

**Statement by Rebecca Brown  
Program Associate, Environmental Justice  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee  
Cambridge, Mass., May 7, 2008**

My name is Rebecca Brown and I represent the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, co-filer with NorthStar Asset Management, on proposal #5.

The human right to water requires corporations to respect people's access to safe, sufficient, affordable water. This requires that its operations not negatively impact water tables surrounding their bottling plants; not pollute local water sources and to have a mechanism for complaint and redress for consumers and community members impacted by its operations.

Is there a Human Right to Water? Our company states that it decided not to adopt a human right to water policy because it has not been recognized in law. However, Last week a South African High Court declared that the human right to water was guaranteed to all South African citizens under both South African and international law. Judge Tsoka cited numerous international human rights convention as all explicitly recognizing a human right to water.

National constitutions in eight countries have or are creating human right to water provisions in their Constitutions. The Indian courts have recognized it through the right to life and France recognizes this right in their National Water Bill.

The special representative of the secretary general of the United Nations, John Ruggie, reported last month on a framework for business and human rights. Ruggie reiterated that OECD Guidelines, the Global Compact, International Bill of Human Rights and the core conventions of the International Labor Organization, all require corporations to respect human rights and to do so with due diligence.

The reason we are asking for your vote on this resolution today is because it will have a real impact on people's lives.

Bottling companies have created water scarcity problems in the areas in which they operate. In India it has been documented that water tables dropped 26 feet in the last seven years in some areas. Our company states on its website that we are investing in water-scarce regions of India by digging wells and boreholes. But in many cases, it was our operations which exacerbated the water scarcity to begin with. By adopting a human right to water policy, PepsiCo can take a step forward in showing that we respect our customers and communities in which we operate and try to prevent massive depletion of water resources before it happens.

UUSC has partners in many countries around the world whose daily lives depend on access to safe, sufficient, affordable water. In many of these countries, such as Tanzania, lack of sufficient, safe water resources require women to often walk a mile to the nearest

source, which is often still polluted. In Ecuador, 158 children contracted Hepatitis A when it was supplied to their school. In Detroit, people's homes are being condemned and their children put in foster care because they can't afford water.

Indeed, who doesn't need water? We all do. Including our company. This resolution is asking that we all realize for one moment that water isn't like anything else. It's more important than oil or gold, to which it has been compared. Water is life.

We ask our fellow shareholders to vote FOR Proposal #5.