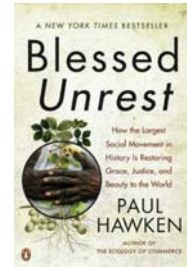




*“On one side the four horsemen of the apocalypse; on the other a vast and nameless uprising of peoples and organizations fighting for justice, places, communities, diversity, and health—the planetary immune system. Paul Hawken’s **Blessed Unrest** is not just a good book, it is a necessary book, wise, eloquent, perceptive, sober, and timely but above all, hopeful. A landmark!”*  
– David Orr



December 3, 2009

Dear Friend,

You may have heard that in celebration of our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, MRES plans to bring **Paul Hawken** – author of the best-selling book *Blessed Unrest* – to the Twin Cities February 19<sup>th</sup>. We are very hopeful that you will partner with us in bringing Paul Hawken here to begin a dialog that will have lasting impact far beyond this event towards a more sustainable community and world.

Paul’s appearance will be the culmination to a half-day of sharing and networking and part of an evening of celebration around the theme of *“Working together in this Blessed Unrest: Unity of purpose in building a sustainable world”* – recognizing that *collaboration and cooperation are paramount in an increasingly crowded and warming world, and by sharing our stories and working together, we can find effective solutions to the common problems we face.*

Hawken says in *Blessed Unrest* that NGOs like MRES, all around the globe, share ‘concerns about worker health, living wages, equity, education, and basic human rights’ and acknowledge them as ‘inseparable from concerns about water, climate, and biodiversity.’ The free market system left alone does not provide for these “externalities,” so we must work together to create the solutions for our sustainable future. We want to launch a collaborative dialogue through this event that develops goals, objectives, and strategies to preserve, the “commons” for the common good (to use a concept first espoused by British Economist William Forster Lloyd and refined by ecologist Garrett James Hardin.) But, we need your participation in this because the fundamental conviction, upon which all is based, is that *we can accomplish far more working together, than we can apart.*

Therefore, we invite you to share our vision of a better future by joining us at our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration as our Partner for that day and beyond. As we look forward to hearing Paul Hawken’s message together with you, we also look forward to finding common ground; to enlarging *our* vision “... *advancing solar energy and transforming Minnesota’s energy landscape to embrace efficiency and sustainability*” to also embrace your vision. When you become our partner, you and your organization will not only gain the many benefits we offer our partners – explained in the enclosed brochure – you will also become a key ally as we pursue our stated mission: *“To advance a sustainable society and a renewable energy economy through education, leadership, and example.”* We invite you to share your vision and mission with us and join us on February 19<sup>th</sup> to work together toward a more sustainable future.

Your support is crucial to our success and we hope you will accept our invitation to become a partner in presenting this program. In order to accomplish our objectives, MRES has established a goal of raising \$15,000 in the next few weeks. Your sponsorship at the *partner* level of your choice will ensure our success. We are also accepting donations of products and services for our silent auction, so please consider this option as well.

You can learn more about the Gala event by visiting [www.MRESgala.org](http://www.MRESgala.org) – or please contact us at the contact information below. I’m hoping you will join us as our partner at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in St. Paul on February 19, 2010 for this special gala event and the beginning of a new and fruitful enterprise – one with unity of purpose, hope and promise of a better future.

Sincerely,

**Loren E. Abraham**  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Chair

2928 5th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408  
Ph: (612) 308-4757

e-mail: [laurac@mnrenewables.org](mailto:laurac@mnrenewables.org)  
web site: [www.MRESgala.org](http://www.MRESgala.org)

## MRES 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration Overview

Come and be inspired by keynote speaker Paul Hawken, author of many best selling books including *Blessed Unrest*, *Ecology of Commerce* and *Natural Capitalism*. You will not want to miss this evening of fun and fine dining as we launch the theme: ***Working together in this Blessed Unrest: Unity of purpose in building a sustainable world.***

Celebrate a year of accomplishments and join with us as we take a retrospective look at a number of milestones in our history and layout our vision of unity of purpose for the future. Some of the remarkable activities planned include music by renown recording artist Michael Monroe, a silent auction, a video retrospective, poster contest exhibition and awards, electric vehicle raffle contest, and more as we commemorate our 30th anniversary and inaugurate our 4<sup>th</sup> decade of public service.



*An afternoon symposium will feature prominent guest speakers accompanied by partner exhibits leading up to the gala. Also before and during the gala there will be an opportunity to bid on products and services donated for the event during a Silent Auction. And you won't want to miss out on a chance to win an electric vehicle by purchasing a raffle ticket. In addition during the gala celebration we will also recognize and highlight the winners of our First Annual Excellence in Renewable Energy Awards. We hope you will join us for this amazing afternoon and evening.*

**Date:** Friday, February 19, 2010

**Location:** Crowne Plaza Hotel

**Address:** 11 Kellogg Boulevard  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

**Audience:** 400+ estimated guests, members, friends, working partners and guest dignitaries expected, including invited mayors, senators, representatives and other policy makers from around the State.

**Ticket Prices:**

\$45 members	\$75 non-members	until Jan. 15, 2010
\$55 members	\$85 non-members	after Jan. 15, 2010

**Meet and Greet Paul Hawken Reception:** By special invitation or as a Partnership benefit. (see descriptions of partner benefits)

Please refer to the ***Partner Application Brochure*** available for download at [www.MRESgala.org](http://www.MRESgala.org) on our website for more information about the sponsorship levels and benefits. Should you desire any additional materials or have questions, please contact Laura Cina, Managing Director, at [LauraC@mnRenewables.org](mailto:LauraC@mnRenewables.org)

For more information, to purchase tickets learn more about how to partner with us at one of the available sponsor levels, go to [www.MRESgala.org](http://www.MRESgala.org) or call us with questions at (612) 963-4757.