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INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
1250 23rd Street NW
Washington, DC 20440

William A. Grater
Clayton, NY

August 20, 2006

U.S. Section Secretary
International Joint Commission
1250 23rd Street NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20440

International Joint Commission

ACTION: GM
INFORMATION: LB, JC, FB, RT, CMRS
FILE:

Subject: International Lake Ontario – St Lawrence River Study

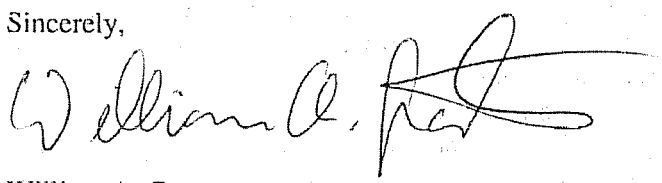
Dear Mr./Ms. Secretary:

Prior to the Seaway project the St Lawrence River and its bays, streams and feeder rivers comprised a magnificent, sophisticated, complex natural ecological system that supported an extensive and varied web of living organisms. But Man, with his typical hubris and myopic, self-centered approach to the natural world, decided to "improve" the river by installing dams and locks in an effort to control water levels and aid commercial shipping. The undeniable result, by any scientific standards, has been a wholesale degradation of the natural ecosystem of the St. Lawrence River.

As the world population grows, increasing pressure is placed upon natural systems. Due to intervention, whether it's government backed flood insurance or the artificial control of water levels, development occurs where it ought not at the cost of untold billions of taxpayer's money. Fortunately though, some enlightened agencies are beginning to see that the natural system is better for man as well as the rest of the ecosystem. Consequently, corrective action is taking place in the Everglades, the Missouri River and rivers in Maine and New England to remove dams, drainage ditches, and canals and restore the natural hydrology.

My family has lived on the St. Lawrence from Cornwall to Ogdensburg to Clayton for generations. We want our River back! **Please Support Plan B+** and work toward a restoration of a natural flow regime that will support a restoration of native fish, plant and animal populations. We don't want to become a "global ecosystem". We want to be different, the way we were.

Sincerely,



William A. Grater