

Name: Wajid Ahmed

Date of Submission: March 3, 2016

Location: Windsor, Ontario

Comment:

General comments: This study involves and requires a considerable background in environmental science and environmental policy. The only sections that have cross-over into public health science are the methodologies from pages 12 – 14. Based on this section (pages 12 – 14) of the methods, we believe that the researchers used a standard approach to collect and analyse qualitative data from key informants. The only limitation identified in this section was a missed opportunity to sample more experts in the field as a consequence of having to redact participants and having a low response rate. Do you support the recommendations in the report for application by the IJC? We support the recommendations made in the report. Does the methodology used in the survey have value for assessing progress and improving effectiveness under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement? In the absence of other quantitative measures, this methodology definitely add value. However, since the survey is very targeted, representation from all the important stakeholders is crucial to make it more valuable. Does the GLEEM scoring used in the report add value to the assessment of effectiveness? We cant comment on the validity of the GLEEM score and we trust the scientific experts for the validity of the measures. What improvements in the methodology or what other methods might be used to assist the IJC in assessing progress and improving effectiveness of programs under the agreement As mentioned earlier, representation of all the stakeholders is crucial to make the results more meaningful. Longitudinal data collection will be helpful in analyzing trends. We also suggest factoring in the seasonal/environmental variations.

Name: Lou D'Alessandro

Date of Submission: February 9, 2016

Location: Huntsville, Ontario

Comment:

- I support the recommendations in the report for application by the IJC;
- The methodology used in the survey has great value for assessing progress and improving effectiveness under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement;
- The GLEEM scoring used in the report adds value to the assessment.