

July 9, 2008

International Joint Commission  
Frank Bevacqua  
Public Information Officer  
2401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Fourth Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20440  
Phone: 202-736-9024  
Fax: 202-467-0746  
Email: [bevacqua@washington.ijc.org](mailto:bevacqua@washington.ijc.org)

Dear Mr. Bevacqua and IJC Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to the International Joint Commission (IJC) to urge immediate implementation of **Plan B+** as the new water level regulation plan for Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. A healthy lake/river ecosystem is essential to sustain the region's "new economy," which is increasingly dependent on tourism, water recreation, low-cost hydroelectric production, commercial shipping and a thriving environment that will enrich the quality of life for all of us. The IJC's recently announced hybrid plan, Plan 2007, does not go far enough in restoring the natural 30-year cycles needed to sustain the critical wetlands and dunes of Lake Ontario's 650 miles of coastline.

As you know, I am not alone -- **Plan B+** is supported by many organizations and individuals, including Audubon New York, Save The River, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, and National Wildlife Federation. Plan B+ is receiving bi-partisan support in Congress, and New York Governor David Patterson has expressed New York State's support for Plan B+ to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. In addition, Donna Canfield, Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, urges implementation of **Plan B+**.

It is very clear to me that the IJC should implement **Plan B+**! I firmly believe it's the natural choice for the Lake Ontario/St. Lawrence River Basin ecosystem.

Sincerely,

John T. O'Brien, Trustee Emeriti,  
DUCKS UNLIMITED, INC.