I. Led Major Campaign on Renewable Energy: Power to the People!

EarthAction, working with many other organizations, led a campaign to increase our shift from using fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy. As part of this campaign, we:

• Designed graphically powerful and informative ACTION KITs, and distributed them to over 4,500 policymakers, organizations, businesses and citizens.

• Participated in and gave presentations at six major renewable energy conferences including the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference held in March 2008
• Created the Alliance for Renewable Energy—ARE, a coalition of businesses, organizations, legislators, research institutions, and citizens, with a 20 member Steering Committee of leading energy experts. ARE’s North American mission is to create awareness of and build support for ‘the world’s most effective renewable energy policies’—Renewable Energy Payments (REPs), also called ‘Feed-in Tariffs’ in Europe and elsewhere. Lois Barber, EarthAction’s Executive Director serves as ARE’s Co-chair. Over 7 states, and one city (Gainesville, FL) have either adopted REPs, or are in the process of adopting and strengthening their current REP legislation.

• Created the Alliance for Renewable Energy website: www.AllianceForRenewableEnergy.org, the central site for information and organizing on Renewable Energy Payment (REPs) policies. Over 200 individuals, businesses, and organizations have endorsed REPs.

(Image courtesy of Flickr user Matthew Fang, shared under a Creative Commons license. http://flickr.com/photos/matthewfch/788566153/)

• Publicized Renewable Energy Payment Policies in journals and magazines. The 'Legal Eagle' section of the May/June issue of EnergyBiz magazine featured a Guest Opinion piece written by Lois Barber, Executive Director of EarthAction.)
II. Featured 30 Campaigns and issues on our Website, including:

A Step Forward on Cluster Bombs

In May 2008, in Dublin, Ireland, 107 countries adopted the Convention On Cluster Munitions, a treaty to ban the use of cluster bombs. We urged Partners and friends to sign a petition that calls on all governments to sign and ratify the treaty.

(Photo courtesy of Flickr user Leesan under the Creative Commons License. http://flickr.com/photos/leesean/2554386884/)

Save the Patagonian Forests and Rivers
We asked people to write letters to Chief Executive Eliodoro Matte of the HydroAysen project in Chile, asking him to stop a project that would clear a path of Patagonian forest between the Aysen dams and Santiago, destroying 35,000 acres of forest. The plan also included 5 dams on the Baker and Pescua rivers.

(Photo of Windy Patagonia is courtesy of Flickr user zamario, shared under a Creative Commons license. http://flickr.com/photos/zamario/386803195/)

“Dear China, . . . Sincerely, the Dalai Lama”

We featured the Dalai Lama’s personal appeal to the Chinese people to “make all efforts to reconcile and resolve all conflicts, however small.” (Link to his personal letter: http://www.atc.org.au/content/view/590/28/)

(Image of the Dalai Lama courtesy of Flickr user FerneMillen, shared under a Creative Commons license. http://flickr.com/photos/musicphoto/736535619/)

Mining Issue in El Salvador
We asked people to take action against a mining project in El Salvador that would take 30,000 liters of water a day away from the only source of water for the campesinos (peasant farmers) in the San Isidro region.

Save the Alaskan Old Growth Rain Forests!

We urged people to write to the Bush administration to protect Alaska’s Tongass National Forest, an old growth forest and a valuable carbon sink.

(Photo courtesy of Flickr user Neil Clement, shared under a Creative Commons license. http://flickr.com/photos/7749014@N02/1323475994/)

Congratulations Grassy Narrows!
We featured the success of environmental groups in stopping the logging of the traditional territory of the Grassy Narrows First Nation land in Ontario, Canada.

(Photo courtesy of Rainforest Action Network. www.ran.org)

World Environment Day is Approaching!

We promoted the United Nations Environment Programme’s (UNEP) World Environment Day, June 5, an international event celebrated by non-profits, schools, governments, and individuals all around the world. This year’s slogan was "Kick the Habit: Towards a Low Carbon Economy."

(Photo courtesy of flickr user KaCey97007. http://flickr.com/photos/kacey/428061692/)

Save The Whales!
We asked people to contact the US Navy and urge them to stop needlessly injuring and killing whales with mid-frequency sonar used during their routine training exercises.

(Photo courtesy of Flickr user Zen, shared under a Creative Commons license. http://flickr.com/photos/zen/286521633/)

Save the Polar Bears. Protect their Environment.

We urged everyone to write to his/her state representative to stop legislation proposed by the Bush Administration that would allow drilling for oil in 20 million acres of prime polar bear habitat.

(Polar bear photo courtesy of Flickr user ironmanix, shared under a Creative Commons license. http://flickr.com/photos/ironmanixs/452832401/)

III. Website & Internet Communications:
In 2008, to have greater outreach, increase our effectiveness, and cut our production costs, EarthAction greatly improved its electronic communication technology. We:

- Completely redesigned our website using open source software.
- Completed an email survey of our 2,600 Partner Organizations in 165 countries to assess their internet capabilities and learn how we can best meet their needs.
- Developed a strategic plan on how to best use the Internet and social media to further our mission and reach out to our Partners.
- Shared the technology resources we are developing and using with other non-profits to help them develop their Internet presence. (See http://www.earthaction.typepad.com/home/introduction-to-blogging.html for more information.)
- Worked closely with three student interns from Hampshire College who led our technology transformation.

Rebekah Olstad

Meghan Maloney

Ananda Valenzuela
IV. Award

In May 2008, in recognition of her leadership and achievements, Lois Barber, Co-founder and Executive Director of EarthAction, received the ‘Unsung Heroine’ award from the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women at a ceremony in the Massachusetts State House. In honor of the award, Lois received recognition for her work from the House of Representatives, the Senate, and Governor Duval Patrick.