C:\Users\Shelley Gaskin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\WR39D18L\MCj02153420000[1].wmfMemphis Primary Materials

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Research on Environmental Economics

The Harvard Environmental Economics Program (HEEP) conducts research on the impact of environmental issues on local economies and on a global scale. The program brings together “faculty and graduate students engaged in research, teaching, and outreach in environmental and natural resource economics and related public policy.”

Harvard Faculty Fellows collaborate with a broad range of experts in industry, universities, government, and private think tanks to provide up-to-date research on topics in environmental economics.

Research topics include global climate change, costs and benefits of environmental protection, political implications of environmental policy, corporate social responsibility, natural resource economics, environmental employment, and energy policy. Many of these issues are directly related to the businesses in and around the Memphis metropolitan area.

The Hard Costs of Pollution

The Bangor Maine Daily News reports that a University of Maine Researcher has determined that the annual cost in Maine of childhood diseases caused by pollutants is $380.9 million.

Maine has already adopted policies to combat the effects of pollution, such as screening children for lead, which have lowered disease rates and lowered costs. “It is clear that reducing childhood exposure to environmental pollutants would provide a sizeable economic benefit to the state,” the report concludes.

Conditions reported to be caused by pollution include lead poisoning, cancer, asthma, autism, ADD, and mental retardation. Lead poisoning alone accounts for $268 million in annual costs.

Environmental Economics Conference

Memphis Primary Materials is a cosponsor of the upcoming Memphis Environmental Economics Conference, which will be held in the Civic Auditorium on September 23-24. The conference will include sessions from experts in business, labor, research, and local and state governments.

The conference will focus on the anticipated rapid growth of “green jobs” during the coming decade, and the impact that these jobs are likely to have on worldwide environmental economics. For additional information about environmental economics, see the attached white paper entitled Environmental Economics and Business.

For more information about the conference sessions, along with an online registration form, go to:

www.memphisprimarymaterials.com/MEEC