



CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DU DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

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## Historic Watershed for Great Lakes Protection

"The 10 Great Lakes States and Provinces have reached a historic watershed in protecting the Great Lakes from large diversions and bulk water removals. As of July 23, 2008, nine of the ten jurisdictions have passed legislation to implement the Great Lakes St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement and in the States the companion Great Lakes St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Agreement. The Quebec Government has endorsed the Agreement and is expected to soon pass their implementing legislation Bill 92 recently introduced in the National Assembly.

This week the final authorisation needed for the US Compact moves to Congress - a necessary legality under United States Constitutional Law. On July 30, 2008, the House Judiciary Committee will mark up the Compact bill (HR 6577) at a hearing at 10:15 a.m. For the schedule and video, go to the link:  
<http://judiciary.house.gov/hearings/calendar.html> . The Senate Judiciary Committee is holding a hearing on the Compact joint resolution 45 at 1:00 p.m.

President Bush has issued a statement supporting the Compact and urging "rapid approval" by Congress, which you can find at:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/07/20080728-11.html> .

The Canadian Environmental Law Association will continue their work with others to support and contribute to these important protections of our irreplaceable Great Lakes. For additional background and facts on the potential and myths of these Agreements please visit our website at:  
<http://www.cela.ca/coreprograms/detail.shtml?x=1906> .

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