

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 130 STATE CAPITOL SAINT PAUL 55155

3 June 1991

The Honorable Jerome Hughes President of the Senate State of Minnesota 328 State Capitol Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Hughes:

I have vetoed and am returning to you Chapter 303, Senate File 931/House File 1635, a bill which is intended to strengthen policy planning on problem materials and household hazardous waste. Chapter 303 also requires a comprehensive study on energy and environmental strategy.

It is with deep regret that I am compelled to veto environmental legislation, particularly when the original bill mandated sound public policy planning for certain toxic materials. However, Sections 6 and 7, major policy initiatives, were a House proposal with no Senate companion, and were added during the conference committee.

Sections 6 and 7 require an intensely detailed state energy and environmental policy study that must incorporate national security strategies of the federal government and coordinate with international policies. These sections also mandate the size of the sheets of paper to be used to report the study, the number of sheets that can be used by the various departments participating in the study, and how the document is to be formatted. Even though a comprehensive study of this magnitude will consume a significant amount of the state's resources, a fiscal note was never prepared. Clearly, the research required for this study would put an enormous strain on both human and financial resources of the seven state agencies required to participate in its development. This kind of unnecessary micro-management, I believe, is a detriment to fulfilling the important and worthy duties the Legislature intended the state agencies to accomplish.

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Unfortunately, the action I am forced to take on this bill also will adversely impact the City of South Saint Paul. The federal Mississippi National River Critical Area is contained in this legislation and its special preservation status would have benefited the city in land and water planning. Perhaps it is time the Legislature reminded itself of Article IV, Section 17 of the State Constitution.

Sincerely,

ARNE H. CARLSON

Governor

c: Senator Roger Moe, Majority Leader
Senator Duane Benson, Minority Leader
Senator Ted Mondale, Senate Chief Author
Representative Robert Vanasek, Speaker of the House
Representative Terry Dempsey, Minority Leader
Representative Myron Orfield, House Chief Author
Mr. Patrick Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Edward Burdick, Chief Clerk of the House
Ms. Joan Anderson Growe, Secretary of State