

March 2, 2021

Minnesota House of Representatives – Climate and Energy Committee

Peter Klein – VP of Finance, Saint Paul Port Authority – Testimony Regarding Green Financing Authority

Saint Paul Port Authority (SPPA):

Created by the Legislature in 1932 to operate the harbor (largest on upper Mississippi)

Primary function is to clean up polluted properties and make them available to businesses

Two dozen industrial parks employing over 25,000 individuals with livable wages

Recently became involved with financing energy projects throughout the State

Trillion BTU revolving loan fund (TBTU):

Funded with \$5MM of American Resource and Recovery Act (ARRA) in 2010 – Legislature

Additional \$10MM of ARRA funding over the next several years – Department of Commerce

Financed over 250 projects, \$100MM, with energy savings exceeding 500 Billion BTUs

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE):

SPPA started MinnPACE in 2014 at the request of the Department of Commerce

Statewide program with 63 separate County Joint Powers Agreements (JPAs)

Financed over 300 projects, \$150MM, with energy savings exceeding 500 Billion BTUs

TBTU funds most projects but private sector financial institutions are the final source

TBTU and PACE Combined:

The programs have saved over 1 Trillion BTUs annually

100% financing of the cost of the projects and immediate positive cash flow to the business

Thousands of jobs have been created and tons of pollutants have been prevented