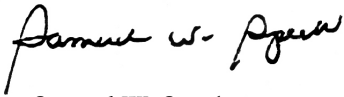


- 3) Urge the U.S. and Canadian federal governments to undertake a comprehensive review of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and revise, if needed, to reflect current restoration priorities. The GAO report clearly regards the Agreement as a focal point for binational restoration efforts, and also notes

that a binational review in 1999 “found that certain provisions were out of date and concluded that certain changes should be considered . . .” Indeed, the current Agreement is now 16 years old and is rapidly becoming a memorial to the past rather than a guidepost for the future. An updated Agreement is fundamental to the success of any prospective restoration plan. The Great Lakes Commission has long been on record in support of Agreement review, and reiterates this need as an important complement to the two preceding recommendations.

I appreciate your consideration and urge you, in your Great Lakes leadership role, to embrace and advance these recommendations. The member states of the Great Lakes Commission stand ready to assist. Please contact Dr. Michael J. Donahue, President/CEO at 734-971-9135 or mtonahue@glc.org.

Sincerely,



Samuel W. Speck
Chair

/rjs