



LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
28TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

June 5, 2006

Ms. Lisa Bourget
Secretary- U.S. Section
International Joint Commission
1250 23rd Street NW Ste 100
Washington, DC 20440

Dear Ms. Bourget,

On behalf of my constituents, I am forwarding to you the enclosed letters concerning the International Joint Commission's (IJC) Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Study. The letters represent the correspondence received by my office over the past few months from individuals, government entities, and local organizations.

Please include these comments in the IJC's official record of public comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Christopher Zeltmann in my Rochester District Office at 585-232-4850.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise".

Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress

LMS:cz

cc: Mr. Russ Trowbridge, IJC Advisor

APR 05 RECD

Rochester, NY,

20 March 2006

U.S. Representative Louise Slaughter

Rochester, NY

Dear Ms. Slaughter,

As your constituents, we seek your help in averting the adoption of a governmental plan of action that is likely have catastrophic results that will result in the destruction of our homes and neighborhood.

I understand that the International Joint Commission (IJC), which is responsible for regulating the level of Lake Ontario, is about to adopt a new regulation plan that will allow the lake level to rise as high as 249 feet above mean sea level (MSL). As most of the lake front homes on Edgemere Drive are no more than 250' MSL, this will result in basement/crawlspace flooding during calm periods, and direct flooding of our homes during windy periods.

Based on our knowledge of the history of the St. Lawrence River Hydroelectric and Seaway project, we, as riparians on Lake Ontario, were promised protection through the Orders of Approval issued prior to this project's construction. The approved Criteria specifically state that the system is to be regulated to minimize the occurrence of extreme high and low water levels on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River with a target four-foot range on Lake Ontario.

In our community and many others along the South shore, property owners have relied upon the approved Criteria and target water levels in the design and placement of our homes. Of course, local governments have also relied on these rules to locate and public infrastructure and in the regulation of the placement of all structures.

The IJC is now considering adoption of a new regulation plan which does not follow the approved Criteria. This candidate plan will result in an increased range of water levels, which will negatively impact the shoreline areas of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River through increased erosion and flooding. This action will imperil our neighborhood!

I urge you to petition the IJC to further investigate alternative operation plans to produce a more acceptable alternative or to retain the current criteria and operating plan for regulating outflows from Lake Ontario if no better alternative is found.

Please investigate and oppose the adoption of the new lake level control plan. **Failure to do so will likely result in the destruction of our community and many more like it in a misguided attempt to pacify outside interests. Please don't let the South shore of Lake Ontario become the next New Orleans!**

Our homes can be saved by ensuring that promises made in the past, which have virtually zero additional cost, are kept. The communities on Lake Ontario's South shore need to keep a lake level control plan that maintains the lake level at or below the current maximum of 247' MSL, and has controls built in to protect lakefront residents from flooding by compensating for off normal events.

We need you to help protect our homes!

Sincerely, + THANKS for all your work

Craig A. Roberts

MAR 29 REC'D

Rochester, NY,

20 March 2006

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Sincerely,

Reynold J. Lopez & Associates

MAR 29 REC'D

Address
Rochester, NY

20 March 2006

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Sincerely,


Jerry & Patty Krauss

MAR 27 REC'D

Rochester, NY.

20 March 2006

U.S. Representative Louise Slaughter

Rochester, NY

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We need you to help protect our homes!

Sincerely,

Dear Representative Slaughter,
We need your help, will you
Van + Julie Goodwin please do all you can. We are
in big trouble here and we can't
fight this without your support,

TOM & MARILYN CRUMLISH

Rochester, New York

Date: March 14, 2006

Honorable Louise Slaughter
US House of Representatives

Washington, DC :

Subject: International Joint Commission and Lake Ontario Water Levels

Dear Mrs Slaughter,

I am a home owner on the south shore of Lake Ontario in the Town of Greece, NY. I assume you are aware that the international Joint Commission, IJC, is very close to changing their criteria that determines where the water levels of Lake Ontario are set.

Currently the criteria keeps the lake levels between 243 and 247 feet. If the lake levels exceed 247 feet, the IJC invokes criterion K which maximizes the outflow of the lake and minimizes possible damage. This has been the criteria for 45 +years. All of the infrastructure and most peoples' breakwalls (including mine) were built to this criteria.

Unless something changes, the new criteria will expand the possible lake range level to 249 feet. Additionally they are eliminating Criterion K, so there is NO RECOURSE if the planned ranges are exceeded. Significant flooding takes place in our area once lake levels exceed 247 feet. This happens when there is a storm and we get the 3-5 foot waves that are normal for this lake.

As I understand it, the new study DID NOT TAKE WAVE ACTION INTO ACCOUNT. At 249 feet there would be significant devastation. My house would be flooded as well as most of my neighbors.

I am asking you to please, please use your position as my elected representative and STOP THIS NEW PLAN!!!!!!!!!!!! This will cause a HUGE loss of property value and damage in the Town of Greece.

Sincerely,


Tom Crumlish

Privacy Waiver: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, you and your staff are hereby authorized to freely discuss any and all aspects of my situation.

E-Mail #	Letter #	Names #	Case #	Form	Assigned
47027	1419838	1696 *1 *2			amasood

From: Barlow, Sherrill

ROCHESTER, NY,

E-Mail:

Subject: Lake Ontario water levels Issue: Pro.Environment

4/21/2006 2:49 PM

Dear Congresswoman Louise Slaughter,

As a resident of the south shore of Lake Ontario in Greece NY, it had been brought to my attention that the water level of the lake is up for debate.

I have attended meetings of the IJC and the Town of Greece and read numerous articles, including the one I have attached. I have waited and saved my whole life to be able to live on Lake Ontario and finally was able to do so last year. The proposed plan to raise the level of the lake by twelve inches or more would cause serious damage to my property as well as many of my neighbors. From what I have been able to discern about the plan, there are no contingencies for emergency situations (like excessive rain fall). In which case, an already high lake level could become increasingly damaging without recourse (the alternative being to flood Montreal)

I realize that there are many benefits to raising the level of the lake, but should these out weigh the lives and homes of the people who have lived on the shore for so long? Perhaps some sort of compromise could be made, to benefit the ecology and shipping without the shore residents losing their homes.

I hope you will not support the raising of level of Lake Ontario and loss of property on the New York shore.

Sincerely,

Sherrill Barlow

APR 18 2006

Address
Rochester, NY,
Phone number
e-mail address

20 March 2006

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Rochester, NY

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We need you to help protect our homes!

Sincerely,


name

Please help Save my home

Thank you in advance for your support