



May 7, 2009

Dear Member of the Great Lakes Congressional Delegation:

JIM DOYLE
CHAIR
Governor of Wisconsin

MITCH DANIELS
Governor of Indiana

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
Governor of Michigan

DAVID A. PATERSON
Governor of New York

TIM PAWLENTY
Governor of Minnesota

PAT QUINN
Governor of Illinois

ED RENDELL
Governor of Pennsylvania

TED STRICKLAND
Governor of Ohio

DAVID NAFTZGER
Executive Director

As you know, the Great Lakes are at risk from the grave threat posed by Asian carp and other harmful aquatic invasive species. Over the past several years, we have worked together to strengthen our protections and in particular we applaud Congress for passing the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. This Act authorized the completion of the barrier needed to help prevent the Asian carp and other species from entering the Great Lakes system through the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. The Act also authorized \$2.275 million to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to credit the Great Lakes States for past contributions to this critical project. The Great Lakes Governors again urge you to appropriate these monies to complete this reimbursement.

As you know, the Great Lakes States have made significant financial contributions towards the completion of this barrier. The State of Illinois has contributed about \$1.8 million to date. In addition, when construction was delayed due to Federal funding shortfalls, the other seven Great Lakes States contributed an additional \$475,000. We have been pleased to partner in this shared effort and are hopeful that the Federal government will follow through with its commitment to reimburse our State contributions. We continue to play an active role in the barrier effort and look forward to applying State credits toward other State-Federal partnerships that can help protect and restore our Great Lakes.

We appreciate your continued commitment to our shared efforts. If there are questions, please contact David Naftzger, Executive Director of the Council of Great Lakes Governors, at 312-407-0177 or Mike Conlin, Director of Resource Conservation for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, at 217-785-8272.

Sincerely,

Pat Quinn
Governor of Illinois
Chair, Great Lakes Governors' Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force

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