

February 1, 2002

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Dear Ms Miller:

On June 18, 2001 the Great Lakes Governors and Premiers signed the Great Lakes Charter Annex. The Charter Annex is an amendment to the Great Lakes Charter of 1985, both good-faith agreements signed by all the Great Lakes Governors and Premiers, and is important to the ongoing process to create a stronger regional water management system for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

In the Annex, the Governors and Premiers outline the framework for a set of binding agreement(s) among the Great Lakes States and Provinces and establish a series of principles for a new standard for reviewing proposed withdrawals of Great Lakes water. The Governors and Premiers also call for this work to be completed within three years of the signing of the Annex and for active public participation while developing the agreement(s).

Therefore, on behalf of the Great Lakes Governors and Premiers, I would like to invite you to join the Advisory Committee on the implementation of the Great Lakes Charter Annex. Your expertise and representation on the Committee will provide the members of the Governors' and Premiers' Water Management Working Group with valued insight and consultation during the development of the binding agreement(s).

The Governors and Premiers believe that active stakeholder participation is integral to the successful creation of a sound water management system. Along with direct exchange of ideas and information with the Advisory Committee on an individual basis and during full Working Group/Advisory Committee meetings, project progress will be shared with interested and affected parties through a quarterly Council of Great Lakes Governors newsletter, periodic updates posted on the Council website ([www.cglg.org](http://www.cglg.org)), and periodic email communiqués. The Great Lakes States and Provinces will also develop public participation programs tailored for their respective jurisdictions.

Specifically, the role of the Advisory Committee is to provide advice, counsel, expertise, and input during the development of the binding agreement(s). The Water Management Working Group looks forward to an active exchange of ideas and information with you and the other members



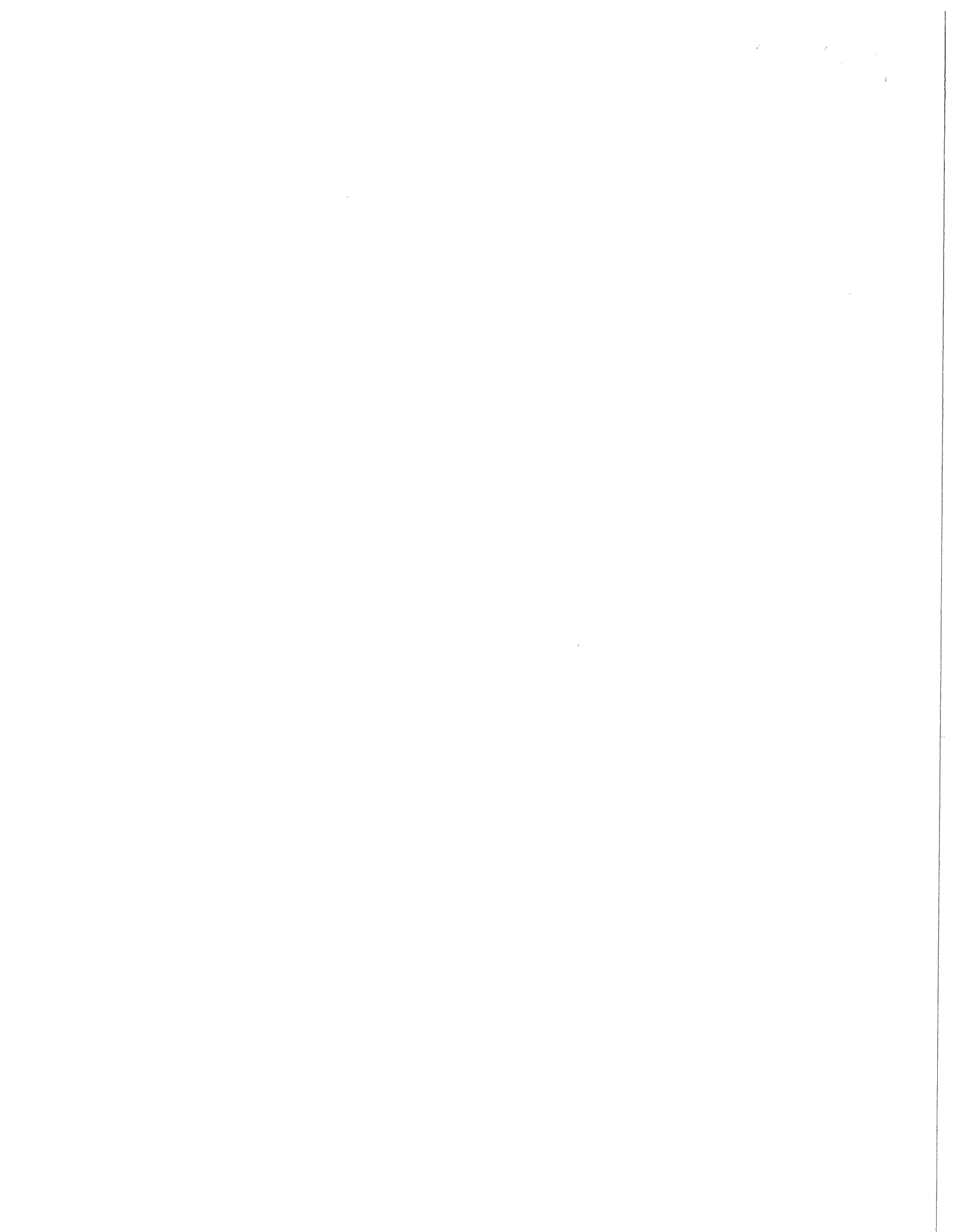
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of the Advisory Committee, both individually and as a group. As a member of the Advisory Committee, we encourage you to share your expertise during the development of the binding agreement(s) as well as provide sound comments when language is formally put to paper. We also hope that you would report to the members of your organization on the progress of our efforts. I know you would agree that it is incumbent upon us who care about the health and permanence of this precious natural resource to work together to ensure that a sound regional water management system is developed for future generations.

The Advisory Committee will meet with the full Water Management Working Group twice a year during the course of the project and your individual input will be solicited on an ongoing basis once you accept our invitation to join the Committee. Tentatively, we would like to schedule the first formal meeting of the Advisory Committee and the Water Management Working Group for March 15<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC. This meeting will coincide with the annual Great Lakes Congressional breakfast. At this time we are unable to provide financial compensation for participation or out-of-pocket expenses related to Advisory Committee responsibilities and meeting attendance. Please know that when scheduling meetings we will make every effort to economize.

In order for you to better understand your role as an Advisory Committee member and expedite your infusion into the early stages of the Water Management Working Group's work, enclosed you will find a copy of the Great Lakes Charter Annex, the Great Lakes Charter, and the Great Lakes Water Management Initiative's work plan for this calendar year. We also have included the February 2000 report presented by the International Joint Commission and the 1985 Great Lakes Water Level Facts presented by the Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District. The work plan provides an overview of participants and responsibilities. A brief description of the professional courtesy that we hope will be extended to all those involved in this initiative, and a timeline of meetings and deliverables are also included. The timeline is ambitious, but with your assistance the objectives can be met. We ask that you familiarize yourself with all these materials so that a common foundation exists for all the members of the Working Group and Advisory Committee.

In addition, please know that the Working Group is divided into three Sub-committees: compact structure, inter-provincial/international agreement(s), and decision making standard. They are currently defining the parameters of what the binding agreement(s) should look like and include. A list of preliminary questions to be answered is attached for your information and review. Should you decide to join the Advisory Committee, the full Working Group and Sub-committees welcome your responses to the existing questions and ask that you provide us with your responses and suggestions of other issues that you believe need to be addressed by February 15<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to providing a progress report to the Governors at this year's National Governors Association meeting in Washington, DC at the end of February and your input would be well received. Please know that we see your response to this request as an initial step in the development of sound ideas and options for our work together.

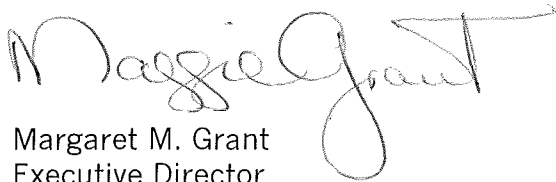


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In the interest of time and the limited travel budgets of the Great Lakes States and Provinces and Advisory Committee members, the Sub-committees will independently call for your expert advice via conference calls. The full Working Group and/or Management Team look forward to meeting with the entire Advisory Committee several times this year to collectively develop binding water management agreement(s) that will stand the test of future water needs, demands, and protection.

Please know that I will follow up with you personally to answer any questions you may have regarding the implementation of the Annex and/or your involvement on the Advisory Committee. On behalf of Council Chairman Governor Bob Taft of Ohio, I hope you will consider joining the Advisory Committee as an opportunity to have a lasting impact on the creation of sound water management for the Great Lakes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret M. Grant". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Margaret M. Grant  
Executive Director

Enclosures

