



GREAT LAKES UNITED

February 7, 1990

The Honorable James Blanchard
Governor of Michigan
Capitol Building
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Blanchard:

Great Lakes United, a coalition of over 180 environmental, labor and citizen organizations, dedicated to the conservation and protection of the Great Lakes urges you to take a strong lead in protecting the Great Lakes from further contamination from airborne toxics. As you know, many of the most toxic and persistent chemicals in the Great Lakes are deposited by the atmosphere. Indeed, atmospheric deposition accounts for the vast majority of lead, B(a)pyrene and PCBs found in Lakes Michigan and Huron.

As you also know, Congress has an unprecedented opportunity to address this problem in the pending amendments to the Clean Air Act. The Senate bill (S. 1630) has a package of specific Great Lakes requirements which would, if combined with an effective floor of Best Available Control Technology (not currently included in S. 1630), establish a framework to control effectively the major persistent airborne toxics in the Lakes. The House bill, however, is much weaker, overall, and contains a less comprehensive Great Lakes section. The weaker Great Lakes provisions, combined with much less stringent technology and health standards, will not protect the Great Lakes from air toxics.

The leadership of the Great Lakes Governors was instrumental in securing the Great Lakes amendments in the Senate and an opportunity exists for you and the other Great Lakes Governors to lead the fight for long-term protection of the Lakes in the House bill. Accordingly, we urge that you take every action available to you to insure that a Great Lakes-specific language, similar to that of S.1630 is included in the Clean Air Act as the bill is marked up in the House Energy and Commerce Committee in the near future.

"An international organization dedicated to conserving and protecting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River"

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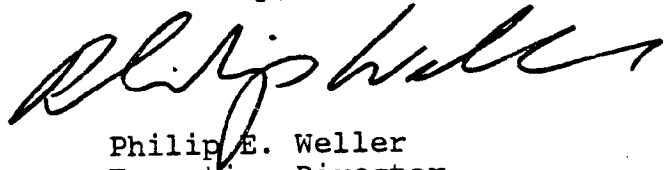


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Please know that you have the support of many citizens from not only Michigan, but across the Great Lakes Basin, as you speak out on the critical issue of curtailing this most serious pollution of our region's lifeblood.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip E. Weller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "W".

Philip E. Weller
Executive Director

PW/hld