



EXAMPLE LETTER—IDENTICAL, INDIVIDUALLY
ADDRESSED LETTERS SENT TO EACH MEMBER OF THE GREAT
LAKES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

February 19, 2010

The Honorable Carl Levin
269 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

JIM DOYLE
CHAIR
Governor of Wisconsin

Dear Senator Levin:

MITCH DANIELS
Governor of Indiana

On behalf of the Governors of the eight Great Lakes States, thank you for your work with us to protect and restore the Great Lakes. Our recent efforts have resulted in notable progress.

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
Governor of Michigan

DAVID A. PATERSON
Governor of New York

As you know, the President committed to a five-year, \$5 billion program to implement the Great Lakes restoration and protection strategy. The \$475 million in FFY2010 for the President's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), is a strong start. Sustained, consistent funding is now needed to fulfill the President's promise, maintain momentum, build on past achievements and ensure the GLRI's long-term success.

TIM PAWLENTY
Governor of Minnesota

PAT QUINN
Governor of Illinois

ED RENDELL
Governor of Pennsylvania

GLRI funding is intended to supplement -- not supplant -- funding for other important programs. Therefore, we ask you to support priority actions needed to protect and restore the Great Lakes in FFY2011 that are funded outside of the GLRI. The Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund continues to be an important source of funding to upgrade wastewater treatment facilities and protect the Great Lakes from sewage overflows. The 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act appropriated \$4 billion in support of these efforts, and an additional \$2.1 billion was appropriated for FFY 2010. For FFY 2011, we ask that \$2.7 billion be appropriated in support of this important program. In addition, and recognizing the opportunities for job creation, the Great Lakes Governors also support Congressional efforts to provide additional funding through jobs creation bills to upgrade wastewater treatment facilities.

TED STRICKLAND
Governor of Ohio

DAVID NAFTZGER
Executive Director

The imminent threat of Asian carp invading the Great Lakes underscores the urgent need to protect the Great Lakes against damaging aquatic invasive species (AIS). We ask that Congress direct the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to expedite its activities to prevent the Asian carp from invading the lakes including completion and maintenance of the barrier on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal; federal funding for enhanced monitoring (e.g. netting, shocking, etc.) upstream of the barrier; and legislation that may be needed to strengthen federal support for rapid response. USACE should also be directed to expedite its study of options for separating the Great Lakes

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and Mississippi River watersheds. Separately, we ask that support be maintained for the sea lamprey control program and other successful AIS control efforts.

Although we appreciate the ongoing efforts of many members of Congress in trying to pass ballast water legislation, the failure to effectively protect our waters against aquatic invasive species continues to be a great disappointment. Our preferred solution remains broad, national protection through Congressional passage of a *National Aquatic Invasive Species Act*. In the continuing absence of effective federal action, the States will continue efforts to protect our Great Lakes through State, regional and other actions.

In addition to needed funding, we support Congressional action to authorize the GLRI and look forward to working with you to ensure that we include the following principles:

- Ensure that all funded activities help implement the Great Lakes restoration and protection strategy.
- Coordinate the efforts of the many government and non-governmental entities involved in protection and restoration activities. Recognize the leadership role of the Great Lakes Governors in defining State and regional priorities.
- Minimize bureaucracy and allow efforts to be directed toward protection and restoration rather than toward process and paperwork. To the greatest extent possible, funding should be distributed via block grants or otherwise coordinated into large grants to States so that monies can be centrally managed and directed to the various agencies and entities receiving funding within the State.
- Adopt alternatives to non-federal match requirements, with the flexibility to recognize ongoing and significant investments by States, other governments and stakeholders in Great Lakes protection and restoration.

Finally, we continue to want to ensure that existing and proven core programs including the Coastal Zone Management Program are fully funded. Continuing programs like these is critical to maintaining the gains made through past investments.

We look forward to our continued partnership to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Doyle
Chair, Council of Great Lakes Governors
Governor of Wisconsin