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**GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN WATER RESOURCES COMPACT:
STATE IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE**

On December 8, 2008,¹ the following is required²:

- New or increased diversions of water from the Great Lakes Basin are prohibited, with three exceptions that must meet certain standards: (1) diversions to "straddling communities;" (2) transfers between Great Lakes watersheds; and (3) diversions to "straddling counties." Sections 4.8-4.9.
 - Each party state is required to manage and regulate proposals for exceptions in accordance with the standards in the Compact, but a state may decide whether to manage and regulate proposals for an intrabasin transfer if the new or increased withdrawal is less than 100,000 gallons per day (gpd) average over any 90-day period. Section 4.9.2.a.
 - These provisions do not apply to Illinois except if there is a proposal to divert Basin water from Illinois for use outside the territorial boundaries of the party states. Sections 4.14.4-4.14.5.
- A Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council (Council) is created, composed of the Governors of the party states. Sections 2.1-2.2.

By December 8, 2009, the following is required:

- Each party state, including Illinois, must submit a report to the Council and the Regional Body³ on the water management and water conservation and efficiency programs that implement the Compact. A report must be submitted thereafter every five years. Section 3.4.1.
 - Within 30 days after submittal of the first report, and every five years, the Council and the Provinces of Ontario and Québec review each state's water management programs to determine if they are in compliance with the Compact. Sections 3.4.2-3.4.3.

¹ This is the date on which the Compact becomes effective. Ohio ratified the Compact through legislation with an effective date of December 8, 2008. All of the other Great Lakes states have ratified the Compact and the United States has consented.

² Most of the provisions in the Compact go into effect immediately; these are some of the most important.

³ The Regional Body is composed of the members of the Council and the Premiers of Ontario and Québec as established by the companion Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement.

- Each party state must submit to the Council and the Regional Body a list of existing withdrawal approvals and/or the capacity of existing systems as of December 8, 2008. These lists form the baseline volume for future regulation of withdrawals, consumptive uses, and diversions. Section 4.12.2.

By December 8, 2010, the following is required:

- Each party state, including Illinois, must develop water conservation and efficiency goals and objectives that are consistent with Basin-wide goals and objectives identified by the Council, and implement a voluntary or mandatory water conservation and efficiency program for all users based on the goals and objectives. Each state must annually assess its programs, report to the Council and the Regional Body, and make the assessment available to the public. Sections 4.2.2, 4.2.5.
- Each party state, including Illinois, commits to promote environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures. Section 4.2.4.

By December 8, 2013, the following is required:

- Each party state must develop a water management program to regulate new or increased withdrawals and consumptive uses, using measures that are consistent with the decisionmaking standard in the Compact. States may determine the scope and threshold levels of their programs. Threshold levels must be set through a considered process in order to assure an effective and efficient program that will ensure that uses overall are reasonable, that withdrawals overall will not result in significant impacts, and that all other objectives of the Compact are achieved. Section 4.10.1.
 - States must set a threshold level for regulation of 100,000 gpd or greater average in any 90-day period if they fail to set threshold levels in accordance with the Compact by December 8, 2018. Section 4.10.2.
- A party state must give the other states and the Provinces of Ontario and Québec notice of, and an opportunity to comment on, a proposal for a new or increased consumptive use of 5 million gallons per day (mgd) or greater average in any 90-day period. Section 4.6.
- Each party state, including Illinois, must maintain a water resources inventory, including information on the location, type, quantity, and use of water resources and the location, type, and quantity of withdrawals, diversions and consumptive uses. Section 4.1.1.

- Any person who withdraws 100,000 gpd or greater average in a 30-day period or diverts water in any amount must register with the party state in which the withdrawal originates, including Illinois, unless the person has previously registered under an existing state program. Section 4.1.3. The states must annually report the information to a water use data base repository and aggregated information will be made publicly available. Section 4.1.5.
- The party states, including Illinois, must collectively conduct with the Provinces of Ontario and Québec an assessment of the cumulative impacts of withdrawals, diversions, and consumptive uses from the waters of the Basin. The states and provinces must continue to conduct the assessment every five years unless incremental Basin losses reach 50 mgd average in any 90-day period in excess of the amount at the time of the most recent assessment, or a state requests an earlier assessment. Section 4.15.1.

