energy is vital to our future. For many years to come, Wisconsin students will be faced with difficult decisions about energy and its relationship to environmental, socio-political, and economic issues. Through Project KEEP and energy education, Wisconsin teachers are able to empower students to make informed decisions about our energy future."

Charlie Higley

Executive Director, Citizen Utility Board

"The Citizens Utility Board has been a long-time supporter for the KEEP program. Chuck Mitchell, who served on the CUB board during the 1990's, helped secure the initial funding for KEEP from the Energy Center of Wisconsin. CUB supports KEEP's mission due to the importance energy issues play in our economy and environment. Education about energy issues is critical for an informed and involved citizenry, and KEEP plays the leading roll in Wisconsin in making this education happen."

Shelley Lee, Science Education Consultant

KEEP, Wisconsin's K-12 Energy Education Program, is celebrating 10 years of energy education

in the state. This program has made a difference for our students because through the energy education activities of KEEP, our students are equipped with the knowledge and information needed to make issue-oriented decisions. Those decisions about their future and the future of energy in our state will impact generations to come in Wisconsin. Many thanks to the KEEP staff and faculty for a job well done!

Andrea Minniear

Senior Project Manager, Education & Outreach, Energy Center of Wisconsin

"We are very proud of KEEP. As an organization committed to the development and delivery of energy education, the Energy Center is pleased to have played a key role in funding and launching the program. Through the support of our utility members, we are dedicated to the program's continued success. KEEP is a superb example of the power of collaboration."

Jim Jenson

Community Education Manager, Madison Gas and Electric Co., KEEP Adjunct Faculty

"After ten years, KEEP is even more relevant for students and teachers. Rising energy costs, energy supply disruptions and environmental issues affect all of us. Students, teachers and consumers increasingly demand answers, and KEEP delivers."

Tehri Parker

Executive Director, Midwest Renewable Energy Association, KEEP Adjunct Faculty

"Teaching KEEP courses is one of the most rewarding experiences I have had as an educator. The materials are well written, comprehensive, and fun. The course participants are enthusiastic and dedicated. And, the KEEP staff makes working with this program something to look forward to each year."

Floyd Henschel

Science Teacher (retired), KEEP Adjunct Faculty

"I feel one of the benefits of KEEP is the collaboration with teachers at different levels while in a KEEP classroom. Also, when the teachers go back to their school districts and are able to help teachers with energy topics at science department meetings. We develop a better appreciation for what is happening in all classrooms."

Jack Finger

Environmental Education Coordinator (retired), Waukesha School District, KEEP Adjunct Faculty

"I feel teachers who have participated in the program have found KEEP an extremely beneficial learning opportunity, both professional and personal. They have also become members of a network of educators where ideas, activities, and general information can be exchanged and shared."

Ted May, PhD

Environmental Education Specialist, KEEP Adjunct Faculty

"I have been a member of the KEEP Adjunct Faculty for the past few years. It has been a delightful program, always forward-looking, in spite of budget cut-backs from the cash-poor state. Too often we find organizations have a dim outlook on life when there are hard times, but KEEP has continued to move ahead with new program opportunities and outreach as well. I

appreciate the up-front work the KEEP staff does in preparation for any workshops, and the generous support with materials and workshop expenses. Finally, and I suppose most importantly, is the quality of the KEEP educational resources. Teachers are consistently pleased with the quality, their hands-on nature, full coverage of energy issues, and engaging student-attractive and teacher-friendly materials. I look forward to continued quality interaction with KEEP, and extending the KEEP resources and educational potential to the region surrounding where I live."

Ron Orman, Former KEEP Adjunct Faculty

"A ten year anniversary is worth a celebration. To realize that KEEP has been empowering Wisconsin teachers with energy education for ten years is mind boggling! I have seen this program develop and grow first as a utility representative. I remember my first guest lecture in Appleton for Pat Marinac. Soon I became part of the Adjunct Faculty and also served on the Advisory Committee. I have laughed and learned and been awed by the commitment to this unique approach to energy education. Thanks to all the organizations and individuals who have contributed to KEEP's success. There is the Energy Center of Wisconsin, Focus on Energy, the utilities and all the teachers who enroll in the courses and implement their energy lesson plans in their classrooms. Hats off to the KEEP staff who continue to provide quality programs and direction with fewer and fewer resources."