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04/02/2003 19 : 53

March 17, 2003

Identification Number: ¯C00135368

Reference:Π
FEC letter dated 02/20/03 in response to Amended 30 Day Post General Report (10/17/02-11/25/02), received 12/19/02

Dear Ms. Parks:

This letter pertains to the Commission's request that a response or an amendment be made to the report mentioned above. The Commission identified that the Sierra Club Political Committee may have made an excessive contribution to several campaigns. Please refer below for the actions taken.

Erskine Bowles General Election Campaign: An excessive contribution was inadvertantly given to the Erskine Bowles General election campaign. A letter requesting a refund was sent upon becoming aware of the excess contribution made. A copy of the letter follows in another Miscellaneous Electronic Submission.

Blumenauer for Congress, Hoeffel for Congress, and Feeley for Congress General Election Campaigns: An excessive contribution was inadvertantly given to the campaigns listed above. Several attempts were made to collect a refund including phone calls made by Jon Schneider, National Political Representative, on 1/15/03 and 1/30/03. Due to the lack of response a follow up letter was sent to request a refund of the excess contribution. Copies of the letters follow in another Miscellaneous Electronic Submissions.

Katrina Swett for Congress General Election Campaign: An excessive contribution was inadvertantly given to the Katrina Swett for Congress General election campaign. A letter requesting a refund was sent upon becoming aware of the excess contribution made. A copy of the letter follows in another Miscellaneous Electronic Submission.

Luther for Congress General Election Campaign: You also identified that there may have been an excessive contribution to the Luther for Congress General election campaign. A stop payment was placed on the check for $1,000 dated 6/14/02 reported in transaction ID SB23.6018. The stop payment was issued on 8/22/02 and was reported in the September Monthly report in transaction ID SB23.7162. Taking this into consideration, the expenses no longer exceed the campaign limit.

In schedule B you noted that there was a $40,000 'contribution' to our connected organization. The wording noting it as a 'contribution' on Line 23 is a clerical error. The report has been amended with the correct description as 'Advance for services' on Line 21-b.

In your letter you also noted that there were several disbursements recorded after the General election. Expenditures recorded after the election date result from

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the Sierra Club Political Committee acting on a cash basis. Expenditures are reported to the FEC when the check is issued which results in some disbursements being reported after the General election date. These expenditures primarily result from staff campaign expenses which may not be submitted for reimbursement until after returning from campaign work. This results in several checks related to in-kind contributions which are not issued or reported until after the election date. This practice has been used for a number of years and was approved by our report analyst.

Continued on the next miscellaneous electronic submission...