



Appendix C

LAKE ONTARIO LETTER OF INTENT



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Lake Ontario

MAY 22 1996

Progression of Toxics Management Plan to Lakewide Management Plan Letter of Intent

In 1987, the Niagara River Declaration of Intent (DOI) committed the Four Parties (Environment Canada, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) to develop Toxics Management Plans for the Niagara River and Lake Ontario. The Lake Ontario Toxics Management Plan (LOTMP) was developed in 1989 and was updated in 1991 and 1993.

The goal of the LOTMP is a lake that provides drinking water and fish that are safe for unlimited consumption and allows natural reproduction of the most sensitive native species. The LOTMP reduces toxic inputs to the Lake through the implementation of new and existing programs and the development of basin-wide pollution prevention strategies. The LOTMP has been the primary toxic substances reduction planning effort for Lake Ontario.

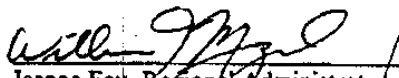
The 1987 amendments to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement committed the federal governments of the United States and Canada to develop Lakewide Management Plans (LaMP) for each of the five Great Lakes. The LaMP will provide a comprehensive ecosystem approach to restore beneficial uses by reducing levels of critical pollutants that cause lakewide problems. Critical pollutants are substances that singly or in combination pose a threat to human health or aquatic life due to their toxicity, persistence in the environment and/or their ability to accumulate in organisms.

The Four Parties agree that one program (the LaMP) should be developed which provides an overall framework for our efforts. The LOTMP has been the primary toxic substances reduction planning effort for Lake Ontario. As such, it serves as a foundation for the development of the Lake Ontario LaMP. In order to assure that the LaMP documents reflect the intent of the LOTMP, the Four Parties have agreed to review and incorporate all relevant commitments from the LOTMP. Documentation of the progress that has been achieved towards these goals will be provided in the first LaMP document.

The LaMP process provides a mechanism to continue to deliver the LOTMP committed to in the 1987 DOI. The attached Lake Ontario LaMP Workplan establishes commitments and milestones for the development of the LaMP, within the constraints of available resources.




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