

Elizabeth Gehret

Fairport, NY 14453

Dear Officer Frank Bevacqua,

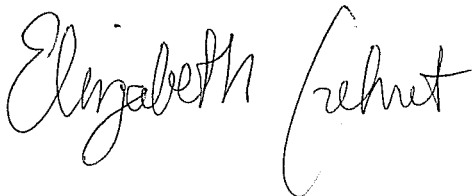
I am writing you in support of implementing the B+ plan that supports a healthier Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River. Improving the health of these bodies of water is important to me personally and as a citizen.

I have grown up in Rochester, NY, which is near a part of Lake Ontario. Lake Ontario's beach has provided a beautiful area for locals to fly kites, take walks, play volleyball, have picnics, and cool off. Although the stench from the lake is sometimes too strong for me to visit the beach, I understand that the health of this Great Lake has greatly improved since the time that my mother was my age. I personally have many memories from this beach, and am quite interested in improving this lake further.

As a citizen, I am educated on the importance of preserving our wetlands. I have volunteered in Mississippi and Louisiana, working to rebuild Hurricane Katrina's victims' homes. While there, I learned that had the wetlands been healthier in those areas, the hurricane would have been much tamer, and hundreds of lives would have been saved. As you may well know, the wetlands are essential for water filtration, water storage, and biological productivity ([http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/pdf/fun\\_val.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/pdf/fun_val.pdf)).

For these reasons, I support creating a deadline for implementing the B+ plan, and I am hoping that you will, too.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Gehret

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NY STATE JOINT COMMISSION

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