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CANADIAN RESPONSE TO THE IJC'S FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT ON GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Government of Canada has conveyed to the International Joint Commission a combined Canadian response to the recommendations to governments contained in the Commission's Fourth Annual Report on Great Lakes Water Quality. The Fourth Annual Report identified several of the recommendations in the 1975 Great Lakes Water Quality Board Report to which the Commission believes the Parties to the 1972 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement should give priority consideration.

The Governments of Canada and Ontario recently completed a comprehensive review of Great Lakes water quality matters in light of the Commission's Report. The two governments recognize the importance of the concerns addressed in the recommendations. The combined response informs the Commission of the specific status of Canadian federal and provincial programs and other measures which address these concerns. The response also reaffirms that the Governments of Canada and Ontario continue to give high priority to Great Lakes programs and to encourage cooperation at all levels of government in order to reach the water quality objectives of the Canada-United States Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

Copies of the combined Canadian response may be obtained from:

Canada-United States Relations Division
Liaison and Coordination Directorate
Planning and Finance Service
Department of Fisheries and the Environment
Ottawa, K1A 1G7
Telephone: (613) 997-3979

and

Information Services Branch
Ontario Ministry of the Environment
135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1P5
Telephone: (416) 965-1658

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