



## **2011 Boards of Directors**

### **Greenpeace, Inc.**

Karen Topakian, Chair (2010 – 2011)

Valerie Denney (2010 – 2013)

Elizabeth Gilchrist (2008 – 2011)

David Hunter (2008 – 2011)

David N. Pellow (2009 – 2012)

Bryony Schwan (2009 – 2012)

Jigar Shah (2010 – 2013)

Sharyle Patton (2008 – 2011)

Daniel Rudie (2009 – 2012)

### **Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**

David Chatfield, Chair (2010 – 2013)

John Willis (2008 – 2011)

Elizabeth Gilchrist (2008 – 2011)

Jeffrey Hollender (2009 – 2012)

Ellen McPeake (2009 – 2012)

**Karen Topakian, Chair of Greenpeace, Inc.**

After 16 years on the Greenpeace Fund Board, Karen Topakian was been appointed Board Chair of Greenpeace, Inc. Karen started her career at Greenpeace in San Francisco in 1987, when she joined the newly created Nuclear Free Seas campaign. This international campaign worked to rid the world of naval nuclear weapons and to end below ground nuclear weapons testing. Karen simultaneously served on the Pacific campaign until 1991.

Karen's entire professional life embraces activism and advocacy. Prior to working at Greenpeace, Karen worked as a community organizer at P.A.C.E. in Providence, Rhode Island, managed a food coop in Wakefield, Rhode Island and directed the University of Rhode Island's Women's Center. After working at Greenpeace, she served for 16 years as the executive director of the Agape Foundation - Fund for Nonviolent Social Change. Currently, she is the founder of Topakian Communications, a freelance writing and communications consulting business.

Karen's prior board service includes the Western States Legal Foundation and the Women's AIDS Network. In her role as a foundation director, Karen co-chaired San Francisco's Fundraising Day, served on the event committee for San Francisco's National Philanthropy Day and on the fundraising and organizing committee for the Raising Change Social Justice Fundraising Conference. She frequently spoke on panels of social justice grant makers and nonprofit executive directors.

Starting in 1982, in New York City, at the largest anti-nuclear demonstration, Karen has been participating in non-violent direct actions annually for peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons. During the early 1980s, she organized with the Berrigan brothers through the Plowshares Movement.

**Valerie Denney, Greenpeace, Inc.**

Valerie Denney established Valerie Denney Communications (VDC) in 1989 to offer professional public relations services to organizations and individuals working for positive social change.

Valerie works with government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector to develop communications strategies for complex issues such as the environment, affordable housing, community development, education, community finance, and solutions to poverty. Valerie's current work includes projects with The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the City of Chicago's Department of Planning and Development, The Chicago Community Trust, the Joyce Foundation, Metropolitan Planning Council, Chicago Public Schools, and Housing Illinois.

Valerie brings a broad experience base to her work at Valerie Denney Communications. Prior to establishing her firm, Valerie served in Mayor Harold Washington's press office, worked for U.S. Steel, served as a union representative and teacher, and participated in numerous electoral and community-based campaigns.

Valerie conducts media trainings for a wide variety of organizations including National Community Capital Association, National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, and the Chicago-based Community Media Workshop. Valerie has a Master's degree in English from Indiana University.

**Elizabeth Gilchrist, Greenpeace, Inc. and Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**

Liz is a progressive political activist who has spent her life working with cutting edge NGO's that are about creating social change. For the first 15 years of her professional life, she worked as a civil rights and Legal Services lawyer in Mississippi, primarily as a federal litigator. She joined the Greenpeace fund raising staff in 1993, and in her capacity as Major Gifts Manager, spent the next seven years leading a team that helped establish the major donor and planned giving programs as vital components of the organization's overall financial health. After Greenpeace, Liz became the Gift Planning Director for the National Organization for Women (NOW), the largest grass roots feminist organization in the country with over 650,000 contributing members. Liz is currently the Development Director for the Clean Economy Network, which serves as the national advocacy association for the cleantech and green business community.

Liz has been a volunteer activist with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) for nearly two decades. She has been a board member of both the Mississippi and Virginia ACLU affiliates, and currently chairs Virginia's Development Committee, which is responsible for a \$100,000 annual fund raising campaign. She also served several terms on the National Board of ACLU.

Since leaving the Greenpeace staff in 2000, Liz has remained active in governance issues as a Voting Member, having served four consecutive terms on the Membership Committee, which reviews and recommends applicants for voting membership. She also served one term on the Nominating Committee, representing the voting membership. Liz has proudly been a monthly donor to Greenpeace Fund for more than 10 years.

**David Hunter, Greenpeace, Inc.**

David Hunter is an international environmental and human rights lawyer, who has represented traditional and indigenous communities throughout the world in the pursuit of environmental justice. For more than fifteen years, he has promoted the rights and interests of local communities harmed by projects involving U.S. multinational corporations or financed by the World Bank and other financial institutions. While David was executive director of the Center for International Environmental Law, the Center set new precedents in bringing actions on behalf of local communities and the environment before the World Trade Organization, the InterAmerican Human Rights Commission, the US Patent Office, and the World Bank Inspection Panel. He is also co-author of the country's leading international environmental law textbook, which champions a people-first approach to international law.

David is a professor of law at the American University Washington College of Law, Director of the Program on International and Comparative Environmental Law, and President of Peregrine Environmental Consulting, which provides legal, strategic, and management advice to non-governmental organizations and foundations. He is currently chairman of the Board of Directors for the Project on Government Oversight and the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide-US, and a member of the Board of EarthRights International. Each of these organizations challenge government and corporate power on behalf of the public, the environment or local communities. During his career, David has also served as the executive director of three advocacy organizations: the Bank Information Center, the Center for International Environmental Law and WaterWatch of Oregon.

David is a 1983 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1986 graduate of the Harvard Law School.

**David Naguib Pellow, Greenpeace, Inc.**

David Pellow is a Professor and the Martindale Chair of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. Since he was a teenager, David has been involved in non-violent social change work, beginning with his volunteering for groups like US Out of South Africa (USOSA) and later founding Students for a Better Environment and an animal rights group at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in the early 1990s.

David worked for People for Community Recovery (PCR), an African American environmental justice organization in Chicago's South Side. While at PCR, David edited the organization's newsletter and represented the group at the Chicago Brownfields Task Force, the USEPA's Common Sense Initiative, and the President's Council on Sustainable Development. David was also a key member of teams of activists who initiated Good Neighbor campaigns with Clark Oil company and the Ford Motor Company to push them toward clean production.

After PCR, David worked with the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition and helped launch the International Campaign for Responsible Technology (ICTR), and has been a member of the planning committee since 2002. The ICRT is an international solidarity network that promotes corporate and government accountability in the global electronics industry. ICT's first book, *Challenging the Chip: Labor Rights and Environmental Justice in the Global Electronics Industry*, was published by Temple University Press in June 2006. David is one of the editors and contributors to this volume.

David also helped coordinate the first meeting of the Transatlantic Initiative on Environmental Justice, a U.S./Central and Eastern Europe coalition of environmental justice and human rights activists, attorneys, and scholars, who are linking environmental justice advocacy and research efforts across the Atlantic.

More recently, as director of the Minnesota Global Justice Project, he helped produce a guide for communities confronting predatory mining companies, called *Protecting Your Community Against Mining Companies and Other Extractive Industries*.

**Bryony Schwan, Greenpeace, Inc.**

Bryony Schwan is the co-founder and Executive Director of The Biomimicry Institute. She is also an affiliate faculty member in the Environmental Studies Department at the University of Montana. Bryony's activism started in the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. In the early 1980s, she was a member of HERE local 34 and participated in the largest strike of women workers in the United States. Since the 1980s, she has been active in several local and regional forest, wildlife and wilderness groups, as both a staff person and volunteer. She has served on numerous boards.

In 1994, Bryony founded Women's Voices for the Earth (WVE), now a national women's toxics and environmental justice organization. In 2001, she co-founded Coming Clean, one of the most effective toxics coalitions, comprising over 100 local, state and national groups. Other coalitions in which she has been involved include the Global Anti-Incineration Alliance, Health Care Without Harm and the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment. In 2003, Bryony received Montana's Jeannette Rankin Peace Award for her peace and political work in that state.

While her work has been focused on environmental and social justice issues, Bryony has been deeply interested in, read and written about what makes change happen, why movements succeed or fail and what makes it so difficult for movements on the political left to work together. She is also extremely interested in the intersection between poverty and environmental degradation and between the reproductive rights movement (especially as defined by women of color) and the toxics movement. Bryony has worked on a number of political campaigns and ran for the Montana State Senate.

**Jigar Shah, Greenpeace, Inc.**

Jigar Shah has extensive experience in both the photovoltaic solar and wind industries. In 2003, Jigar founded SunEdison, which since its inception has grown to become the largest solar energy service provider in the U.S.

SunEdison, which is headquartered in Baltimore, MD, offers an innovative set of financial solutions to meet the energy needs of its clients with clean, renewable energy. SunEdison provides solar generated energy at or below current retail utility rates to a broad and diverse client base – from public agencies and private enterprises to non-profit organizations. SunEdison clients include Whole Foods, Staples and the California Department of Corrections. Additionally, SunEdison was recently selected to power the Kohl Corporation, which plans to convert more than 75% of its California locations to solar power.

Prior to founding SunEdison, Jigar worked in corporate strategy and sales, specializing in national commercial accounts, for solar industry giant BP Solar. In addition to working for the Department of Energy on alternative vehicle and fuel cell programs, Jigar worked in an engineering capacity for both AstroPower, the largest publicly traded pure-play PV solar company, and Atlantic Orient Corporation, a leader in the medium sized wind turbine market.

Jigar has a MBA from the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. In its early days, SunEdison worked out of the Greenpeace DC office, and has since worked closely with Greenpeace US on energy issues.

**Sharyle Patton, Greenpeace, Inc.**

Sharyle Patton is the director of the Commonweal Environmental Health Program in Bolinas, CA, which seeks to protect human and ecosystem health from environmental contaminants. Commonweal takes a science-based approach to the challenge of reducing manmade contaminants in the environment, and is engaged in initiatives that include the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE), Health Care Without Harm (HCWH), the International POPS Elimination Network, and the Commonweal Biomonitoring Resource Center.

Sharyle was previously the northern co-chair of the International Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) Elimination Network, a network of over 350 non-governmental organizations around the world which worked successfully for the positive conclusion of the United Nations treaty on POPS, signed in May 2001. She was the chair of the Citizens Network for Sustainable Development in the early-to mid-90's, serving on the UN Commission on Sustainable Development during that time. Sharyle has also produced several documentaries, including "The Man Behind the Bomb, Leo Szilard" for NOVA in the mid-80's.

Sharyle has been active on women's reproductive health and sexual rights issues for many years. She was an anti-war activist during her college years at Reed in the 1960's, and was a professional musician from 1968-1978.

**Daniel Rudie, Greenpeace, Inc.**

Dan graduated from college in 1990 with a degree in philosophy and the desire to affect social and environmental change. He landed in Seattle and soon thereafter found himself with a clipboard in his hands as part of the Greenpeace door-to-door canvass. His work in the canvass led to his involvement in a variety of activities with the organization, including campaign work, direct action, action training, helping at the warehouse, etc. before winding up in Washington, DC in 1996 as an actions coordinator. In that role, Dan oversaw many of the peaceful protests that are the signature of the organization and became one of Greenpeace's lead trainers both in the US and globally. In 2006, Dan left Greenpeace after sixteen years of service. He currently runs his own business as a general contractor.

**David Chatfield, Chair of Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**

David Chatfield has worked with environmental organizations for nearly thirty years. Currently, he is the Director of Californians for Pesticide Reform, a coalition of 135 organizations addressing the health and environmental impacts of pesticides. Previously, David was California Director of Clean Water Action. He worked for Greenpeace for ten years in various roles, including as Chair of the Greenpeace board, Pacific Southwest Regional Director and Senior Development Associate. He also served for eight years as Friends of the Earth's International Director, and worked for the American Friends Service Committee and UFW before that. He is currently President of the EarthShare of California Board and serves on advisory committees for Greenaction, Political Ecology Group and the League of Conservation Voters in California.

**John Willis, Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**

John Willis has extensive experience with Greenpeace, having worked as a Campaigner for Greenpeace Canada (1981 - 1988), a Project Coordinator for Greenpeace International (1988 - 1995), and as National Campaign Director for Greenpeace Japan (1995 - 1996). In the early 1980s, he developed the original Great Lakes Campaign ('Water for Life') in conjunction with Greenpeace USA activists, and was prominent in the anti-nuclear movement and the campaign to stop acid rain. At Greenpeace International he oversaw the successful Greenpeace effort to halt nuclear industry expansion into Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. And in Japan, John trained a new team of campaigners working on French nuclear testing and toxics.

Since returning to Canada, John has been a Senior Consultant with Strategic Communications, a leading Canadian consulting firm that specializes in fundraising and campaign mobilization for advocacy groups, labor unions, and public service organizations. John was elected to the Greenpeace Canada Board of Directors in 1996, and was made Chair of the Board one year later. As Chair and Trustee for Canada, John has guided the successful selection and hiring of a new Executive Director, introduced measures to enable effective oversight by the Voting Membership, and promoted an improved system of electing the international Board.

**Jeffrey Hollender, Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**

Jeffrey Hollender is President and Chief Inspired Protagonist of Seventh Generation, the 21 year-old company that is the leading brand of natural household and personal care products in the United States.

In addition to serving on the board of Greenpeace, Inc., Hollender is a board member for Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, Alloy Media & Marketing and a member and former Director of the Social Venture Network. He was a co-founder and a Director of Community Capital Bank, a New York financial institution that invests in affordable housing and community development.

Jeffrey frequently addresses social and environmental responsibility at regional, national and international venues. Speaking engagements have included such varied groups as the World Economic Forum, the Harvard Environmental Forum, the National Press Club, the

Green Festival, the World Resources Institute, Nike Apparel Group, the Environmental Protection Agency, the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Growth, the Businesses for Social Responsibility national conference and many others.

He is the author of several best-selling books including: *How to Make the World a Better Place: A Guide for Doing Good* and *What Matters Most - How a small group of pioneers are teaching social responsibility to big business - and why big business is listening*. *Naturally Clean*, was published by New Society Publishers in March of 2006. *In Our Every Deliberation*; *Seventh Generation: the Journey toward Corporate Consciousness* will be published in May 2009 and *Good Company, the Future of Corporate Responsibility* will be published in February 2010.

In April 2009 his new television show, "Big Green Lies" premiered on the Fine Living Network.

**Ellen McPeake, Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**

Ellen McPeake has spent most of her working life in the nonprofit sector in Washington, DC. She co-founded and co-directed the Green Door, a program for people with chronic and serious mental illness. She has headed the administrative and financial operations of such national organizations as the Center for Law and Social Policy, the Mental Health Law Project, and Public Citizen. She worked at Greenpeace and was its chief operating officer until 2007, when she left to assume the same position at the Center for Public Integrity.