

Approved February 10, 2009

**INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE CALL
January 16, 2009
12:00 Noon EDT**

The International Joint Commission met by conference call on January 16, 2009 chaired by Irene Brooks.

COMMISSIONERS	
Irene Brooks	Chair, U.S. Section
Herb Gray	Chair, Canadian Section
Allen Olson	Commissioner, U.S. Section
Jack Blaney	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Pierre Trépanier	Commissioner, Canadian Section
Sam Speck	Commissioner, U.S. Section
SECTION STAFF	
Murray Clamen	Secretary, Canadian Section
Chuck Lawson	Secretary, U.S. Section
Al Arseneault	Senior Adviser, Canadian Section
Kay Austin	Ecologist, U.S. Section
Bernard Beckhoff	Public Affairs Adviser, Canadian Section
Frank Bevacqua	Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Section
Willem Brakel	Senior Adviser, U.S. Section
Mark Colosimo	Engineering Adviser, U.S. Section
Nick Heisler	Senior Adviser to the Chair, Canadian Section
Jim Houston	Environmental Adviser, Canadian Section
Mike Laitta	GIS Coordinator, U.S. Section
Brian Maloney	Administrative Specialist, U.S. Section
John Nevin	Policy Adviser, U.S. Section
Paul Pilon	Engineering Adviser, Canadian Section
Michael Vechsler	Legal Adviser, Canadian Section
Joel Weiner	Senior Adviser, Canadian Section
Ted Yuzyk	Senior Science Adviser, Canadian Section
GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF	
Karen Vigmostad	Director

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. Commissioners approved the agenda with the addition of the International Upper Great Lakes Study under Other Business.

MINUTES

2. Commissioners approved the draft Minutes of the Commissioners' Conference Calls of December 5, 2008 and December 19, 2008. Revised draft minutes of the Executive Meeting of December 9-10, 2008 would be provided to Commissioners for subsequent approval.

LAKE ONTARIO - ST. LAWRENCE RIVER STUDY

3. Commissioners received an oral update on the status of the draft Terms of Reference for the proposed Working Group and approved a revised draft for submission to governments.

INTERNATIONAL WATERSHEDS INITIATIVE (IWI)

4. Commissioners approved the text of the IWI 3rd Report to Governments, with minor edits, and also approved providing an advance copy of the report to governments as soon as possible and a plan for translation and printing of the report.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE OPERATIONS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

5. Commissioners received an oral briefing on the January 9, 2009 GLRO Operations and Advisory Committee conference call in which it was noted that the Committee would be reviewing the mandate of the Council of Great Lakes Research Managers.

WORLD WATER WEEK

6. Commissioners approved a proposal for a seminar to be co-hosted by the IJC and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission at the August 16-22, 2009 World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden. The title of the seminar is: "From Paper to Practice - The role of international agreements and bilateral cooperation in the protection and management of the Laurentian Great Lakes of North America."

INTERNATIONAL SOURIS RIVER BOARD (ISRB)

7. Commissioners approved the posting of the ISRB Annual Report for 2005, which, because of an administrative oversight, had not yet been posted on the IJC website. Chair Gray requested that procedures for posting be checked to avoid such an oversight in the future.

AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCE AND DISEASE REGISTRY (ATSDR) REPORT

8. Commissioners received a briefing on the report "ATSDR Studies on Chemical Releases in the Great Lakes Region," which ATSDR released on January 12, 2009. Staff noted that the ATSDR had not requested any input from the IJC on the final report and had not provided the IJC with an opportunity to review a draft before releasing it. On that basis, Commissioners authorized the Secretaries to request that ATSDR remove mention of the IJC, Commissioners, and staff from the acknowledgements.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. **INTERNATIONAL UPPER GREAT LAKES STUDY**
Commissioners received an oral update from Secretary Clamen on the letter to Georgian Bay Association (GBA) Foundation, which the Commissioners had approved in the December 9-10, 2008 Executive meeting. Secretary Clamen noted that the letter had been sent to the GBA the week following the Executive meeting and that he had discussed it with GBA Foundation officials.

Murray Clamen
Secretary
Canadian Section

Charles Lawson
Secretary
U.S. Section