

1990

POLICY RESOLUTIONS



GREAT LAKES UNITED
8th Annual Meeting
May 4-6, 1990

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN

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INTRODUCTION

Since 1982, Great Lakes United has grown into a coalition of over 180 environmental, sportsmen, union, governmental and small business organizations throughout the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Basin. The international headquarters was located in Buffalo, New York in January 1985. Great Lakes United has been instrumental in key policy issues such as Winter Navigation, the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Water Diversions and public participation programs for the citizens of the Basin.

Great Lakes United is dedicated to the protection, conservation and proper management of the Great Lakes Basin. Policy Resolutions are developed, discussed and adopted during our annual meetings to further enhance our common goals. Annual Meetings of Great Lakes United's organizational delegates were held in Detroit, Michigan (1983), Toronto, Ontario (1984), Chicago, Illinois (1985), Mackinaw City, Michigan (1986), Niagara Falls, Ontario (1987), Cleveland, Ohio (1988), Owen Sound, Ontario (1989) and Green Bay, Wisconsin (1990). This document is an account of the resolutions passed at the Eighth Annual Meeting held on May 6, 1990 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Great Lakes United has always viewed the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System as an inter-related ecosystem. Our resolutions are a documentation that citizens, community leaders and officials share this perspective and promote environmentally sound public policy directed at the protection of the world's greatest natural resource. Great Lakes United urges its membership and other interested parties to utilize the enclosed resolutions in public forums and comment periods to achieve our common goal of Great Lakes conservation.

In May of 1982, representatives of conservation, environmental, union and community organizations from the eight Great Lakes states and two Canadian provinces bordering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, met on Mackinac Island, Michigan. At that meeting, a Great Lakes Resolution was drawn and adopted by the participants who resolved to form a new international organization, now known as Great Lakes United. These goals and objectives read as follows:

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are the greatest fresh water system on earth; AND

WHEREAS, 50 million people live within and influence the Great Lakes ecosystem and millions more receive economic, recreational and spiritual benefits from them; AND

WHEREAS, there is a need for economic strategies compatible with maintenance of the natural system; AND

WHEREAS, there is a need for cooperation and coordinated citizen action on behalf of the Great Lakes; AND

WHEREAS, we have agreed on the need for such action on the critical issues of: Water Quality; Hazardous and Toxic Substances; Atmospheric Deposition; Regulation of Levels and Flows including Diversions; Fish and Wildlife Management and Habitat Protection; Energy Development and Distribution; Land Quality and Land Use Practices; Navigation Issues such as Winter Navigation, Additional Locks, Channel Modifications, etc; and Public Support for Great Lakes Ecosystem Research, Education and Management.

THEREFORE, we resolve to establish a Great Lakes organization to provide an information exchange and a forum for working together on these issues.

For further information call or write:

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AIR QUALITY RESOLUTION

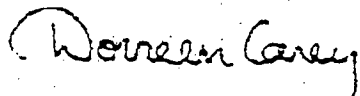
**RESOLUTION ON
CLEAN AIR ACT**

WHEREAS, the passage of the U.S. Clean Air Act reauthorization is imminent; AND

WHEREAS, air toxics are a major contributor to pollution in the Great Lakes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United set up a transboundary working group in conjunction with the Zero Discharge Alliance to develop a strategy for implementation of the air toxics provisions of the Clean Air Act and similar Canadian clean air initiatives and strategies for applying the policy of zero discharge to air toxics in accordance with Annex 15 of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.



Dorreen Carey, Secretary

LEVELS, FLOWS AND DIVERSION RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION ON WATER LEVELS

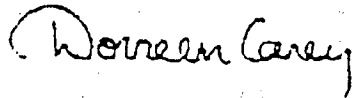
WHEREAS, Great Lakes United has advocated an ecosystem approach to lake level concerns; AND

WHEREAS, Great Lakes United opposes additional diversions of water out of the Great Lakes ecosystem and has stated opposition to alterations to the system that reduce natural fluctuations of water levels in the Great Lakes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United affirm its opposition to construction of new water level control structures in the Great Lakes; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the plan of study for Phase 2 of the IJC water level study emphasize identifying responses to water level fluctuations that do not require structural controls. These include approaches such as coastal zone hazard planning and other land use management approaches.

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Dorreen Carey
Dorreen Carey, Secretary

LAND USE AND COASTAL ISSUES RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION ON REAUTHORIZATION AND STRENGTHENING THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 encourages states to develop comprehensive coastal management programs meeting federal standards in exchange for federal funding and a say over federal actions affecting their coasts; AND

WHEREAS, the CZMA includes the Great Lakes states as part of the United States coasts; AND

WHEREAS, the CZMA must be reauthorized by the U.S. Congress by October 1990 or expire; AND

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are facing tremendous development pressure which increases the need for long-term, far-sighted coastal management; AND

WHEREAS, Great Lakes resources threatened by unwise development include abundant wildlife and fisheries, important habitat, water quality and shoreline integrity; AND

WHEREAS, Great Lakes resources would benefit from CZMA reauthorization through the reinstatement of the consistency provision and the strengthening of the wetlands and water quality provisions; AND

WHEREAS, Great Lakes resources are critical commercially, recreationally and aesthetically to the Great Lakes Basin; AND

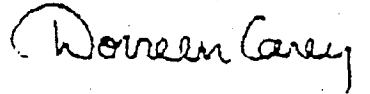
WHEREAS, the Great Lakes states of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have federally approved Coastal Zone Management Programs, and the State of Ohio is currently taking steps to join the federal Coastal Zone Management Program; AND

WHEREAS, the CZMA's tools for wise coastal management could be continued and strengthened through Congressional action; AND

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United urges the United States Congress to reauthorize and strengthen the Coastal Zone Management Act prior to its expiration in October 1990; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Great Lakes states not currently participating in the federal Coastal Zone Management Program take immediate steps to join the Program so that the Great Lakes ecosystem can benefit fully from comprehensive, Basin-wide shoreline management.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorreen Carey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Dorreen Carey, Secretary

RESOLUTION ON EXPANSION OF THE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM TO UNDEVELOPED COASTAL AREAS ALONG THE GREAT LAKES

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are a crucial national resource, comprising 95 percent of the United States' fresh surface water, and providing drinking water for the Great Lakes population; AND

WHEREAS, coastal wetlands help reduce shoreline erosion by slowing waterflow and binding sediment, and provide food and shelter for many types of fish and animal life; AND

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes economy depends on nearshore aquatic habitats, which are spawning grounds for commercially important fish; AND

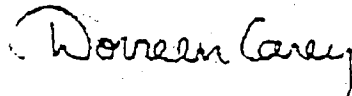
WHEREAS, water-based recreation and tourism contribute 8 to 12 billion dollars annually to the Great Lakes' economy; AND

WHEREAS, shoreline development contributes pollution to nearshore waters, threatening drinking water supplies; destroying critical habitat such as wetlands and marshes; endangering important fish and bird species; and impairing access to beaches and shorelands for public recreation; AND

WHEREAS, a bill, H.R. 2840 -- the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1989 -- would add to the System 58,000 acres along the Great Lakes, including 153 shoreline miles; AND

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United urges the United States Congress to act quickly to extend the protective Coastal Barrier Resources System to undeveloped, eligible barriers, such as wetlands, bluffs, dunes and beaches, along the Great Lakes by passing H.R. 2840 in the House and similar legislation in the Senate.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.



Dorreen Carey, Secretary

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE STRENGTHENING AND
PASSAGE OF THE MICHIGAN SCENIC RIVERS ACT OF 1990**

WHEREAS, Michigan has outstanding wild and scenic rivers; AND

WHEREAS, Michigan Rivers are a key to Great Lakes water quality since 40% of the states rivers flow into Lake Superior, 35% into Lake Michigan, and 25% into Lakes Huron and Erie; AND

WHEREAS, The U.S. Forest Service has already studied important sections of the Pine and the Manistee River and found 188 miles to quality for wild and scenic protection; AND

WHEREAS, many important Michigan Rivers flow outside of national forest boundaries and need protection; AND

WHEREAS, the national and state Wild and Scenic River programs are designed to protect threatened rivers and those on private lands; AND

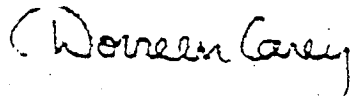
WHEREAS, Wild and Scenic protection will preserve and in some cases enhance current recreational uses like canoeing, hunting, fishing, and trapping; AND

WHEREAS, Wild and Scenic status will protect 14 Michigan rivers from damming, excess timber development, and wetland destruction; AND

WHEREAS, many rivers in the Michigan National Forests qualify for wild or scenic river status;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United and its member organizations support passage of a strong Michigan Scenic Rivers legislation and pass our concerns on to appropriate parties.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.



Dorreen Carey, Secretary

**RESOLUTION ON
TOBICO MARSH AND BAY CITY STATE PARK**

WHEREAS, the Tobico Marsh is being altered from reduced water flow; AND

WHEREAS, there is a need to redevelop the Tobico Marsh as a predator fish-spawning area; AND

WHEREAS, there is a unprecedented need for boat launching sites away from the Saginaw River; AND

WHEREAS, there is a need by fisherman to access the walleye fishery in front of Bay City State Park; AND

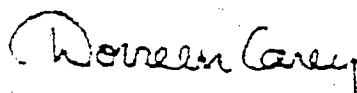
WHEREAS, the present walleye numbers are expected to be vastly increased; AND

WHEREAS, there is a need for an access site where the needs of anglers and the rights of private property owners do not conflict;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United support the development of a PUBLIC boat launching complex at Bay City State Park which would include a means of providing uninhibited waterflow to and from the Tobico Marsh; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a launching complex be developed to provide fishing sites for the public, including senior citizens and handicapped persons.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.



Dorreen Carey, Secretary

WATER QUALITY RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION ON ZERO DISCHARGE TASK FORCE

BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United set up a Zero Discharge Task Force

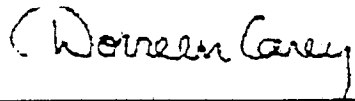
A. Purpose

To build a zero discharge movement and constituency throughout the Great Lakes Basin by creating a basin wide Zero Discharge Alliance that includes individuals, grassroots community groups and other pro-environment groups throughout the basin.

1. Support and network zero discharge strategies and programs throughout the Basin.
2. Assist local community organizations.
3. Launch zero discharge campaign.
4. Develop productive and supportive relationship with labor.
 - a. Address displacement and job loss issues.
5. Any other activities suggested by the Task Force.

Over the next several months, the Zero Discharge Task Force will develop its terms of reference, the mechanisms for communication and support and a campaign. The Task Force's objective will be to launch the campaign in the fall with a Zero Discharge Alliance conference with the largest and broadest participation possible.

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Dorreen Carey, Secretary

RESOLUTION ON GREAT LAKES ANTIDegradation POLICY

WHEREAS, at the 1989 Annual Meeting, Great Lakes United resolved: to call upon U.S. EPA to begin a process that will result in promulgation of legally enforceable requirements specifying how Great Lakes state water quality standards and pollution control regulations should reflect the requirements of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. These requirements should address, at a minimum, achieving reductions in total loadings of toxic substances in the Great Lakes through the use of Great Lakes water quality criteria, Great Lakes antidegradation policies and procedures and the use of water quality standards to develop pollution controls on all pollutant sources; AND

WHEREAS, since then, the U.S. EPA has undertaken the Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative with the intention of implementing the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement through coordination of the U.S. EPA and State water quality activities by (1) establishing Great Lakes-specific water quality criteria, (2) incorporating the criteria in State regulatory activities and (3) implementing the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement's goal of virtual elimination of persistent toxic substances; AND

WHEREAS, the current issuance and enforcement of NPDES permits with technology and water quality-based effluent limits cannot prevent increases in loadings of persistent toxic substances due to increases in industrial production or population growth; AND

WHEREAS, the Water Quality Initiative is considering adopting an antidegradation policy in regards to any increase in discharges of persistent toxic substances and applying that policy as a way to move expeditiously to freeze the total loadings of persistent toxic substances; AND

WHEREAS, the antidegradation proposal before the U.S. EPA Water Quality Initiative steering committee contains several loopholes that allow polluters to circumvent its intent and increase discharge of persistent toxic substances; AND

WHEREAS, at the 1989 Annual Meeting, Great Lakes United resolved to endorse the adoption of a Toxic Freeze and further resolved: that the Toxics Freeze is recognized as only the first step and must be coupled with measures that will reduce the total mass loadings of toxic substances according to a strict timetable; AND

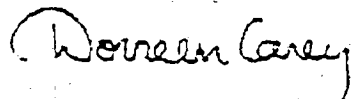
WHEREAS, there are no economic and social justifications for degrading our nation's water supply;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United supports the inclusion of strong antidegradation procedures as part of the U.S. EPA's Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative. The antidegradation policies and procedures should be used to move expeditiously to zero discharge of persistent toxic substances. Such policies should be implemented in conjunction with efforts such as Lakewide Management Plans and Remedial Action Plans that set clear targets for reducing total loadings of persistent toxic chemicals in regular, enforceable steps to zero. Antidegradation review should be triggered not only by proposed or actual increases above current discharges, but should be also triggered by increases above target load allocations derived from load reduction plans thereby assuring steady progress to zero discharge; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United proposes that Great Lakes antidegradation policy be implemented in such a way that:

1. any exception to antidegradation prohibitions be treated as "variances" so that decisions about proposed exceptions are made in a public forum,
2. such exceptions be allowed only after the discharger requesting exception satisfies the following hierarchy of legally enforceable requirements:
 - a) that the discharger has implemented a waste reduction program using the best available waste reduction/pollution prevention techniques,
 - b) that the discharger can prove that no environmental damage will occur and that the proof is corroborated by independent experts.
 - c) that economic and social factors shall not be considered reasons for variances.

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Dorreen Carey
Dorreen Carey, Secretary

**RESOLUTION ON
BANNING CHLORINE IN THE PAPER INDUSTRY**

WHEREAS, the International Joint Commission on the Great Lakes in its Fifth Biennial Report recommended to the parties that Lake Superior be used as a test case "where no point source of any persistent toxic substance will be permitted"; AND

WHEREAS, by far the largest toxic point source discharger into Lake Superior is the paper industry which puts massive quantities of organochlorine poisons into Lake Superior; AND

WHEREAS, this mass of toxic pollution can be reduced to zero without job loss by banning the use of chlorine and chlorine compounds for de-lignification and bleaching by the pulp industry; AND

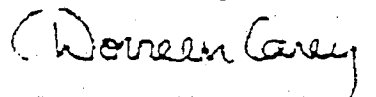
WHEREAS, zero discharge of these poisons can be achieved in no other way;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United calls upon all U.S. and Canadian Jurisdictions on Lake Superior to ban the use of chlorine and chlorine compounds used for de-lignification and bleaching by the paper industry on Lake Superior; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United views this as a litmus test issue in determining whether or not political leaders and regulators are willing to comply with the visionary spirit of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; AND

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United supports a ban on the use of chlorine and chlorine compounds for de-lignification and bleaching by the paper industry throughout the Great Lakes/ St. Lawrence River Basin, throughout North America and throughout the world.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.



Dorreen Carey, Secretary

POLICY RESOLUTION
GREAT LAKES UNITED
MAY 6 1990

**RESOLUTION ON
RAPS**

WHEREAS, urban non-point source pollution is a significant contributor to toxic and conventional contamination in the Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOC); AND

WHEREAS, urban non-point pollution is frequently not addressed in adequate detail by Remedial Action Plans (RAPs);

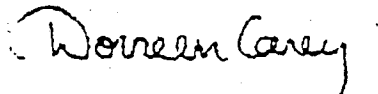
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that RAP writing teams be advised that all RAPs should thoroughly identify and investigate all potential AOC and upstream sources of urban non-point source pollution; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all RAPs should include existing data, for all identified and likely sources of urban non-point source pollution, then make detailed recommendations for monitoring, levels of detection, specific sources, estimations of loadings, specific methods of remediation, a timetable for completion, a list of parties responsible for remediation, and a list of potential sources of funding for remediation; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that remedial measures for cleaning up urban non-point source pollution should set a goal of zero toxic discharge, with emphasis on the source reduction of polluting substances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that remedial measures be developed in the control of urban runoff and the use of wetlands be considered as an appropriate management tool to prevent further degradation of water quality resulting from urban runoff.

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Dorreen Carey, Secretary

**CHANGES TO RESOLUTION ON
INCREASED FEDERAL FUNDING OF
THE GREAT LAKES RESEARCH LABORATORIES**

approved changes underlined

WHEREAS, the Reagan and Bush Administrations have attempted to reduce or to eliminate funding of federal Great Lakes research and monitoring activities in 10 successive budget proposals (FY's 1982-1990); AND

WHEREAS, the Administrations have repeatedly argued that research and management of Great Lakes resources is a regional matter and a responsibility of Great Lakes states under the "New Federalism" concept; AND

WHEREAS, Congress has maintained approximately level funding for federal Great Lakes research in the face of proposed Administration cuts since 1981; AND

WHEREAS, the purchasing power of federal Great Lakes research programs has been seriously eroded by inflation as a result of this level of funding; AND

WHEREAS, budget erosion has led to an inability to purchase advanced scientific equipment necessary for state-of-the-art research and to grave understaffing; AND

WHEREAS, the United States is obligated to maintain a viable Great Lakes research program under provisions of the United States-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreements of 1972 and 1978 and the amendments of 1987; AND

WHEREAS, the International Joint Commission -- the United States-Canada organization empowered to administer the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement -- has termed the budget cuts in research as "short-sighted and potentially dangerous" in its Biennial Reports to the Governments on Great Lakes Water Quality; AND

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes states, through the Great Lakes Commission, have called repeatedly for funding restoration to federal Great Lakes research programs; AND

WHEREAS, while the Great Lakes states have responsibility for intrastate research, they lack the resources and coordination to conduct basin-wide ecosystem Great Lakes research activities; AND

WHEREAS, sound and cost-effective care and management of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River ecosystem can only be accomplished by a strong federal research presence that includes close coordination with Canada; AND

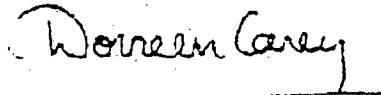
WHEREAS, even though environmental groups, public interest groups, foundations, state and local governments and some corporations have funded some important Great Lakes research, there is an indispensable federal role in research that cannot be ignored and must not be supplanted;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United petition Congress to increase the funding for federal Great Lakes research programs because of their losses due to inflation since 1980; these programs include, but are not limited to:

1. NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, Ann Arbor, Michigan;
2. EPA's Research Stations at Grosse Ile, Michigan and Duluth, Minnesota;
3. Great Lakes research programs funded through the United States Commerce Department's Sea Grant Program at universities in the Great Lakes Region;
4. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Fisheries Center - Great Lakes, Arbor, Michigan
5. NOAA's Great Lakes Research Coordinating Office as specified in the 1987 Clean Water Act; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United support the full annual eleven million dollars funding level authorized in Congress to implement the Great Lakes Amendment to the Clean Water Act.

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Dorreen Carey, Secretary

FISH, WILDLIFE & HABITAT RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION ON INTRODUCTION OF EXOTIC SPECIES INTO
THE GREAT LAKES ECOSYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the members of Great Lakes United have endorsed prevention of the introduction of exotic species such as River Ruffe, White Perch, Zebra Mussel, giant cladoceran, Gypsy Moth and Purple Loosestrife; AND

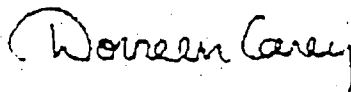
WHEREAS, they have endorsed research on these organisms and their impacts on natural ecosystems of the Great Lakes, as well as on methods of minimizing or removing these negative impacts;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the member organizations of Great Lakes United encourage provincial, state, and federal agencies and academic institutions to proceed expeditiously with such research; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United and its member organizations request their regulatory agencies to implement, enforce and monitor voluntary and required actions by shippers and other users of Great Lakes resources, to prevent the further introduction of such exotic organisms; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of Great Lakes United organizations, and all users of Great Lakes resources in general, be encouraged to take all appropriate individual actions to prevent the further spread of such exotic organisms in the Great Lakes region.

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Dorreen Carey, Secretary

LABOR AND ENVIRONMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Workers in the workplace and surrounding communities are the most exposed to toxic hazards; AND

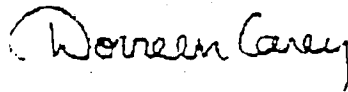
WHEREAS, Workers, their families, and communities are adversely affected by workplace shut-downs; AND

WHEREAS, Changes in process and production designed to achieve zero discharge may significantly affect workers and their communities resulting in job displacement and/or economic hardship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Great Lakes United create the LABOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE to develop strategies to support efforts establishing programs at the local, state and provincial levels to compensate and retrain workers so affected; in addition, to support labor participation in decisions regarding process changes and production reorganization to achieve zero discharge; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Task Force will work to strengthen and build the alliance between labor and environmental organizations to achieve our common goals.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON MAY 6, 1990.



Dorreen Carey, Secretary

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