



VIA EMAIL

Legislative & Planning Services
Department
Office of the Regional Clerk
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

October 13, 2016

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, David Ullrich
The Honourable Michael Chong, MP, Wellington-Halton Hills
Pam Damoff, MP, Oakville-North Burlington
Karina Gould, MP, Burlington
John Oliver, MP, Oakville
The Honourable Lisa Raitt, MP, Halton
Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills
The Honourable Kevin Flynn, MPP, Oakville
The Honourable Eleanor McMahon, MPP, Burlington
The Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris, MPP, Halton

Please be advised that at its meeting held Wednesday, October 12, 2016, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Waukesha, WI Water Diversion from Lake Michigan

WHEREAS the Great Lakes Basin contains approximately 20 percent of the world's fresh water, 40 million people use the basin for potable water daily and a quarter of Canada's agriculture industry relies on it;

AND WHEREAS the Region of Halton (the "Region") is located along the border of Lake Ontario and has proven itself a strong environmental steward of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin;

AND WHEREAS on December 13, 2005 the Governors of the eight Great Lakes states, Ontario and Quebec signed the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement (the "Agreement") and the Governors endorsed the companion Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact (the "Compact") which was later approved by the United States Congress and signed by the President, banning new water diversions from the Basin except in communities located in counties straddling the water division line between the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin and other basins;

AND WHEREAS the City of Waukesha, WI is the first community to submit an application to divert water from Lake Michigan for use as its source of drinking water (the "Application"), made pursuant to the Agreement and Compact;

AND WHEREAS concerns have been expressed by many organizations and government organizations within the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin, including the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, that the Waukesha Application does not meet the terms of either the Agreement or the Compact and that this may set a precedent for future diversions;

Regional Municipality of Halton

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1

905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866

AND WHEREAS on June 21, 2016, a panel representing governors of the eight states adjoining the Great Lakes unanimously approved a proposal from Waukesha, WI to draw roughly 30 million litres a day from Lake Michigan and use it outside the Great Lakes Basin;

AND WHEREAS The International Joint Commission has determined that there is no “surplus” water in the Great Lakes;

AND WHEREAS the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (the “Cities Initiative”) passed a resolution opposing the Waukesha Application and has since commenced legal action to appeal the decision;

AND WHEREAS Halton Region is a member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative representing municipalities along the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence in Canada and the United States.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Regional Council objects to Waukesha, WI diverting over thirty million litres of water daily and opposes the diversion of any water outside of the Great Lakes Basin area and outside of the terms of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Water Resources Compact;

AND THAT the Regional Chair write to the Provincial Minister of Energy and Climate Change, the Provincial Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Federal Minister of Natural Resources and the Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change advising them of Regional Council’s position.

AND THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Regional Council’s resolution to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and local MPs and MPPs for their information.

As per the above resolution, please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

If you have any questions please contact me at extension 7110 or the e-mail address below.



Graham Milne
Deputy Clerk and Supervisor of
Council & Committee Services
graham.milne@halton.ca



HALTON REGION

NOTICE OF MOTION

INTRODUCTION DATE: September 14, 2016

ITEM: Waukesha, WI Water Diversion from Lake Michigan

DATE OF MEETING
NOTICE OF MOTION
TO BE CONSIDERED: Council Meeting – October 12, 2016

MOVED BY: Councillor O’Meara

SECONDED BY: Councillor Elgar

WHEREAS the Great Lakes Basin contains approximately 20 percent of the world’s fresh water, 40 million people use the basin for potable water daily and a quarter of Canada’s agriculture industry relies on it;

AND WHEREAS the Region of Halton (the “Region”) is located along the border of Lake Ontario and has proven itself a strong environmental steward of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin;

AND WHEREAS on December 13, 2005 the Governors of the eight Great Lakes states, Ontario and Quebec signed the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement (the “Agreement”) and the Governors endorsed the companion Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact (the “Compact”) which was later approved by the United States Congress and signed by the President, banning new water diversions from the Basin except in communities located in counties straddling the water division line between the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin and other basins;

AND WHEREAS the City of Waukesha, WI is the first community to submit an application to divert water from Lake Michigan for use as its source of drinking water (the “Application”), made pursuant to the Agreement and Compact;

AND WHEREAS concerns have been expressed by many organizations and government organizations within the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin, including the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, that the Waukesha Application does not meet the terms of either the Agreement or the Compact and that this may set a precedent for future diversions;

AND WHEREAS on June 21, 2016, a panel representing governors of the eight states adjoining the Great Lakes unanimously approved a proposal from Waukesha, WI to draw roughly 30 million litres a day from Lake Michigan and use it outside the Great Lakes Basin;

AND WHEREAS The International Joint Commission has determined that there is no “surplus” water in the Great Lakes;

AND WHEREAS the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (the “Cities Initiative”) passed a resolution opposing the Waukesha Application and has since commenced legal action to appeal the decision;

AND WHEREAS Halton Region is a member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative representing municipalities along the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence in Canada and the United States.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Regional Council objects to Waukesha, WI diverting over thirty million litres of water daily and opposes the diversion of any water outside of the Great Lakes Basin area and outside of the terms of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Water Resources Compact;

AND THAT the Regional Chair write to the Provincial Minister of Energy and Climate Change, the Provincial Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Federal Minister of Natural Resources and the Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change advising them of Regional Council’s position.

AND THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Regional Council’s resolution to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and local MPs and MPPs for their information.