



Great Lakes Commission des Grands Lacs

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PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.

- **Great Lakes Navigation System Study (Section 456 of WRDA 1990):** Accept the funding level of \$2.0 million recommended in the House appropriations bill, H. Rpt. 108-212, for a study of the current status and future prospects for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway system, a critical component of North America's maritime transportation infrastructure.
- **Replacement Lock at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan:** Accept the funding level of \$3.0 million recommended in the House appropriations bill, H. Rpt. 108-212, to continue planning, engineering and design work. The proposed replacement lock will ensure the safety and reliability of waterborne transportation in the economically vital upper Great Lakes basin.
- **Backlog of maintenance and repairs to harbors and channels:** An additional \$20.0 million is needed for Great Lakes Operations & Maintenance to address the backlog of project work with particular attention paid to shallow draft harbors. Deferred dredging, especially during this period of near record low water, is endangering lives and disrupting the economies of coastal communities.
- **Emergency repairs of the Chicago River Lock:** \$1.0 million is needed for emergency repairs to the east gates of the Chicago River Lock to reduce leakage of Lake Michigan water into the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, which is an out-of-basin diversion of Great Lakes water, and to ensure safe operation of the lock itself.
- **Lake Michigan diversion at Chicago:** Dual accounting is required under U.S. Supreme Court decrees and an additional \$0.300 million is needed to support water flow measurement efforts for the Lakefront Accounting.

The Great Lakes Commission, an interstate compact agency founded in state and federal law, is dedicated to the informed use, management and protection of the Great Lakes. We thank you for your consideration, and for your continued leadership on issues of priority interest to the Great Lakes Commission and its eight member states. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 734-971-9135 or mdonahue@glc.org.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.
President/CEO