MEDIA RELEASE

August 25, 2005

International Joint Commission's Upper Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team releases draft plan for public comment

The IJC's Upper Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team has completed the draft of its revised plan for a study of the Upper Lakes and has posted it at www.ijc.org. The Team is holding a series of public consultation meetings on the draft and will accept comments until September 19, 2005.

An Upper Great Lakes Study would review the IJC orders of approval for regulating the flows out of Lake Superior and examine water level impacts on affected interests from Lake Superior downstream through Lake Erie.

In May 2005, the IJC appointed the Upper Lakes Study Revision Team to expand the original 2002 plan for the Upper Lakes Study to include a review of past and on-going physical changes in the St. Clair River and their impacts on water levels of the upper Great Lakes, as well as to take account of lessons learned from the IJC's Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Study. The Team will be submitting its final report on a revised plan to the IJC in October 2005.

The dates and locations of the sessions are:

September 1, 2005 Parry Sound, Ontario: Starting Time: 5:00 p.m., West Parry Sound District Museum, Lion Room, 17 George Street, Parry Sound, Ontario

September 13, 2005 Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario: Starting Time: 7:00 p.m., Civic Centre, Russ Ramsay Room, Level 3, 99 Foster Drive, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

September 14, 2005 Port Huron, Michigan: Starting Time: 7:00 p.m., St. Clair County Administration Building Auditorium, 200 Grand River Avenue, Port Huron, Michigan

September 15, 2005 St. Joseph, Michigan: Starting Time: 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph City Hall Commission Chambers, 2nd floor, 700 Broad St. at corner of Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan

The draft revised plan is at www.ijc.org > Boards > Current Task Forces > Upper Great Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team > Publications, or http://www.ijc.org/conseil board/upper greatlakes/upper pub.php?language=english. This page also contains a link to an online form through which the public can submit comments to the Team.

The International Joint Commission prevents and resolves disputes between the United States of America and Canada under the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty and pursues the common good of both countries as an independent and objective advisor to the two governments.

Contacts at the Upper Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team

Canada Peter Yee (905) 336 4946

United States: Scott Thieme (313) 226 6440