

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON  
GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY**

*The Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of  
America,*

Determined to restore and enhance water quality in the Great Lakes System;

Seriously concerned about the grave deterioration of water quality on each side of the boundary to an extent that is causing injury to health and property on the other side, as described in the 1970 report of the International Joint Commission on Pollution of Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the International Section of the St. Lawrence River;

Intent upon preventing further pollution of the Great Lakes System owing to continuing population growth, resource development and increasing use of water;

Reaffirming in a spirit of friendship and cooperation the rights and obligations of both countries under the Boundary Waters Treaty signed on January 11, 1909 <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular their obligation not to pollute boundary waters;

Recognizing the rights of each country in the use of its Great Lakes waters;

Satisfied that the 1970 report of the International Joint Commission provides a sound basis for new and more effective cooperative actions to restore and enhance water quality in the Great Lakes System;

Convinced that the best means to achieve improved water quality in the Great Lakes System is through the adoption of common objectives, the development and implementation of cooperative programs and other measures, and the assignment of special responsibilities and functions to the International Joint Commission;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

*Definitions*

As used in this Agreement:

- (a) "Boundary waters of the Great Lakes System" or "boundary waters" means boundary waters, as defined in the Boundary Waters Treaty, that are within the Great Lakes System;
- (b) "Boundary Waters Treaty" means the Treaty between the United States and Great Britain Relating to Boundary Waters, and Questions Arising Between the United States and Canada, signed at Washington on January 11, 1909;

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<sup>(1)</sup> Not published