

Amherstburg, On.

Canadian Section Secretary,
I. J. C.
234 Laurier Ave. W.
22nd Floor,
Ottawa, On. K1P 6K6.

IJC / CMI OTTAWA

ACTION: Y11C/Daley
INFO: M. Clow/FB/AR

SEP 15 2006

FILE / DOSSIER

3-1-49 (68)

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: IJC 14.6 Million Dollar Great Lakes Study.

For 33 years my family has lived on the waterfront where the Canard & Detroit Rivers meet. We have witnessed the floods in the '70's and the wind effect that pushed water to its highest most destructive levels. Waterfront property purchasers during the high water period mistakenly assumed the levels to be normal. They were unprepared to a return to more normal levels. Another result of high water was silting, deposits left behind caused shallow areas to become more shallow - even dry. It is unfair for this minority to demand higher water that might flood the majority.

We find the present levels comfortable. During the high water years, I installed a gauge that measured water levels daily, on windy days recorded levels as they changed. Mr. Quin, a hydraulics engineer from Michigan stated that the Lakes were so vast, it would take 7 years to get levels down.

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U.S.A. and Canadian waterfront residents formed an international organization to sue the parties responsible for high water damage. Soon thereafter the water began to recede, I recorded a loss of 18 inches in a month & a half. Where did the water go? At the time, the authorities passed the buck, blamed mother nature, — no one took responsibility.

It now appears the water levels can be controlled. The Windsor Star on June 14/2006 quotes Mr. Herb Gray "Once the study is completed, I.J.C. could decide to increase the outflow from Lake Superior, which would help create higher levels in this area and beyond."

Close attention must be paid to future decisions to increase water levels and the parties that make them. A new factor that demands serious attention is Global warming and the future effects on the Great Lakes. Many communities draw their drinking water from these Lakes, therefore preventing and reducing pollutants from entering the Lakes should be the highest priority for the I.J.C. and all levels of Gov't. May you be guided in your deliberations.

Thank you for your kind attention!

Sincerely
Wilfrid Fortowsky