

RESOLUTION # 8

GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE  
ALLIANCE DES VILLES DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

DEVILS LAKE DIVERSION

PRESENTED BY: Mayor Timothy Rigby, St. Catharines

SECONDED BY: Mayor David Miller, Toronto  
Mayor Richard Daley, Chicago  
Mayor Eddie Frances, Windsor

**WHEREAS**, the informed use, management and protection of water resources is a high priority to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and

**WHEREAS**, the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty and the International Joint Commission have guided the United States and Canada in the management of shared waters for nearly a century; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Dakota is constructing, without an environmental assessment and without any safeguards, a Devils Lake outlet that would divert water from Devils Lake into the Sheyenne River and ultimately into Canadian waters; and

**WHEREAS**, many people in the United States and Canada have expressed concern with the impact of the Devils Lake outlet on downstream waters including prospective water pollution and the transfer of invasive species; and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative believes that that an understanding of the environmental and economic implications of any trans boundary diversion is essential; and

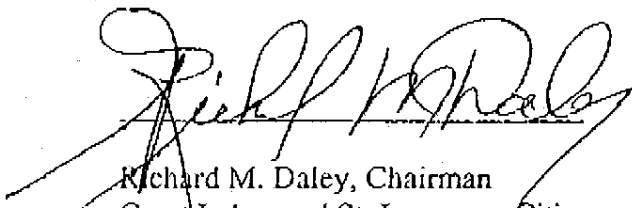
**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is concerned that the process to date has not respected the authority of the Boundary Waters Treaty and consequently, has threatened the stature of the Boundary Waters Treaty and the International Joint Commission, sets a bad precedent for dealing with similar issues on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, and compromises U.S.- Canada relations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities initiative believes that it is essential that the environmental and economic impacts of the Devils Lake project be conducted in the spirit of binational cooperation and in thorough and objective manner by a credible party; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative urge the U.S. Secretary of State and the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs to refer the Devils Lake outlet matter to the International Joint Commission to undertake a credible and objective assessment of the environmental impacts of this trans boundary water diversion; and

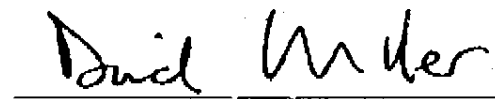
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will write to and urge the U.S. Secretary of State and to ensure that the Devils Lake outlet does not operate until the International Joint Commission has completed its assessment and governments in Canada and the United States have had an opportunity to review their recommendations.

Signed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2005, in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.



---

Richard M. Daley, Chairman  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities  
Initiative



---

David Miller, Vice Chairman  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities  
Initiative