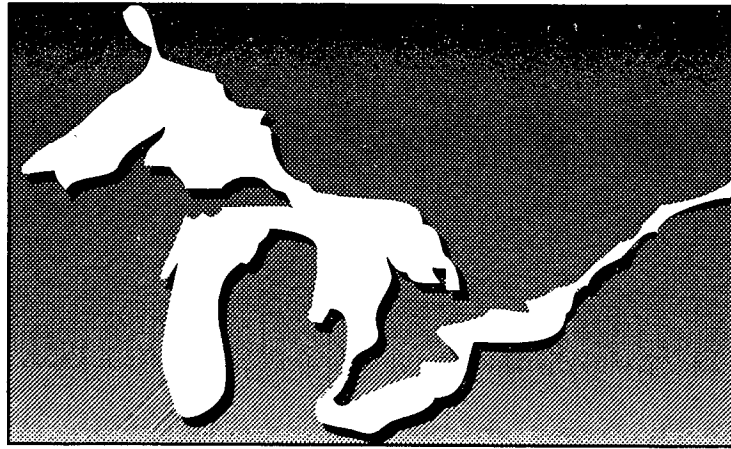


1993
Policy Resolutions



Great Lakes United

Eleventh Annual Meeting
May 7-9, 1993

Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario

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Introduction

Great Lakes United is a coalition of 195 environmental, sporting, union, government, research and small business organizations from throughout the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin working to conserve and protect the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River ecosystem. Great Lakes United has been instrumental in such key Basin issues as the implementation of the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, prevention of Great Lakes water diversions, control of winter navigation, and public participation in Great Lakes environmental decisions.

Great Lakes United is dedicated to the restoration, protection and conservation of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River ecosystem. Policy resolutions to achieve those ends are developed, discussed and adopted during our annual meetings. Annual meetings of Great Lakes United's organizational delegates have been 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), Green Bay, Wisconsin (1990), Hull, Québec (1991), Saginaw, Michigan (1992), and, most recently, Kingston, Ontario (1993). This document is an account of the resolutions passed at the Eleventh Annual Meeting held May 7 to 9 in Kingston. Great Lakes United urges its membership and other interested parties to use GLU's resolutions in public forums and comment periods to achieve our common goal of Great Lakes conservation and restoration.

In May 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. That resolution, Great Lakes United's first, declared:

Whereas the Great Lakes are the greatest fresh water system on earth, and

Whereas fifty 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.

Certification of True Copy

I hereby certify that these are true copies of all those resolutions adopted at the Eleventh Annual Meeting of Great Lakes United on May 9, 1993.

Kathleen M. Bero

Kathy Bero, Secretary

1993 Great Lakes United Resolutions

U.S. EPA's Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative

Whereas promises have been made by the governments of the United States and Canada in the United States/Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the U.S. Clean Water Act to address the problems of toxic chemical contamination of the Great Lakes, and

Whereas despite these promises toxic chemicals continue to enter the Great Lakes from a variety of sources, including dumping from cities and industries, contaminated sediments, poor land use practices, and atmospheric fallout, and

Whereas a cooperative effort of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Great Lakes states called the Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative (GLI) is designed to control these sources by establishing consistent Great Lakes water quality standards and pollution control regulations for all eight of the Great Lakes states, and

Whereas the GLI process has resulted in a potentially beneficial draft which, if adopted by EPA and the states, would require reductions in discharges of the most harmful toxic chemicals from point sources, and

Whereas in some areas the potential of the Initiative to protect the integrity of the Great Lakes ecosystem has not been fully realized and the GLI process should be extended to address other issues such as non-point source pollution and sunseting chemicals, and

Whereas the draft of the Initiative in the *Federal Register* is being vigorously opposed by the regulated community, including industrial and municipal dischargers, governmental officials and others,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United calls upon EPA to promulgate and implement as quickly as possible final Great Lakes Initiative Guidance that:

- Adopts special rules for toxic pollutants that build up in Great Lakes fish. These rules should protect *everyone* exposed to Great Lakes fish contaminants, particularly those most sensitive to toxic injury and those, especially including Native Americans and sport anglers, who rely on fish and wildlife for sustenance, recreation, and cultural preservation
- Phases out pollution dilution zones for all persistent toxic substances, under an accelerated timetable
- Adopts rules that properly shift the burden of proof to the discharger requiring them to demonstrate a pollutant's safety regarding the health of people, wildlife, and aquatic life
- Designates the U.S. portion of Lake Superior as an "Outstanding National Resource Water"
- Adopts antidegradation procedures that prevent new or increased dumping of persistent toxic pollutants
- Expands the guidance to include persistent toxic substances as defined by the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
- Sets timetables to ban uses of persistent and bioaccumulative toxic substances released into the Great Lakes Ecosystem
- Ensures that all sources of pollution are controlled by immediately undertaking "Round 2" of the Great Lakes Initiative to develop appropriate measures
- Requires comprehensive pollution prevention programs

Be it further resolved that we call on governments at all levels to immediately implement programs to stop the discharge of toxic chemicals into Great Lakes and their tributaries, and to implement the promise in the United States/Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the U.S. Clean Water Act, as well as the recommendations in the International Joint Commission's Sixth Biennial Report, and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian federal and provincial governments implement zero discharge, pollution prevention, and other programs to achieve environmental protection that is as good or better than that offered by the Great Lakes Initiative.

IJC Recommendations on Phaseout of Chlorine and Its Compounds

Whereas fish, wildlife, and humans are being adversely affected by persistent toxic chemicals in the Great Lakes ecosystem, and in particular, from chlorine-related compounds, and

Whereas it is important to support and work to implement the goal of zero discharge as stated in the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and

Whereas Great Lakes United supports phasing out the use of chlorinated compounds in the pulp and paper sector, and

Whereas the International Joint Commission has made the following recommendations in its Sixth Biennial Report on Great Lakes Water Quality:

5. The Parties, in consultation with industry and other affected interests, alter production processes and feedstock chemicals so that dioxin, furan and hexachlorobenzene no longer result as byproducts . . .
7. The Parties, in consultation with industry and other affected interests, develop timetables to sunset the use of chlorine and chlorine-containing compounds as industrial feedstocks and that the means of reducing or eliminating other uses be examined, and

Whereas it is imperative that the government work toward implementing these recommendations,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United:

- Endorses the recommendations of the International Joint Commission's Sixth Biennial Report pertaining to toxic substances
- Urges the Virtual Elimination Task Force of the International Joint Commission to adopt the background report by T. Muir et al. titled: "Case Study: Application of a Virtual Elimination Strategy to an Industrial Feedstock Chemical—Chlorine" (hereinafter referred to as the "chlorine case study")
- Urges the inclusion of the chlorine case study as part of the main report of the Virtual Elimination Task Force
- Recommends that the governments work to apply and implement the methodology, findings, and recommendations in the chlorine case study, and
- Circulates copies of this resolution and the chlorine case study to the members of the Great Lakes United and urges them to endorse the case study

Great Lakes Zebra Mussel Research

Whereas a nonindigenous species can successfully establish itself in a new habitat because many of the established controls on its population, such as predators and diseases, are often not in place, and because of favorable environmental conditions, such as substrate, temperature and food supply, and

Whereas these organisms may eventually overpopulate, causing the host ecosystem to become unstable as the normal interactions among native organisms are disrupted, and

Whereas after being introduced in Lake St. Clair in 1988, the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) has exhibited just such an explosive growth in the Great Lakes and is of immediate concern to this region as well as other freshwater ecosystems in North America, having already spread to and impacted eighteen states, and

Whereas the zebra mussel disrupts the food web by voraciously feeding on the microscopic plants (phytoplankton), removal of which is devastating to the aquatic grazers (zooplankton) and to the larval and juvenile stages of many species of fish that predominantly feed on zooplankton, and

Whereas in 1992 Lake St. Clair and western Lake Erie, the first ecosystems in North America to be heavily infested by the zebra mussel, experienced negligible survival rates of year-class for clams, and evidence exists of reduced growth rates of perch and of the rapid elimination of native North American freshwater clams, and

Whereas the "Quagga Mussel," a second species in the genus *Dreissena* that is better suited for colder waters than the

zebra mussel, was discovered in 1991 and may have an adverse affect on deep water profundal benthos and therefore not only on warm, shallow fisheries, but also on cold, deep water fisheries, and

Whereas the economic value of recreational sports fisheries in the Great Lakes, including all of the related supporting industries, is estimated at over \$5 billion per year, and the long-term ecological impacts of the zebra mussel infestation on our economically valuable fisheries in the lakes and rivers are neither known nor understood, and

Whereas the need for a sound, comprehensive study of the impact of the zebra mussel was recognized early by the U.S. Great Lakes Non-Indigenous Species Ad Hoc Coordinating Committee, which was led and coordinated by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL) and participated in by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Cooperative Institute for Limnological and Ecosystem Research and the Sea Grant Program, and

Whereas the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 authorized up to \$1.125 million per year for five years for GLERL to coordinate and carry out an extensive research program on the ecological impacts of the zebra mussel, including a major effort to determine changes in a major Great Lakes ecosystem, Saginaw Bay, Lake Huron, and

Whereas GLERL initiated its study in 1990 with a limited sampling program in Saginaw Bay (prior to the zebra mussel's arrival), and in Fiscal Years 1991, 1992, and 1993 GLERL received directed funding from Congress and greatly expanded its research program to make it more comprehensive, and initiated two studies that focus on 1) the biology of the zebra mussel's larvae to determine the weak point in its life cycle most vulnerable to control, and 2) the accumulation and passage of contaminants by the zebra mussel, and

Whereas the explosive growth stage of zebra mussel infestation in Saginaw Bay started in the summer of 1991, and GLERL's data indicates that the Bay is now in the early stages of a major food web shift that may ultimately affect the fish populations, and

Whereas the current White House budget eliminates the funding provided by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act, cutting short by two years the extensive, multiagency cooperative effort to study and monitor zebra mussels in the Great Lakes, thus resulting in what will surely be an incomplete study of this problem,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United petitions Congress to restore full funding provided by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to ensure the completion of current research programs designed to develop strategies to understand, deal with, and perhaps reduce the economic and ecological impacts of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species such as zebra mussels and sea lamprey, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United call upon all its member organizations to write their state congresspersons and members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees urging them to support the restoration of full funding for zebra mussel research in the Great Lakes.

Zebra Mussels/Quagga Mussels

Whereas zebra mussels/Quagga mussels are a major threat to the ecological integrity and balance of the Great Lakes Ecosystem, and

Whereas shipping, sport and commercial fishing are also threatened,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United urges the Canadian federal government through the agencies of Fisheries and Oceans in cooperation with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Québec Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food to pursue research on the impacts of these exotic species.

New York State Environmental Assistance Fund

Whereas New York State Governor Mario M. Cuomo has submitted legislation for a revised Environmental Assistance Fund (EAF), and

Whereas the bill is designed to address economic and environmental concerns, and allow the state to take advantage of

enhanced federal aid to foster partnerships with local governments, and

Whereas New York State has a proud tradition of meeting both economic and environmental challenges, and

Whereas economic growth can be enhanced with funding for needed community environmental infrastructure improvements, and

Whereas the legislation proposes that funds be raised through the use of unclaimed beverage deposits, an existing container tax, a portion of the existing excise tax on beer, and a \$5 fee on new tires effective April 1, 1994, and

Whereas EAF goals include open space protection in accordance with the recently adopted State Open Space Plan, initiatives to secure the future of our coastal areas, assistance to counties for farmland protection programs, state matching funds for federal environmental programs, support for the proposed Hudson River Waterfront Park project in Manhattan and New York's allocation to the Great Lakes Fund, and

Whereas the EAF proposal addresses the problems of clean water and solid waste and recognizes that we must have a partnership between the state and local governments to achieve our goals, and

Whereas New York's system of state parks and historic sites is unsurpassed throughout the nation and makes an important contribution to our tourism industry and the EAF will provide funding for state and municipal parks and for environmental infrastructure projects, and

Whereas the EAF will also provide funding for measures needed to protect the future of the Adirondack Park, including support of planning by local governments for tax revenue reduction on certain open space easements,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United supports the concept of funding environmental improvement projects from the recovery of unclaimed beverage container deposits and other sources, and that Great Lakes United supports enactment of New York State's Environmental Assistance Fund to assist municipalities in financing needed environmental projects, preserve and protect open space, enhance public recreational opportunities, and assist Adirondack Park communities in developing and improving land use plans.

Contaminated Sediments Site Inventory

Whereas in the last twenty-five years our knowledge of contaminated sediment impacts has grown and we now understand that contaminated sediments can have a profound influence on water resources in the watershed, and

Whereas pollutants found in contaminated sediments can have far-reaching effects on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, including impaired human health, recreational water uses, loss of aquatic biodiversity and loss of viable wetland habitats, and

Whereas the initial call for a contaminated sites inventory originated from the Environmental Protection Agency's Draft Contaminated Sediment Management Strategy and more recently Congress passed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992, which requires EPA, with assistance from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Army Corps of Engineers, to develop a National Inventory of Contaminated Sediment Sites. A similar commitment by Canada is needed so that by 1994 a Great Lakes Contaminated Sediment Sites Inventory can be housed on Environment Canada and EPA mainframes in a PC-compatible format.

Therefore be it resolved that the governments of Canada and the United States develop a Great Lakes inventory and in-depth assessment of contaminated sediment sites in the Great Lakes Watershed by 1994, and

Be it further resolved that both governments should use compatible assessment techniques and units of measure.

Amendments to the U.S. Water Quality Act

Whereas the Assessment and Remediation of Contaminated Sediments (ARCS) program, Section 118 of the 1987 Water Quality Act, has advanced the science of sediment investigation, assessment and modeling and has successfully demonstrated sediment clean up technologies on both a bench scale and a pilot scale, but not at full scale,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United supports a bill to amend the Clean Water Act to:

- Require full-scale demonstrations at the five ARCS sites—Buffalo, Ashtabula, Saginaw, Indiana Harbor, and Sheboygan
- Test more technologies at five new Areas of Concern, possibly including Duluth/Superior, Green Bay, Kalamazoo River, Maumee/Toledo, and a binational site like St. Mary's River
- Provide sediment assessments for all other AOCs with recommendations for management
- Provide public education and participation before and after the full-scale cleanups
- Provide technological transfer money to the states to hire sediment coordinators and money to the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Mines, and the Army Corps of Engineers to maintain and train them
- Sediment source modeling and non-point reduction strategies
- Make Lake Superior an Outstanding National Resource Water by the year 2000
- Provide timelines for Great Lakes Initiatives 2 to control non-point pollution from farms and streets; sediments (with standards to protect human, wildlife and aquatic health); air toxics (building on the Great Lakes Waters study); and landfills dumping onto the lakes
- Funding for the above at \$20 million to \$25 million per year, and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian government adopt similar measures.

Georgian Bay Pipeline Proposal

Whereas a proposal from TransCanada Pipeline Ltd. to construct a drinking water pipeline from Georgian Bay is being made at a time that the control and management of Ontario water and sewage treatment and delivery is in the process of being transferred to the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA), a crown corporation, and

Whereas the full scope of operation and the mandate of the OCWA have yet to be developed with the necessary public consultation, and

Whereas many aspects of the fragile ecosystem and the uses of Georgian Bay could be impacted by a withdrawal of this scale (50 million to 60 million gallons per day), and

Whereas the cumulative impacts of Great Lakes diversions are unknown, particularly in light of the projected impacts of global warming, and

Whereas the pipeline could result in the migration of harmful species between watersheds, and

Whereas the need for such a pipeline has not been established in the York Region (Phase I) or in the Kitchener-Waterloo/Cambridge Region (Phase II), and

Whereas the Waterloo Region already is implementing a strong water conservation program and is undertaking a study of alternatives in its "Reassessment of the Long-Term Water Supply Strategy," and

Whereas good watershed planning must consider water supply planning with sewage disposal and indications are that local water bodies may not have the capacity to assimilate discharge of additional pipeline volumes, and

Whereas a private project of this scale will be precedent-setting and should be subject to a full environmental assessment, and

Whereas the Ontario government has opposed other Basin diversions intended to provide for future growth, and

Whereas Ontario has not yet implemented its recent Water Efficiency Strategy for Ontario, and

Whereas the proposal circumvents the natural connecting channel discharge and would create additional flows to Lake Erie and Lake Ontario,

Therefore be it resolved that the government of Ontario and affected municipal and regional governments reject the private TransCanada Pipeline Ltd. proposal to divert drinking water from Georgian Bay in pipelines to the York Region and to the Kitchener-Waterloo area, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United urges the Province of Ontario to implement its Water Efficiency Strategy for Ontario and ensure that a conservation policy is implemented as the mandate of the Ontario Clean Water Agency,

and that it be consulted on the role of the OCWA, and that the public be given the opportunity to voice concerns about this privatization of the province's water responsibilities.

Michigan Mud Creek Irrigation Proposal

Whereas the Mud Creek Irrigation Proposal will consume water volumes from Saginaw Bay at a rate that exceeds the five-million-gallon-a-day rate in the Great Lakes Charter that requires prior notice and consultation with other states and provinces, and

Whereas many concerns were raised by those states and provinces at an April 28, 1993, meeting of the Great Lakes jurisdictions in Detroit, and

Whereas this irrigation proposal is promoting inappropriate, unsustainable agricultural practices—similar to those practised in the U.S. Southwest—of growing highly water-dependent crops, and

Whereas the U.S. federal government is subsidizing this proposal with a \$770,000 grant for capital costs that could encourage farmers in other states and provinces to seek similar subsidies, and

Whereas the intent of the project is to increase crop yields by a further 20 to 30 percent, and

Whereas approval of this project would set a precedent for other similar proposals in Michigan and elsewhere in the Basin, and

Whereas Saginaw Bay is an Area of Concern and discharge from this irrigation proposal would bring pesticides and other contaminants back into the bay, and

Whereas Michigan does not have a water resources conservation plan and has failed to submit yearly data on water use and consumption as required by the Great Lakes Charter, and

Whereas the cumulative impacts of Great Lakes consumption and diversions are not known, as they have not been correlated with climate change projections,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United urges the governor of Michigan, the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, and the Great Lakes Basin Water Resources Management Committee to reject this precedent-setting proposal and to implement a water resources conservation plan that documents all withdrawal and consumption of Great Lakes water and groundwater resources.

Great Lakes Water Conservation Plan

Whereas indications are that Basin diversion proposals and consumptive uses of Great Lakes water is increasing, and

Whereas stricter U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards for groundwater could result in municipalities now depending on groundwater for their drinking water supply turning to the Great Lakes for an alternative supply, and

Whereas groundwater aquifers in the Basin no longer suitable for drinking water could be used for disposal of contaminants, and

Whereas little is known about the interaction between and interdependence of Basin groundwater and the Great Lakes, and

Whereas North Americans use more water per capita than any other global population, and

Whereas many tributaries of the Great Lakes have reached their capacity to assimilate more discharge, and

Whereas scientists project climate change will result in significantly lower levels in the Great Lakes, and

Whereas growth and development capacity for some Great Lakes regions has reached its "natural limits" of local water supply and sewage discharge capacities, and

Whereas unsustainable practices of high water use and consumption are being encouraged by Basin governments through subsidies for industry, utilities, mining and agricultural water use practices, and

Whereas the data collection mandated by the Great Lakes Charter is inadequate to project trends in demands, consump-

tion, and uses, or the level of current use of the water resource, and

Whereas some Great Lakes jurisdictions have not submitted yearly water use data as required by the Great Lakes Charter,

Therefore be it resolved that the Great Lakes Basin Water Resources Management Committee established by the Great Lakes Charter draft a Great Lakes water conservation plan within the next year, and

Be it further resolved that this plan require the states and provinces to review and map all drinking water supplies for their quality and long-term sustainability, and

Be it further resolved that user pay principles be the foundation of this water conservation plan and uniform efficiency standards be developed for all sectors of society that use lake and/or groundwater supplies within the Basin watershed, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United seek funding to hold a workshop for members to explore ways to advocate for local water conservation programs and to explore the need of such programs for the sustainability of the Great Lakes.

Use of Ontario Fishing License Revenues

Whereas in 1986 Ontario reinstated the charging of residents for fishing licenses and promised to return this revenue to the enhancement of remediation and fish stocking in Ontario, and

Whereas the revenue has not been returned as originally stated,

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of Ontario keep its original promise to use this revenue, as they had originally stated they would, for enhancement of remediation and fish stocking.

North American Free Trade Agreement

Whereas the proposed North American Free Trade Agreement threatens the Great Lakes Charter, and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, because these agreements establish conservation and pollution control standards that are tougher than NAFTA and could be deemed "non-tariff barriers" to trade, and

Whereas NAFTA is a "bill of rights" for transnational corporations that would allow them to plunder our environment and search for the cheapest labour without the fear of government regulation, and

Whereas NAFTA was negotiated behind closed doors, well out of the public eye, and

Whereas NAFTA would allow any national government, using phrases in the agreement such as "standards to be least restrictive," "technical barriers to trade," and "missed economic opportunity," to challenge another country's consumer, worker safety, and environmental laws, and

Whereas special trade panels, not accountable to the voters of any nation, would rule on such challenges, having effective power to supersede and nullify the legislative and policymaking decisions of local, state, provincial, and federal governments and

Whereas Great Lakes United believes that workers and communities in each country should not be forced to compete against workers and communities in other countries, and

Whereas Great Lakes United believes that North America should be a community where all workers have the right to a decent wage in a safe and healthy workplace, consumers can buy safe and healthy food, and all living things have a right to thrive in a safe and healthy environment, and

Whereas Great Lakes United firmly believes that NAFTA is fundamentally and fatally flawed, and that the threat it poses to the people and the environment of the Great Lakes Basin and North America cannot be eliminated by the negotiation of side agreements.

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United reaffirms its commitment to work to oppose the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Additional Annexes to the Canada/United States Air Quality Agreement

Whereas the Canada/United States Air Quality Agreement signed March 13, 1991, contains objectives addressing sulfur dioxide emissions from stationary sources and nitrogen oxide emissions from mobile sources in Canada and the United States, and

Whereas transboundary air emissions are a significant source of degradation of the Basin ecosystem and air pollution has a documented impact on human health, and

Whereas international agreements such as the Canada/United States Air Quality Agreement can establish a framework for legislative action,

Therefore be it resolved that the Canada/United States Air Quality Agreement be strengthened by the parties to the agreement to include annexes that include objectives addressing:

- Nitrogen oxide emissions from stationary sources in Canada and the United States
- Volatile organic compounds emissions from stationary and mobile sources in Canada and the United States
- Air toxics emissions from stationary sources in Canada and the United States
- Particulate matter emissions from stationary and mobile sources in Canada and the United States
- Greenhouse gases emissions from stationary and mobile sources in Canada and the United States.

International Joint Commission Biennial

Whereas the Great Lakes are still under great stress from persistent toxic substances, and

Whereas the federal governments have committed to the goal of virtual elimination of persistent toxic chemicals under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and

Whereas the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement calls for the adoption of regulatory strategies to virtually eliminate the input of persistent toxic substances in order to protect the Great Lakes ecosystem,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United repeats its request that the International Joint Commission hold a Saturday workshop on virtual elimination strategy at the upcoming Seventh Biennial meeting, and

Be it further resolved that the IJC adjust the program schedule for the RAP forum to Saturday or Sunday to accommodate the RAP/PAC members who cannot attend a weekday meeting.

Public Participation in Great Lakes Programs

Whereas public participation in government programs to protect and restore the Great Lakes ecosystem is essential to the successful development and implementation of these programs, and

Whereas since its formation Great Lakes United has consistently advocated public participation in Great Lakes programs, including:

- Advocating public representation on the IJC's Great Lakes Water Quality Board
- Organizing public hearings around the Great Lakes in 1986 on renegotiation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
- Advocating and supporting citizen involvement in the development of Remedial Action Plans,
- Being represented on the Canadian and U.S. delegations that renegotiated the Agreement in 1987, and
- Being represented on the Public Advisory Committee to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative, and

Whereas public participation in Great Lakes programs is threatened by several recent developments, including:

- Efforts by polluting industries and municipalities in the United States to alter the draft Great Lakes Initiative through the private influence of the White House Office of Management and Budget
- The denial by Ontario authorities of access by citizens to information on the pollution content of discharges from pulp and paper mills into Lake Superior and on the compliance status of these mills, and
- Repeated efforts by Michigan Governor John Engler to restrict public participation by abolishing citizen commissions with oversight of Great Lakes programs and by restructuring the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes to provide for direct gubernatorial control instead of direction by the citizen Natural Resources Commission and Water Resources Commission,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United reaffirms its historic position in support of public participation in the development and implementation of all government programs to protect and restore the Great Lakes Ecosystem, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United calls upon President Clinton to direct the Office and Management of Budget not to interfere with promulgation of the final Great Lakes Initiative, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United calls upon the governments of Canada, Ontario, and Québec to reform their laws and procedures for citizen access, at a minimum, to provide information on pollution discharges and sources, including water quality and fish and wildlife contaminant monitoring data, to the same extent as such information is available under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act and U.S. environmental laws, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United opposes efforts by Michigan Governor John Engler to reorganize Michigan's environmental programs in any manner that will restrict opportunities for public participation in decisions concerning Great Lakes programs, or that will restrict citizen-commission control of natural resource management programs.

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Organizational Members

District of Columbia

Coast Alliance—Washington
National Oceanic Atmospheric Association—Washington

Illinois

Audubon Council of Illinois—Evanston
Chicago Audubon Society—Evanston
Citizens for a Better Environment—Chicago
Greenpeace International—Chicago
Izaak Walton League of America—Illinois Division—Dolton
Lake Michigan Federation—Chicago
Prairie Woods Audubon Society—Arlington Heights
Sierra Club—Chicago Group—Chicago
Sierra Club—Great Lakes Chapter—Chicago
US Environmental Protection Agency—Chicago

Indiana

Grand Cal Task Force—Whiting
Hoosier Environmental Council—Indianapolis
Save the Dunes Council—Michigan City
Sierra Club—Michiana Group—Osceola
United Steelworkers of America, Local 1010—East Chicago

Michigan

American Association of University Women—Ann Arbor
American Federation of Government Employees—Ann Arbor
Capitol Area Audubon Society—St. Johns
Center for Environmental Study—Grand Rapids
Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination—Lake
Department of Natural Resources—Lansing
Earth Research—Lake Orion
East Michigan Environmental Action Council—Bloomfield
Edison Sault Electric Co.—Sault Ste. Marie
F.L.B. Services, Inc.—Midland
Great Lakes Forum—Royal Oak
Harbor Beach Conservation Club—Harbor Beach
Huron County Board of Commissioners—Bad Axe
Lake Michigan Federation—Western—Muskegon
Lake St. Clair Advisory Committee—Mt. Clemens
League of Woman Voters of Michigan—East Lansing
Library of Michigan—Serials Section—Lansing
Michigan Association of Conservation District—Lake
Michigan Audubon Society—Lansing
Michigan Duck Hunters Association—St. Joseph
Michigan Environmental Council—Lansing
Michigan Trappers Association—Hastings
Michigan United Conservation Clubs—Lansing
Multi-Lakes Conservation Association—Walled Lake
National Wildlife Federation—Great Lakes Natural Resources
Center—Ann Arbor
Northport Sportsman's Club—Northport
Office of the Governor—Lansing
Perch Point Conservation Club—Harper Woods
Riverfest Inc.—Lansing
SAFE Inc.—Onaway
Sage-man's Jewelry—Bad Axe
Saginaw Bay Advisory Council—Bay City
Sanitary Chemists and Technicians Association—Detroit
Sierra Club—Mackinac Chapter Office—Lansing
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments—Detroit
Southern Michigan Conservation Club—Marine City
Thumb Chapter Steelheaders—Bad Axe
Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council—Conway
Township of Grosse Isle—Grosse Isle
United Auto Workers (UAW) Capitol Area CAP—Lansing
UAW Conservation Department—Detroit
UAW Ionia Montcalm CAP—Alma
UAW Kent County CAP—Grand Rapids
UAW Local 1231—Comstock Park
UAW Local 137—Greenville
UAW Local 167—Wyoming
UAW Local 2031—Adrian
UAW Local 599 Buick—Holt
UAW Local 602—Lansing
UAW Local 730—Wyoming

UAW Local 925—St. Johns
UAW Region 1A Toxic Waste Squad—Ypsilanti
United Transportation Union—Lansing
Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition—Houghton

Minnesota

Clean Water Action—Minneapolis
Freshwater Foundation—Wayzata
Izaak Walton League of America—Duluth

New York

American Chestnut Foundation—New York State
Chapter—Williamsville
Buffalo and Erie County Public Library—Buffalo
Buffalo Audubon Society—Tonawanda
Canadian Consulate General—Buffalo
Citizens Alliance, Inc.—Buffalo
County of Erie—Buffalo
Environmental Management Council—Oswego
Environmental Planning Lobby—Albany
Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs—West Seneca
George Washington Fishing and Camping Club—Buffalo
Great Lakes Laboratory—Buffalo
Great Lakes Research Consortium—Syracuse
Heim Middle School—Williamsville
Interfaith Center for Environmental Stewardship—Buffalo
Izaak Walton League of America—New York State
Division—Fayetteville
Latko Instant Press—Tonawanda
M.T.D. Buffalo Port Council—Buffalo
Marine Trades Association of Western New York—Buffalo
Middle Atlantic Warehouse Distributor, Inc.—Tonawanda
National Audubon Society—Northeast—Albany
Natural Resources Defense Council Inc.—New York
New York State Conservation Council—Watertown
New York Walleye Association—Grand Island
Niagara Environmental Coalition—Stella Niagara
Niagara River Anglers Association—Niagara Falls
North Country Environmental Awareness
Organization—Helena
R.O.L.E.—Lewiston
River Barge Productions—New York
SUNY College at Oswego—Oswego
Save The River—Clayton
Sierra Club—Atlantic Chapter—Albany
Sierra Club—Binational Great Lakes Committee, Syracuse
St. Lawrence Valley Council—Watertown
St. Regis Mohawk Health Services—Hogansburg
St. Lawrence Audubon Society—Canton
Thousand Island Land Trust—Clayton
United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 1416—East Aurora
UAW Local 338—Jamestown
UAW Local 424—Buffalo
UAW Local 774—Buffalo
UAW Local 897—Buffalo
UAW New York State CAP Council—Buffalo
UAW Region 9—Cheektowaga
Village Officials Association of Erie County—Hamburg
White Enterprises—Williamsville

Ohio

Bowling Green State University Library—Bowling Green
Greater Cleveland Boating Association—Mentor
Izaak Walton League of America—Ohio Division—Hamilton
Jack's Marine Inc.—Ashtabula
Lake Erie Basin Committee—Jefferson
National Audubon Society—Columbus
Ohio Environmental Council—Columbus
Sierra Club—Midwest Regional—Bowling Green
Sierra Club—Northeast Ohio Group—Willoughby Hills
Sierra Club—Ohio Chapter—Athens
United Auto Workers (UAW) Cuyahoga-Medina
CAP—Cleveland
UAW Toledo Area CAP Council—Toledo
UAW Tri-County Area—CAP—Sandusky

Ontario

Assembly of First Nations—Ottawa
Bay of Quinte RAP PAC—Newburgh
Bruce Peninsula Environment Group—Lion's Head
Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) Local 1973—Windsor
CAW Local 444—Windsor
CAW Canada—Willowdale
CAW Local 707—Oakville
Canadian Environmental Law Association—Toronto
Canadian Institute For Environmental Law and Policy—Toronto
Citizens Environment Alliance—Windsor
Citizens Network on Waste Management—Kitchener
City of Owen Sound—Owen Sound
City of Windsor—Windsor
Corporation of Professional Great Lakes Pilots—St. Catharines
Eastwood College Institute—Kitchener
Energy Probe Research Foundation—Toronto
Environment North—Thunder Bay
Environmental Protection Office—Toronto
Faculty of Environmental Studies—Waterloo
Federation of Ontario Naturalists—Don Mills
Georgian Bay Association—Toronto
Institute for Environmental Studies—Toronto
Kitchener—Waterloo Field Naturalists—Kitchener
Laurier Environmentalists—Waterloo
Local #672, E.C.W.U.—Sarnia
Mohawks Agree on Safe Health—Cornwall
Niagara Ecosystems Taskforce—St. Catharines
Ontario Public Health Association—Toronto
Ontario Toxic Waste Research Coalition—Beamsville
Pollution Probe—Toronto
Sierra Club of Eastern Canada Bell Fountain
St. Clair River International Citizens Network—Kitchener
Township of Michipicoten—Wawa
Turnaround Decade—Barrie
University Students Council—University of Western
Ontario—London
Wallaceburg Clean Water Committee—Wallaceburg
Windsor Sportsmen's Club—Windsor
Windsor and District Labour Council—Windsor

Pennsylvania

Erie Conference on Community Development—Erie
Erie County Environmental Coalition—Erie
Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen Clubs—Harrisburg
Sierra Club—Northeast Regional Conservation
Committee—Pittsburgh

Québec

Rotary Club of Westmount—Westmount
STOP Inc.—Montréal
Société pour Vanicre la Pollution de la Nature—Montréal
Union Québécoise pour la Conservation de la Nature—Charlesbourg

Rhode Island

American Canadian Line Inc.—Warren

Wisconsin

Brown County Conservation Alliance—Green Bay
Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin—Green Bay
Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission—Odanah
National Association of Conservation Districts—Stevens Point
Oneida Tribe Business Council—Oneida
Sierra Club—John Muir Chapter—Madison
United Auto Workers (UAW) Brewery Workers
Local 9—Milwaukee
UAW Fox River Valley CAP Council—Fond du Lac
UAW Local 1007—Union Grove
UAW Milwaukee Metro Retiree Council—Oconomowoc
UAW Racine Kenosha CAP—Racine
UAW Wisconsin State CAP—Oak Creek
UAW Local 1102—Conservation Committee—Green Bay
UAW Local 261—Milwaukee
Wisconsin Audubon Council—Green Bay