

February 14, 2000

Dear Friend of the Great Lakes:

On behalf of the eight member states of the Great Lakes Commission, along with the Northeast-Midwest Institute, it is my pleasure to invite you to participate in **Great Lakes Day activities in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, March 23, 2000**. The day will begin with the Great Lakes Congressional Breakfast to be held in Room B-339 of the Rayburn House Office Building from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Members of the Great Lakes Congressional Delegation have been invited to speak. Time permitting, there will be an opportunity for questions.

This annual tradition will focus on an array of legislative, appropriations and policy priorities of the Great Lakes states, as voiced through the Great Lakes Commission. The event has traditionally attracted a large number of Congressional Members and staff. The chair and vice chair of the Commission, Irene Brooks and Nat Robinson respectively, along with other Commissioners, will present Commission priorities. Members of Congress will also share their views on Great Lakes issues and priorities for the second session of the 106th Congress. The Breakfast will provide an excellent opportunity for you to meet Members and staff of the Great Lakes Congressional Delegation and other key public and private sector leaders on Great Lakes issues.

A Great Lakes Issues Briefing will be held immediately following the Breakfast in Room SC5 of the Capitol Building. The Issues Briefing will feature brief presentations from various Great Lakes agency directors and senior officials. They will emphasize legislative, appropriations and program needs for FY 2001 in the areas of environmental protection and research; resource management; and Great Lakes maritime transportation.

Agendas for the Breakfast and Issues Briefing and a registration form are attached. **Please complete and return the registration form by Friday, March 17 to ensure your presence at Great Lakes Day activities.** These events are always well attended and space is limited.

I hope you can join us for Great Lakes Day, as we work to advance Great Lakes interests regionally, nationally and bi-nationally. I encourage you to circulate these materials to your colleagues as well. Please contact me or Steve Thorp at 734-665-9135 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Donahue". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.
Executive Director

peg

Enclosures