**Example Funddrive Letter -** Dear Fellow Potato Laker: Date:

A major threat is looming!! It’s an oil pipeline, the Sandpiper, and Enbridge could not have picked a worse route for it. It would cut through the heart of Minnesota’s clearest and cleanest lakes, through a vital drinking water aquifer in Hubbard County, through the state’s best wild rice waters, through valuable wetlands habitat and near the Mississippi headwaters. To get a clearer understanding of the route and its issues, please reference the enclosed maps and status summary. Both the DNR and PCA have voted thumbs down on the route; so should we!

While not against pipeline construction, Friends of the Headwaters (FOH) has taken on the complex and expansive task of challenging the proposed Enbridge route at the PUC. Their Commissioners are listening. On Sept. 11, they stood up for all Minnesotans who love their lakes and ordered the Dept. of Commerce to conduct an environmental review of citizen alternative routes that would bypass our lake country. It was an unprecedented action provoked by early legal efforts by FOH. But Enbridge, with its huge resources, is fighting back. We urge Minnesotans to join us and speak up for safe drinking water, the Mississippi headwaters and our lakes.

The number one priority of your lake association is to protect water quality on your lake. A pipeline leak, a likely event over its lifetime, would significantly threaten that water quality. As a result your board has resolved:

1. That the placement of the Sandpiper pipeline, as proposed by Enbridge, would pose a direct, imminent, and potentially irreversible level of damage to the water quality of Potato Lake and our way of life on the lake.
2. That the historically unprecedented actions taken by the PUC provide us with a “FIGHTING CHANCE” of having the pipeline routed away from the pristine waterways we call home.
3. That the best way we can encourage that result is to support FOH with calls to action and with donations to them, and to have PLA leadership take an active role in raising funds locally and across the state.

Your board has set a goal of raising $25,000 in support of the FOH. Early contributions from lake association members and the PLA treasury have already provided greater than $7,500. Some funding may come from our charitable fund, but we are seeking direct contributions from our lakeshore owners. FOH is educating the public and advocating for the relocation of the Sandpiper Pipeline Route to protect our waters and the environment of Hubbard County and Minnesota lake country. These donations are used to help cover FOH expenses such as educational materials, postage, FOH legal costs and expert witness testimony. Can you support this effort by enclosing a check payable to HCCOLA and note on the memo line: “FOH” and our lake name. Mail to: HCCOLA, PO Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470 – or – Donate Online at http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/donate.html. HCCOLA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization and your donation will be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Thanks for giving your lake a “FIGHTING CHANCE” and don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely; President – PLA

