

May 5, 1990

The Honorable Henry Nowak
Chair, Water Resources Subcommittee
House Public Works and Transportation Committee
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Nowak:

The Great Lakes and marine coasts are threatened by pollution from multiple diverse sources. Inputs of toxic and other pollutants from atmospheric deposition, land run-off, point discharges and the release of contaminants from polluted underwater sediments degrade the coastal environment and put at risk the important fisheries and wildlife it supports. The health of millions of Americans and Canadians who live along the Great Lakes is also threatened by the presence of toxics in the foodchain and in drinking water. As the population continues to swell along the nation's shores, the need for action to protect and restore our fragile Great Lakes and marine coasts is clear.

Given the urgency of the problems facing our coasts, we strongly urge you to quickly move legislation through your subcommittee that would address the threats facing the Great Lakes and other coasts. These threats are both immediate, and long-term. Your bill, H.R. _____, and Rep. Studts' legislation, H.R. _____, would provide needed action on important components of the over-all coastal crisis. To improve the quality of the Great Lakes and saltwater coasts, legislation should mandate action in several crucial areas, such as sediment contamination, combined sewer discharges, point and non-point pollution, and land-use. A coherent, broad-based program is desperately needed if the crisis facing our Great Lakes and marine coasts is to be solved.

We, and the organizations we represent, are ready to assist you in any way we can to help move legislation through in this Congressional session.

Sincerely yours,

(NAME)	(ORGANIZATION)	(CITY, STATE/PROVINCE)
Camilla Smith	Save The River	Albany, NY / Jefferson City,
Martha Tangen	Clean Water Action	Green Bay WI. 54301
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