

# PRESS RELEASE



# COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

No. 2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1962

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green today released the text of a Note delivered by the Canadian Ambassador in Washington on November 2, 1961 on the subject of proposals to divert water out of the Great Lakes at Chicago. The Note reads as follows:

No. 782

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
November 2, 1961

Sir,

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to cases now before the Supreme Court of the United States, October term 1959, Nos. 2, 3 and 4 between the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New York as complainants and the State of Illinois and the Sanitary District of Chicago as defendants; and case No. 12 original between the State of Illinois as complainant and the States of Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Wisconsin as defendants.

It is noted that in cases Nos. 2, 3 and 4, the complainants ask that the defendants be restrained from discharging any of the treated effluents emanating from the Sanitary District's sewage and industrial treatment facilities into the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, and that the said defendants be required to return all of said effluent to the Great Lakes Basin from which it originally came in the form of "domestic pumpage"; and alternatively that a Permanent Master be appointed for the purpose of determining whether measures other than the return to Lake Michigan of the Chicago domestic pumpage effluent can be put into effect so that such measures will either reduce the direct diversion or limit the Chicago domestic pumpage, to the end that the total amount of diversion from the Great Lakes at Chicago will be reduced or restricted.

It is further noted that in case No. 12 original the complainant asks the Court to declare that the State of Illinois and its instrumentality, the Elmhurst - Villa Park - Lombard Water Commission, are entitled to proceed with a programme for the construction of a water supply system and the withdrawal of water from Lake Michigan, and further asks the Court to restrain the defendants from interfering with such construction and withdrawal.

It is a matter of satisfaction to my Government that the United States of America, in applying for Leave to Intervene in cases 2, 3 4 and 12 original in order to protect its interest, included among those interests the "maintenance of friendly relations with Canada". It will be recalled that representations have been made to the Government of the United States of America on numerous occasions during a period of many years with respect to a variety of proposals concerning the diversion of water from Lake Michigan out of the Great Lakes watershed at Chicago; that the Canadian Government has never