I want to talk a little bit about why I'm doing this [running for Vice President on the Green Party ticket], and what brought me to it. A lot of you probably don't know much about my history or what we do in my com-

munity, but I've worked for about 20 years on environmental issues from pretty much a Native perspective. During the course of that work I've spoken to everything from single family to almost every single administrative hearing process in this country that you could go to. In the course of that work I've discovered that most of those processes don't work, or sometimes they work and we 'll still some-
things, but the things that come up time after time is the issue of the electoral process, the fact that bad people have been elected, and bad people been to corporations make bad decisions that affect all of us.

The question is posed to people like you and I, what are we going to do? I'm probably like a lot of other people; I've not been a big participant in electoral processes, largely because if you think of it from a Native perspective, if they had one person vote, 100 years ago, things would look quite a bit differently in the United States than they look now. But they did not actually have an Indian right to vote in this country until we were less than 1% of the population. That's indicative of how disenfranchised our community is from the American system. Obviously that's an inten-
tional, and obviously there are a lot of pieces to that, including that we have our own sovereignty.

In addition, if one considers the circum-
stances which we are in, I'm someone who believes that we as progressive people, or as people from these rural communities, or people from communities like mine who are at the back end of bad public policy—we have to rise to the challenge and go through the process of decisions and public policy are written not for the richest people in this country, but for the poor people. It's believe that then, I actually must put my own arm into that process, and struggle with that as each of us does. As my friend Ralph will say, it's to rise being a private citizen to being a public citizen.

We've traveled around there's an excel-
ent result as I go to different places. Now first, I have to issue a disclaimer. Have four or five old newborns. I'm definitely the only Vice-Presidential candidate who is nursing, which means that I do not travel as much as my colleague Ralph, who is not

nursing in this election year. But as I go around the country I find what I'm sure a lot of you find, that a lot of people are frustrated with the options, a lot of people don't think that there's much that they can do, a lot of people have disempowered themselves. The encouragement that I try to give in my talks as I go to those different places is that change is made by people like you and me. Change is made by common people, it is not made by someone who comes from somewhere else and fixes it. There's nobody who's going to fix it but us.

The work that we do on my own White Earth Reservation in northern Minnesota, the people who are resisting plans to suck out all the water from an aquifer up in northern Wisconsin, the people who resist those things are people you and I. The words I give are going to encourage people towards that, and I find that it really resonates with people all around the country. They want to feel like there is something they can do.

We all will agree that electoral politics is an important part of an overall piece of how you change things, but it's not the only thing that you do. You engage in your political work in every arena you can, whether it's rebuilding your community, whether it's litigating, whether it's seeking some kind of administra-

tive redress. You need to continue all those pieces of work, but you move towards elec-
toral activity. People would like to feel, in my experience, that there's somebody they can vote for who meant something to them. I hear that a lot of places. This one farmer came up to me last year and he says, "I must tell you that I'm a violent and secret supporter of you. I think that there are a lot of people out there who are like that, who are just common people who would like to believe in some-
thing, who know that people did for the right to vote in this country and they'd like to cast their vote for something that they believed in.

So I would say that there's an increasing interest in this, and I will try to do my part to keep encouraging this process, to encour-
age people to engage in it.

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"I don't believe many people know how big organic farming in Cuba really is", Juan Jose Leon Vega, Agriculture Ministry director of external relations

Eat pesky bugs, virus that combat bad vi-
ruses, larvae that kill other pests, and all manner of natural weapons to combat what process of recovery identify they. So you'll get the same answer ten times: it is safer for the campesinos or workers in the field; safer for the workers who consume, safer for the workers' families. It is, after all, the concept of the "agriculture of the humble, by the humble and for the humble" said one government functionary.

But all ten will admit, not even pressed, that the real incentive was the loss of the Soviet support. When the Soviets were supplying chemi-
cal fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, and tracto-

rized American shores? Very remote. One en-
tiy to the American market might have been through setting up a joint venture with some European countries to produce the biologi-
cal pest control.

"We had a lot of interested parties," said Dr. Emilio Fernandez of the Crop Protection Institute, "but they were afraid if they got too close to business with us, their own exports (to the United States) would be cut off." So today it is Cuba. The world tomorrow, and the United States, I don't know after that.

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