

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 28, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

We are writing to urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Interagency Task Force (IATF) to release the FY 2016 Report to Congress on the recent activities and accomplishments of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). Members of Congress, federal agencies, local stakeholders, and the public across the Great Lakes states rely on GLRI annual reports to protect our waters for future generations.

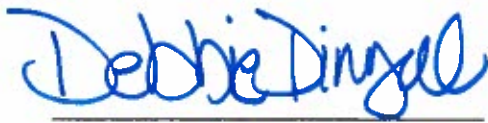
The GLRI is one of the most successful federal programs in leveraging public and private funding for environmental and economic restoration efforts throughout the Great Lakes basin. Since 2010, the program has provided more than \$2 billion in funding to clean up toxic Great Lakes areas of concern, prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, limit the growth of harmful algal blooms, and restore thousands of acres of fish and wildlife habitat throughout the Great Lakes.

In the Conference Report that accompanied the FY 2010 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (P.L. 111-88), language was included that stated "beginning in 2011 and each year thereafter, the Agency [EPA] is directed to provide detailed yearly program accomplishments and compare specific funding levels allocated for participating Federal agencies from fiscal year to fiscal year." Additionally, the five-year authorization of the GLRI included in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act (P.L. 114-322) passed last December required a yearly detailed description to Congress of the GLRI's progress and amounts transferred to participating federal agencies for carrying out activities that support the GLRI.

The EPA, through the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force, published the FY 2015 GLRI Report to Congress and the President on June 16, 2016. Given that it has been over a year since the EPA submitted the report on the progress of the GLRI program, and with important budget decisions pending before the Congress, we would urge you to promptly provide the report that details project funding in FY 2016. These reports provide important transparency on the GLRI program and help the Congress oversee the projects in our region that receive this critically important funding.

Thank you for considering this request, and we hope future GLRI annual reports are released in a timely and consistent manner.

Sincerely,



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



David P. Joyce
Member of Congress



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress



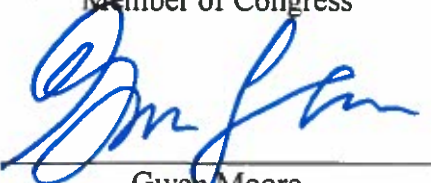
Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Bobby Rush
Member of Congress



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Al Franken
United States Senator



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



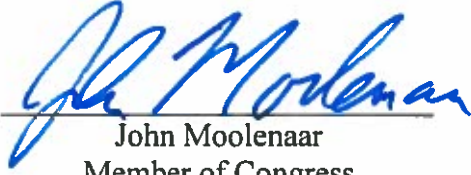
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



John Moolenaar
Member of Congress



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress



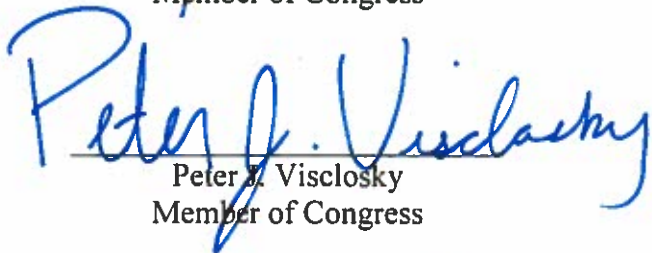
Sander Levin
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Robin Kelly
Member of Congress



Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress



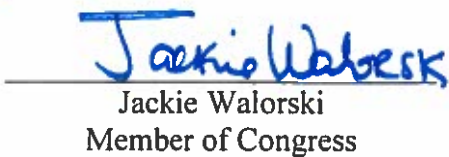
Rick Nolan
Member of Congress



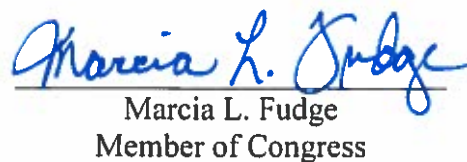
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Mike Bishop
Member of Congress



Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Dave Trott
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Chris Collins
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



Glenn Thompson
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



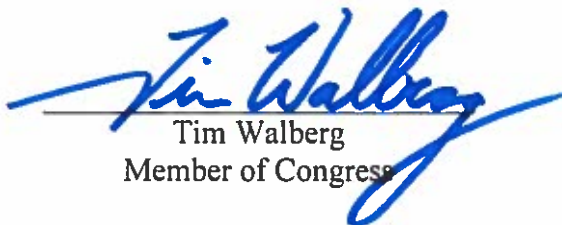
Paul Mitchell
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci
Member of Congress



Tim Walberg
Member of Congress