
ENVIRONMENTAL
AND ENERGY



STUDY INSTITUTE

Annual Report

1990

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY STUDY INSTITUTE
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HIGHLIGHTS

1 990 marked the fifth birthday of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI). EESI is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization established in cooperation with the leaders of the Congressional Environmental and Energy Study Conference (EESC), Congress' largest legislative service organization. EESI is the nation's only independent organization set up by Congressional leaders to promote better informed national debate on environmental and energy issues and to generate innovative policy responses.

We had a "changing of the guard" in the spring: Gus Speth, president of World Resources Institute, became chairman of EESI's board, replacing Roger Sant, chairman and chief executive officer of Applied Energy Services, Inc. We celebrated our fifth anniversary with a festive birthday dinner.

During the year, the Institute built on its growing expertise and its special niche for providing the Congress with timely, useful information and effective policy options. With some satisfaction, we have watched as ideas the Institute generated or disseminated showed up in legislation, in hearings, in Congressional letters, in administration proposals and elsewhere. EESI continues to enjoy and build on its special relationship with Congress.

During 1990, EESI more than met the objectives of its core programs — energy efficiency and renewable energy, global climate change, groundwater protection and international environment. We were especially pleased with the effect our educational efforts had on the 1990 farm bill and the Clean Air Act.

It was in the context of the 1990 farm bill that groundwater protection advanced the most; we were able to make the connection between commodity programs and water quality; and to gain more in policy changes than we expected. We expanded the groundwater program to embrace water quality generally and water supply, and integrated into it the water efficiency project begun in 1989.

One highly successful program, waste management, was put on hold early in the year,

in part because Congress was well on its way to addressing the solid waste issue.

Our work on energy efficiency and renewable energy as air pollution strategies paid off handsomely in the 1990 Clean Air Act. The Energy Program and its collaborators came very close to seeing Senate approval of increased automobile fuel efficiency standards, an issue that will come up again in 1991.

The International Program initiated three new projects during 1990: a Task Force on International Cooperation for Sustainable Development, a Congressional working group on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and a World Forest Agreement Working Group. The Climate Change Program continued to try to clarify the science underlying the debate; the program's policy component played out in the International and the Energy Programs.

The project on domestic sustainability begun in 1989 made major strides in defining cross-cutting, innovative ways for the United States to improve the efficiency of its resource use. We also began identifying opportunities for such initiatives to contribute to improving the domestic and global environment and economy.

We organized numerous formal educational programs, attended by more than 3,000 key decisionmakers during the year. We published more than a dozen of our own reports and 30 issue briefs, along with more than 80 reports by the Congressional Conference. These materials were distributed widely on Capitol Hill and in the executive branch, and to some or all of the more than 10,000 people in the EESI database.

Earth Day 1990 spurred EESI to take on a new challenge, EARTHTECH 90, a major environmental technology fair and forum. Over 95 companies, non-profits and federal agencies mounted exhibits. The range of products, strategies and technology demonstrated and displayed was extraordinary, ranging from plastic recycling to solar box cookers and high-efficiency motors.

(The Study Conference was founded in 1975 to provide objective information to Congress on environmental and energy legislation. Over its 15-year history, the Conference has grown into the largest legislative

service organization in Congress. It has a membership of 290 Representatives and 90 Senators from both sides of the aisle and across the political spectrum.)

Energy

Program Director Carol Werner and her assistant, Beth Nalker, continued advancing the recommendations of the EESI Board's 1988 energy policy statement, which stressed efficiency as the most cost-effective, environmentally benign option.

With the Clean Air Act at the top of the Congressional environmental agenda during much of the year, we had many opportunities to provide information on the potential for energy efficiency and renewables as important and economically competitive emission control strategies for acid rain and greenhouse gases. EESI's working group on energy efficiency and renewables helped key players in the debate; an example was an amendment, offered by Congressmen Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and Carlos Moorhead (R-Calif.), which contained important incentives for electric utilities to utilize energy efficiency and renewable energy, as a way of cutting acid rain. It is in the new law.

The working group produced an alternative renewable research and development budget for the Energy Department and helped attain a \$30 million increase in appropriations for fiscal year 1991. We also worked with Congressional Members and staff to require the Architect of the Capitol begin improving the lighting efficiency of Congressional buildings. We worked toward the issuance of an executive order on energy efficiency in all federal facilities.

Before mid-year, the issue of automobile fuel efficiency was separated from the clean air debate, and EESI staff spent considerable time and effort providing ideas for hearings, making recommendations and holding numerous briefings. A measure offered by Senator Richard Bryan (D-Nev.) came surprisingly close to adoption by the Senate. Its sponsors ended the session committed to moving the fuel efficiency measure during 1991, when Congress would be free of the tensions over the Clean Air Act.

EESI held educational programs on a broad range of energy policy options and the technologies available and under development. The relationship between greenhouse gases and conventional air pollutants and the potential of energy efficiency and renewables to reduce both global and local pollutants — in all economic sectors — has remained the centerpiece of EESI's education efforts. One "Members-only" luncheon explored the pros and cons of pollution taxes as an option for reducing air pollutants and promoting energy efficiency.

We set new records for the number of events and attendance, and had surprising success in timing them appropriately. Just after the onset of the Persian Gulf crisis, we brought to Capitol Hill a broad range of experts to discuss energy policy and the Gulf, and held a briefing on electric vehicles and their potential to meet both clean air and energy security goals.

As Carol said at year-end, "most rewarding was the extent to which EESI is now being sought out by a broad variety of Congressional offices and groups for information and ideas. Our role as a catalyst enables us to extend our reach far beyond our own office."

In anticipation of the Surface Transportation Act reauthorization, work began on forming a coalition to bring environmental and energy issues to the forefront of that debate. EESI was asked to set up an organizational meeting, which Carol and Beth staffed. Nearly 100 people attended; 79 organizations were represented, many from well beyond Washington. The meeting launched the Surface Transportation Policy Project, and EESI serves on the steering committee.

Water

During the past year, EESI has made its major impact on water policy by focusing on the connection between groundwater quality and agriculture policy. We are still pursuing comprehensive groundwater protection strategies where they make sense; indeed, many of our objectives were included in research and technical assistance legislation that

passed both Houses of Congress but were not finally enacted.

Through a carefully planned series of briefings and workshops, both in Washington and in the field, Program Director Judy Campbell Bird and her assistant, Janet Edmond, succeeded in building consensus on some of the most complex and contentious issues in the farm policy debate. Farmers; researchers; representatives of business, farm, commodity and environmental groups; Members of Congress; and state and local officials participated, and EESI succeeded in building trust among the many groups involved.

Climaxing dozens of educational programs in preparation for Congressional action on the farm bill, EESI hosted a conference in Des Moines in February. The session was a high point, giving us a chance to get reactions from the field to the variety of policies and ideas being considered in Washington. The conference was chaired by two very active Members of the House Agriculture Committee. Rep. Jim Jontz (D-Ind.) was the leader on sustainable agriculture, while Rep. Fred Grandy (R-Iowa) was the committee's primary proponent of groundwater protection mandates for the Department of Agriculture. During consideration of the farm bill, they became champions for the ideas generated in Iowa.

Significant agreement evolved around the link between groundwater contamination and federal commodity programs, many of which have the effect of encouraging farmers to grow the same crops on the same acres year after year. Such "monocropping" requires intensive use of pesticides and fertilizers. A fortunate confluence of interest grew out of the desire in the farm community for more flexibility in commodity programs and the desire in the environmental community for reducing the adverse effects of current agricultural practices. "Though we did not start from the same place," said Janet Edmond, "the fact is that budgetary constraints and farm groups' discontent with existing law made possible environmental gains we never expected when we began."

Just before Senate and House floor action on the 1990 farm bill, EESI released *The 1990 Farm Bill: Opportunities for Groundwater Protection*. We were able to hand-deliver the report to every Congressional office,

and to send it to some 3,300 contacts around the country. The report laid out recommendations for revising federal commodity programs in order to enable farmers to shift to "sustainable" or "low-input" farming practices. These terms have long been used pejoratively; EESI's work has been credited with helping move such concepts toward the center of debate.

Our decision to emphasize water and agriculture policy and to focus on the 1990 farm bill turned out to be a good one. Much of the information EESI collected and disseminated provided the basis for provisions included in the legislation signed by President Bush. Right after enactment, EESI issued a summary report, *Congress Passes 1990 Farm Bill With Key Groundwater Protection Provisions*, which was eagerly snatched up by farm bill followers and widely distributed on and off Capitol Hill.

Regrettably, Program Director Judy Campbell Bird, decided in the fall to leave EESI. She had served as the Groundwater Program Director since EESI's founding. Marking her departure, Judy said the time was right: "throughout those five years, comprehensive federal groundwater policy often seemed beyond our grasp, but our efforts have enabled us to achieve incremental progress, most notably in the good provisions of the 1990 farm bill."

Water efficiency is EESI's newest initiative in the water area. In February, we organized a Water Supply Alternatives Workshop in Tucson, Ariz. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency asked us to conduct the workshop to help the agency better understand the potential, and the limitations, of pursuing water conservation and efficiency as alternatives to traditional water supply projects. The agency's interest was sparked by the controversy over its decision to veto the proposed Two Forks water supply project in Colorado, where water efficiency was cited as a "supply" alternative.

EESI director David Freeman, head of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District in California and a veteran of energy policymaking, gave the keynote address at the Tucson conference. Freeman drew the analogy between energy efficiency and water efficiency, and EESI is continuing to identify opportunities to apply lessons learned in energy policymaking to water issues.

The wide-ranging agenda provoked a lively exchange of views on an array of urban and agricultural water efficiency options and issues including water marketing, plumbing efficiency improvements, protection of flows for fish and wildlife, groundwater use and federal irrigation policy. As a result of the Tucson workshop, EPA and the Bureau of Reclamation began a dialogue on Western water.

EESI is continuing to evaluate its water program and projects. The farm bill experience suggests that by focusing on major legislation actually on the move in Congress, EESI can tailor information and policy options to meet specific Congressional needs in a specific context.

At the fall meeting, the EESI board of directors decided we should refocus our attention. The Clean Water Act is up for reauthorization in the 102nd Congress, and EESI will seek to achieve further advances in groundwater protection and water efficiency in that context. The Board felt that a revamped program would put us in an excellent position to continue to contribute to sound federal water policies.

International Environment

The International Program's first major goal for 1990 was to identify new forms of U.S. cooperation with other nations aimed specifically at solving global environmental problems and meeting development needs. Most of our activities were planned in anticipation of the 1992 meetings of the United Nations Commission on Environment and Development (UNCED), to be held in Brazil in June of 1992, marking the 20th anniversary of the Stockholm Conference.

Early in the year, Program Director Gareth Porter set up another of EESI's "blue-ribbon" panels — the Task Force on International Cooperation for Sustainable Development, comprised of a very diverse group, including a bipartisan group of strategically positioned Members of Congress. Chaired by EESI Chairman Gus Speth, the task force began by considering Gareth's draft paper outlining a full range of possible policy instruments for encouraging global sustainable development. After re-

view and revision, the task force is expected to issue its report in the spring of 1991.

EESI also set up an informal working group of Congressional staff to assess policy options and appropriate Congressional activities leading up to the 1992 Brazil conference.

The third initiative launched in 1990 was the World Forest Agreement Working Group. Congressional staff, executive branch officials and representatives of non-governmental organizations began meeting once a month to discuss what should be contained in an international agreement on saving forests. The group began developing alternative approaches to U.S. negotiating positions on this problem. As Gareth put it, "For once, we are starting out ahead of the curve, getting out in front on forest policy development."

This three-pronged approach is closely keyed to the Institute's vigorous Congressional education program; each is designed to provide the kind of information that will enable appropriate Congressional action in the ongoing debate on international environmental issues.

Climate

During 1990, our work on policy responses to climate change were carried out increasingly through both the Energy and the International Programs. In any discussion of climate change, especially in an international context, the connection with energy use is inescapable.

Loss of timber worldwide is another major climate change threat, as the loss of timber reduces tree cover, which in turn removes a carbon "sink" and oxygen producer; when the trees are burned for fuel or as slash, the atmospheric burden is even greater. The International Program's new Forest Agreement Working Group began tackling this problem during the year.

EESI held six staff briefings and two "Members-only" functions in which we made an effort to clarify the many scientific issues and disagreements central to the debate over climate change and global warming.

Many involved in the Congressional debate expressed appreciation that EESI was able to pull together reliable and understandable experts.

Sustainable Development

EESI's cross-cutting project, "Sustainability Begins At Home," seeks a better understanding of activities which might be economically, as well as environmentally, sustainable within the United States. We continued to see that our core programs are in line with the sustainability concept.

EESI's consultant, Nancy Mathews, set up a task force made up of a very unlikely and diverse group of people, organized a series of three workshops and published a report. Participants in the task force included two venture capitalists, the vice president for environment at a major chemical company, a Jesuit priest, the head of a neighborhood technology group in Chicago and the director of a rural sustainability organization in Arkansas. EESI directors also took part, including Roger Sant (who chaired), Les Brown, Dick Ottinger and Gus Speth.

The three workshops — on local and state initiatives, sustainable transportation and sustainable housing — gathered similarly diverse groups of participants.

The task force and workshops helped us to begin addressing sustainability in a domestic context. We started with the definition developed by the United Nations Commission on Environment and Development, "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." More efficient resource use and pollution prevention are essential to any long-term sustainability — in the United States as well as around the world. In many instances, environmentally sustainable activities can meet economic and social needs simultaneously. EESI is seeking opportunities to meet multiple objectives in its search for environmentally benign, resource-efficient options to present to policymakers.

Waste Management

Early in the year, the Waste Management Program issued two major reports, one summarizing all the legislative initiatives on solid waste issues during the 1st Session of the 101st Congress, and the other providing background on the issues. The reports culminated a year and a half of educational programs, including briefings and field trips designed to generate a better Congressional understanding of what had been a "non-issue" until the televised odyssey of the "garbage barge."

The 101st Congress paid a good deal of attention to a variety of solid and hazardous waste issues, and several bills were enacted to address specific problems, such as waste backhauling and reducing the generation of waste. EESI's Program Director, Patricia Raymond, was involved in all these initiatives. Many of the concepts considered in hearings and legislative proposals derived from her educational activities, and many are likely to make their way into revisions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act during 1991-92. With Congress primed to move on its own, and with Pat having decided to return to her native Pennsylvania to work for the state energy office, we put the program on hold.

EARTHTECH 90

In anticipation of 20th anniversary celebration of Earth Day, EESI organized an environmental technology fair and policy forum, EARTHTECH 90, held on the Mall in Washington in early April. Its purpose was to bring environmentally sustainable technologies, products and ideas to the attention of Congress, federal agencies, the public and the media. EARTHTECH 90 was co-sponsored by the Congressional Study Conference, and co-chaired by Senators Al Gore (D-Tenn.) and John Heinz (R-Pa.). Joe Raeder was the principal staffer for EARTHTECH, with the investment of considerable time by Executive Director Ken Murphy.

Ninety-five companies, non-profit organizations and federal agencies mounted exhibits. The fair was financed on a break-even

basis, which allowed EESI to provide free exhibit space to non-profit organizations. There was a good mix of technologies, products and company sizes. A full-scale wind generator was set up; visitors to the fair were invited to bring their aluminum cans to be chopped up and baled; solar box cookers were displayed near high-efficiency fluorescent bulbs and across from EPA's information booth. Students from 13 school districts in the Washington area collected 500,000 aluminum cans — more than eight tons — for recycling at EARTHTECH. Despite chilly weather, about 40,000 people visited the Fair. "What made EARTHTECH unique, in fact, was the number of utilities, energy producers, and industries co-sponsoring the event with environmental groups," read one story.

The International Forum brought together 89 leaders of government, business and the public interest sector (including several Members of Congress and EESI Board members) from eight nations to explore options for encouraging the development and widespread use of environmentally sustainable technologies. The Forum was organized into four two-hour sessions, each focusing on a different economic sector. About 1,200 people on and off Capitol Hill attended. Transcripts of the sessions were taken and edited for publication.

Leadership Development

The 1990 EESI Congressional Leadership Dinner honored Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Maine), a good friend of the environment, and of the Institute. More than 40 Senators and 300 people from business, labor, government and the environmental community attended. The dinner co-chairs were Senate Majority Whip Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) and Minority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kans.). In a display of mutual admiration not atypical for Washington dinners, our honoring of the majority leader was returned in kind by Senator Mitchell, who said, "EESI's contributions serve a great national purpose."

The dinner raised substantial funds for EESI to support its efforts to activate new, bi-partisan leadership on emerging issues.

Executive Director Ken Murphy and Executive Assistant Julie Foster staffed the dinner, with substantial help from consultant Suzanne Hammelman.

Outreach

In 1990, the Institute further expanded its outreach efforts, especially in the area of identifying individuals and organizations whose purposes could be helped by the receipt of timely information on Congressional activities. The Institute's own publications, such as our municipal solid waste and farm bill reports were sent out broadly — not just in Washington, but around the country. Similarly, the Study Conference's bulletin and other publications, most especially those with exceptional information on the Clean Air Act deliberations week by week, were widely sought throughout the country.

Such outreach serves to extend EESI's circle of acquaintances and often enables us to identify credible sources of information. EESI's activities also offer people and organizations working at the state and local level opportunities to provide input to national policymakers. The information we provide enables them to participate in the national policy process. Subscriptions and sales of reports are also contributing to our financial security.

Interns

EEESI was fortunate to have superb interns during 1990. We only hope they grew from the experience as we did by being challenged by fresh minds. We like to see to it that interns do more than "go-fering" and to give them the chance to participate in the full range of EESI activities, including attending hearings, helping to organize briefings and doing research. There is always some drudge work involved, such as stuffing envelopes, of course, but that goes with the territory of interning in Washington. One 1990 intern went so far as to assemble a packet of information on EESI for future interns "for their eyes only."

1990 GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

We are especially grateful to the following sources of support of more than \$1,000. Whatever we have been able to achieve is as a result of these and other contributions.

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ARCO Chemical Co.
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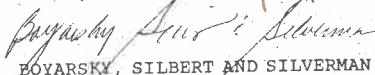
Board of Directors
Environmental and Energy Study
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We have audited the accompanying Balance Sheet of Environmental and Energy Study Institute as of December 31, 1990 and the related Statements of Income and Cash Flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Institute's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute as of December 31, 1990, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Very truly yours,


BOYARSKY, SILBERT AND SILVERMAN

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1990

Operating Revenues		
Publications and Subscriptions	\$ 279,388	
Grants and Contributions	<u>1,944,719</u>	
Total Operating Revenues		\$ 2,224,107
Expenses		
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ 546,619	
Other Direct Expenses	1,453,667	
Indirect Expenses	<u>80,545</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>2,080,831</u>
Excess of Operating Revenues Over Expenses		\$ 143,276
Other Revenues		
Interest	\$ 117,558	
Rental Income	<u>14,300</u>	
Total Other Income		<u>131,858</u>
Excess of Revenues Over Expenses		<u>\$ 275,134</u>

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1990

Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash in Banks	\$ 1,520,188	
Grants Receivable	114,825	
Prepaid Expenses	<u>6,507</u>	
Total Current Assets		\$ 1,641,520
Fixed Assets		
Property and Equipment	\$ 149,281	
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-92,361</u>	
Total Fixed Assets		56,920
Other Assets		
Security Deposits		<u>23,531</u>
Total Assets		<u>\$ 1,721,971</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balance		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 13,579	
Accrued Taxes	1,482	
Accrued Vacation	13,433	
Deferred Subscription Revenues	150,920	
Deferred Grant and Contribution Revenues	607,114	
Obligation Under Capital Lease	4,410	
Security Deposit	<u>1,397</u>	
Total Liabilities		\$ 792,335
Fund Balance		
Fund Balance at Jan. 1, 1990	\$ 654,502	
Changes in Fund Balance to Date	<u>275,134</u>	
Total Fund Balance		<u>929,636</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance		<u>\$ 1,721,971</u>

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Hundreds of people have contributed in countless ways to EESI's work. The following is EESI's "honor role" of people we invited to help us celebrate our fifth birthday.

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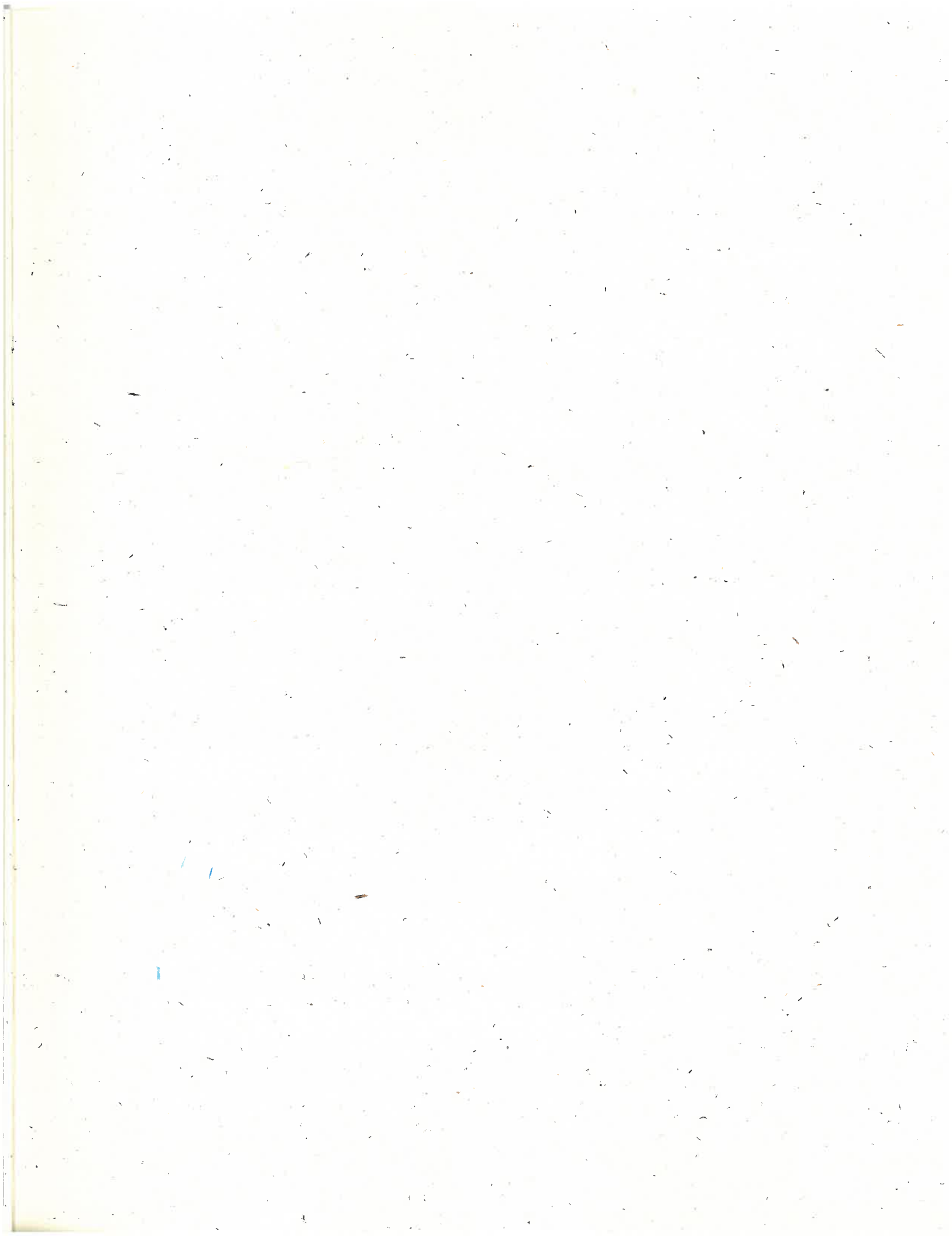
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