



The Council of Great Lakes Governors

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Establishment

- Formed in 1983.
- Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin formed the original Council.
- New York and Pennsylvania joined in 1989.

Mission

The Council has one simple mission: *To encourage and facilitate environmentally responsible economic growth.*

- This has been accomplished by establishing a cooperative effort between the public and private sectors among the eight Great Lakes states and with the Canadian Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.
- Through the Council, Governors work collectively to ensure that the entire Great Lakes region is both economically sound and environmentally conscious in addressing today's problems and tomorrow's challenges.

Governance Structure

- **The Council of Great Lakes Governors is a private, non-profit corporation.**
- **The Governors of the eight Great Lakes States make up the Board of Directors.**
- **The Provinces of Ontario and Quebec are associate members and play an increasingly important role.**

Current Governors and Premiers

Members

- **Ohio-Bob Taft (R)---Chairman of the Council since 2001**
- **Illinois-Rod Blagojevich (D)**
- **Indiana-Joseph E. Kernan (D)**
- **Michigan- Jennifer Granholm (D)**
- **Minnesota-Tim Pawlenty (R)**
- **New York-George Pataki (R)**
- **Pennsylvania-Ed Rendell (D)**
- **Wisconsin-Jim Doyle (D)**

Associate Members

- **Premier Dalton McGuinty (L-Ontario)**
- **Premier Jean Charest (L-Quebec)**

Past Projects

Development of Great Lakes Ecosystem Protection

- **Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative**

Project that resulted in first of its kind Great Lakes water quality guidelines

- **Spill Protection Initiative**

Created a partnership between the Great Lakes States and major oil companies to coordinate activities in the case of a spill on the Great Lakes

Current Water Projects

Current Projects

- **Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force**
Created a Task Force to explore and outline for the Governors the options for combating foreign invasive species (such as the Zebra Mussel and the Asian Carp).
- **Great Lakes Priorities Initiative**
The Governors have created a series of priorities and objectives for the restoration and protection of the Great Lakes. A Task Force has also been created by the Governors to make those priorities a reality.
- **Great Lakes Water Management Initiative**
The Governors and Premiers are together creating agreements between all the Great Lakes States and Provinces that will incorporate a common resource based standard for deciding when water can be withdrawn from the Great Lakes.

Great Lakes Governors' Priorities Initiative

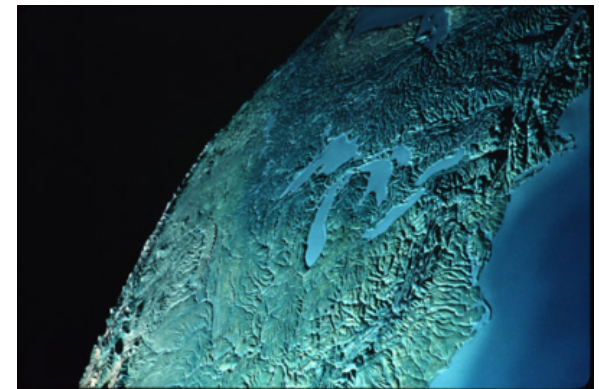
- **Launched by Council Chairman Governor Bob Taft in 2002.**
- **Premise of the initiative is that coordinated planning is needed to achieve comprehensive restoration and protection of the Great Lakes while making efficient use of limited resources.**
- **Seeking long-term funding from Congress to ensure coordinated Great Lakes restoration and protection becomes a reality.**

The Great Lakes Governors' Priorities

- **The Governors have identified to Congress their nine priorities for ensuring Great Lakes restoration and protection.**
- **First Priority--Ensure the sustainable use of our water resources while confirming that the States retain authority over water use and diversions of Great Lakes waters.**

Factors Leading to the Great Lakes Charter Annex

- 1985 Great Lakes Charter
- 1986 U.S. federal statute (WRDA)
prohibits diversion of Great Lakes water
unless approved by Governors of all Great
Lakes States
- 1998 Nova Group proposal
- 1999 recurring lower lake levels



October 1999

Governors' and Premiers' Commitment

- **Develop new agreement**
- **Develop new common standard**
- **Secure funds to develop a better base of water use data**



June 18, 2001
Great Lakes Charter Annex

**Good-faith agreement between Governors and
Premiers.**

Annex Directives

- New decision making standard
- New set of binding agreements
- Decision support system
- Public participation
- Further commitments

Improve sources and applications
of scientific information,
including role of ground water



Draft Decision Making Standard

Directive #3 of the Annex

- **Preventing or minimizing Basin water loss through return flow and implementation of environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures.**
- **No significant adverse individual or cumulative impacts to the quantity or quality of the Waters and Water-Dependent Natural Resources of the Great Lakes Basin.**
- **An Improvement to the Waters and Water-Dependent Natural Resources of the Great Lakes Basin.**
- **Compliance with the applicable state, provincial, federal, and international laws and treaties.**

Annex Process

- **CGLG Water Management Working Group**
- **Advisory Committee, Resource Group and Observers**



Annex Implementation

- **June 2004 goal to release the draft agreements for public comment**
- **State-Province agreement**
- **State legislation → possible interstate compact**
- **Provincial legislation**



Annex Implementation Goals and Next Steps

- At least a 90 Day public comment period (ending in September)
- Review of public comments and subsequent changes to the agreements
- Governors and Premiers formally consider signature of agreements early next year
- Legislative approval of the Compact in the State legislatures, consent by U.S. Congress
- Agreements to be implemented into law in Ontario and Quebec

Scientific Information Needed

- How much water is lost from the Great Lakes from consumptive uses? And what are the proper coefficients for measuring consumptive use?
- What is the contribution of ground water to the Great Lakes and its watershed? Where are the ground water divides?
- How can forecasting of water supply and demand be improved?

Scientific Information Needed

- What are the 3-D characteristics of the key geologic formations and deposits that form the major aquifers, and how much water is stored within them?
- How can we ensure comprehensive and useful monitoring of water uses that can then be taken into consideration in future decision making?
- How can water data be made available in a user-friendly format and in a timely fashion for decision making?

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