Strengthening the Federal-Regional Partnership: Investing in the Great Lakes

2008 Great Lakes Commission Semiannual Meeting

February 26-27, 2008
Hotel Palomar
2121 P Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037
202-448-1800

Tuesday, Feb. 26

All times are EST

11:00 a.m. Registration
Palomar Hotel – Foyer, National Room

1:00 p.m. Call to order, review of actions for consideration during Business Session
Michigan Lt. Gov. John D. Cherry Jr., Chair, Great Lakes Commission

1:15 p.m. Roll Call
Tim Eder, Executive Director, Great Lakes Commission

1:30 p.m. Report of the Chair
Lt. Gov. Cherry
- Approval of minutes from 2007 Annual Meeting
- Request for Observer status (CGLI)

Report of the Executive Director
Tim Eder
- Presentation of draft Commission 2008-2010 workplan

2:15 p.m. Observer and Participant Comments

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Panel: Strengthening Federal-State Relations: Great Lakes Restoration
Moderator: Todd Ambs, Administrator, Division of Water, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources; Commissioner
- A conversation, observations and recommendations from former Commissioners

4:00 p.m. Business of the Great Lakes Commission
Lt. Gov. Cherry
- a. Legislative priorities
- b. FY 09 Great Lakes Commission budget

4:30 p.m. Closing Keynote
Benjamin Grumbles, Asst. Administrator for Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Restoring the Great Lakes: U.S EPA Leadership and Partnerships with the Great Lakes States

5:00 p.m. Adjourn
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  **Reception Palomar Hotel**
National Room
Remarks: Lt. Gov. Cherry
Dinner on your own

**Wednesday, Feb. 27**

7:00 a.m.  **Continental Breakfast**
Hotel Palomar – Foyer, National Room

8:00 a.m.  **Call to Order and Recap of Day 1**
Lt. Gov. Cherry

8:15 a.m.  **Opening Keynote**
Invited: Rep. John Dingell (MI)
*A Congressional Perspective on Great Lakes Restoration: Challenges and Opportunities for the Remainder of the 110th Congress*

8:45 a.m.  **Keynote Presentations:**
Ocean and Coastal Policy Priorities for the Great Lakes
Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., (Ret.), Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

9:15 a.m.  **Keynote Presentations:**
The Water Resources Development Act – From Authorization to Implementation
John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
Great Lakes Priorities for the Corps of Engineers

9:45 a.m.  **Break**

10:00 a.m.  **Panel: Restoration Investments and Returns**
Moderator: Dave Ullrich, Executive Director, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Local Investment in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence:
New report from the Cities Initiative and Great Lakes Commission
Mayor Gary Becker, City of Racine, Wisconsin
Mayor Denis Lapointe, City of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Québec

An Industry Perspective on Investments in Great Lakes Restoration
George Kuper, President and CEO, Council of Great Lakes Industries

11:15 a.m.  **Great Lakes Congressional Priorities**
Tim Eder
a. President's budget and GLC Legislative Priorities
b. New Great Lakes Legislative Priorities Tracking web site
c. Recap schedule for Great Lakes Day events

11:40 a.m.  **Invitation to 2008 Annual Meeting**
Marc Boucher, Associate Commissioner
Oct. 6-7, 2008, in Québec City

11:45 a.m.  **Wrap Up and Adjourn**
Lt. Gov. Cherry