



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

March 30, 2007

Jay T. Downen, Treasurer  
Montana Action Committee for Rural  
Electrification  
P.O. Box 1306  
Great Falls, MT 59403

**Response Due Date:  
April 30, 2007**

Identification Number: C00139360

Reference: 30 Day Post-General Report (10/19/06-11/26/06)

Dear Mr. Downen:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-Schedule B of your report discloses a total of \$5,746.26 in payments to your connected organization for "Reimburse Hosted Bar" and "Reimburse for Auction Dinner." 2 U.S.C. §441b prohibits a corporation or labor organization from contributing or expending funds for the purpose of influencing any federal election; however, a connected organization may pay for the solicitation and administrative costs of its separate segregated fund. Further, 11 CFR §114.2(f) prohibits corporations and labor organizations from facilitating the making of contributions to candidates or political committees, other than to the separate segregated funds of the corporations and labor organizations. Facilitation means using corporate or labor organization resources or facilities to engage in fundraising activities in connection with any federal election. The use of corporate or labor organization resources in connection with a fundraiser may be permissible for certain fundraising activities only if the corporation or labor organization receives advance payment for the fair market value of such services. 11 CFR §114.2(f)(2)(i)(A), (C) and (E)

Please amend your report to clarify whether the payment to your connected organization was for expenditures which were intended to influence federal

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elections and provide the dates of the activity conducted by your connected organization. In addition, please clarify whether your committee made advance payment for these services to your connected organization. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this matter, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Reimburse Hosted Bar" and "Reimburse for Auction Dinner" on Schedule B. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B or E supporting Lines 23 or 24 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-Your report disclosed certain categories of financial activity that have been reflected on the wrong lines of the Detailed Summary Page. Offsets to operating expenditures should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule(s) A, supporting Line(s) 15 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

-2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3) requires itemization of contributions from individuals and persons other than political committees, where the aggregate total from the contributor exceeds \$200 in a calendar year. In addition, 11 CFR §104.3(a)(2)(i)(B) requires a committee to report the total amount of unitemized contributions (see Line 11(a)(ii) of the Detailed Summary Page). If a committee wishes to disclose contributions regardless of the amount contributed, the committee must separate (on separate receipt schedules) those contributors requiring itemization from those who are not required to be itemized. 11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i) For future filings, please submit your reports in this order.

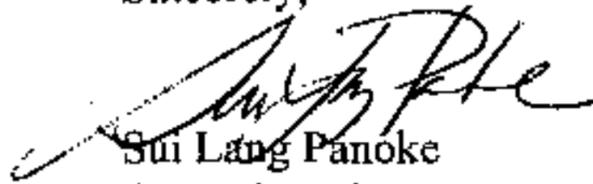
**Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter.** Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any

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questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1301.

Sincerely,



Sui Lang Panoke  
Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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