

Media advisory

Water Levels Study - Press Conference and Public Meeting

For Immediate Release

Ottawa, September 8, 2004 – Environmental factors, recreational boating and tourism, coastal erosion and flooding, commercial navigation, water uses and power generation - these are the areas that are being studied for long-range recommendations that will come from the International Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence River Study. The Study is in the middle of the fourth year of a five-year mandate to look at how the regulation of water levels can affect some of the most vital interests in the Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence River system. They are also taking into account the forecasted effects of climate change.

The Study's Public Interest Advisory Group (PIAG) is coming to communities in the next few weeks to provide an update on the progress of the Study and consult with interested individuals and groups on how changing water levels could affect communities that depend on the system. The Study Board will report its findings to the International Joint Commission in 2005.

Following is a list of upcoming meetings:

Where: Ramada Inn, 805 Brookdale Avenue, Cornwall, Ontario

What: Public consultation meeting

When: Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Media Availability and Display: 6 pm

Public Meeting: 7 pm

Where: Cutter's Restaurant, 6483 Catchpole Shore Road, North Rose, New York

What: Public consultation meeting

When: Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Media Availability: 4 pm

Open House: 6 pm

Public Meeting: 7 pm

Where: The Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club, 1350 Bord-du-lac, Dorval, Quebec

What: Public consultation meeting

When: Thursday, September 16, 2004

Media Availability and Display: 6 pm

Public Meeting: 7 pm

Where: Greece Town Hall, 1 Vince Tofany Boulevard, Greece, New York

What: Public consultation meeting

When: Thursday, September 16, 2004

Media Availability: 4 pm

Open house: 6 pm

Public Meeting: 7 pm

Where: Hôtel des Gouverneurs, 975 Hart Street, Trois-Rivières, Québec

What: Public consultation meeting

When: Friday, September 17, 2004

Media Availability and Display: 6 pm
Public Meeting: 7 pm

Where: Olcott Fire Hall, 1691 Lockport-Olcott Road, Olcott, New York

What: Public consultation meeting

When: Friday, September 17, 2004

Media Availability: 4 pm

Open house: 6 pm

Public Meeting: 7 pm

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The Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Study was set in motion in 2000 by the International Joint Commission to evaluate the Commission's Order of Approval used to regulate outflows from Lake Ontario through the St. Lawrence River. The Study is assessing the impacts of changing water levels on affected interests, including the environment, recreational boating and tourism, shoreline communities, commercial navigation, municipal and industrial water uses and hydropower. The Public Interest Advisory Group is a volunteer group appointed by the International Joint Commission to ensure effective communication between the public and the Study Team.