



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH
Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
4840 South State Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108-9719

September 23, 2010

Ms. Zdenka Willis, Director
NOAA Integrated Ocean Observing System
1100 Wayne Ave., Suite 1225
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Willis:

I am pleased to provide this letter which describes the ongoing coordination occurring between NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory and the Great Lakes Observing System Regional Association in the implementation of the regional Great Lakes Observing System. This coordination takes several forms and is designed to ensure that both organizations are carrying out complementary activities and avoiding duplication.

GLERL research scientists in marine instrumentation, remote sensing and physical oceanography regularly interact with GLOS in planning and executing research projects as well as serving on GLOS' Nearshore Network Observation Team and GLOS' modeling team. They are also often called upon to make presentations during annual PI update and planning meetings. These meetings enable GLERL scientists to determine how GLERL's current research priorities also contribute to GLOS' identified regional priorities. In addition, GLOS routinely arranges opportunities for GLERL researchers to engage with user communities through workshops and conferences. This is beneficial in two ways, first by providing an opportunity to hear the needs of resource managers and other decision makers first hand and stimulate research ideas and, more importantly, by providing a forum for feedback on research results, such as model development, that can be used to improve the product and its value to decision makers.

GLERL-GLOS coordination is also enhanced by the leadership provided by Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystem Research (CI-LEER) Associate Director, Tom Johengen, who leads the Nearshore Network Observation Team and, thanks to his physical location in the GLERL building, is able to rapidly and efficiently respond to inquiries from GLERL researchers.

This coordination effort has greatly enhanced the capacity of GLERL researchers and, looking into the future, will continue to enable both GLERL and GLOS to efficiently and effectively contribute to the implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System. If I can be of any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Marie Colton, Ph.D.
Director



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Midwest Area
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105
PH: (734) 214-7206 FAX: (734) 214-7231

September 28, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Read:

As the U.S. Geological Survey's Regional Executive, I am writing to express support for the Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS) proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, 2011-15," to Funding Opportunity NOAA-NOS-IOOS-2011-2002515.

GLOS provides a valuable partnership and services for many USGS activities in the Great Lakes region. These include collaboration with our regional USGS Center for Integrated Data Analytics to achieve interoperability of data and information for decision makers. The goal of this effort is to integrate data from the top of the watershed (USGS) through tributaries (USGS, US EPA, GLOS and others) into the open lakes (USGS, US EPA, NOAA, GLOS and others). This information is critical for developing management strategies for Great Lakes restoration and as well as meeting the goals of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. GLOS has also been working in cooperation with USGS and Environment Canada to organize the development of a Great Lakes Testbed, an initiative of the Canadian and U.S. partners of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO). The goal of GEO is to promote interoperability and the convergence of observation networks, systems and sensors.

GLOS will use resources in this proposal to continue data management services, facilitation and outreach work for all aspects of interoperability activities with USGS, including those supporting nearshore decision making, and the Great Lakes Testbed. We support this proposal and recommend it for full funding by the IOOS office.

Sincerely,

Leon M. Carl
Regional Executive



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHICAGO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
111 NORTH CANAL STREET
CHICAGO IL 60606-7206

September 30, 2010

Technical Services Division
Construction Operations Branch

Dr. Jennifer Read
Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

Dear Dr. Read:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting your proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15." The proposed activities will address important economic, safety and resource management challenges to the Great Lakes' federally authorized harbors.

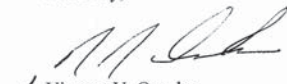
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is charged with maintaining the port and harbor infrastructure (e.g., breakwaters) that were originally authorized for commercial navigation but also protect some of the most valuable municipal infrastructure on the Great Lakes, e.g., water/wastewater treatment plants, social entertainment venues, and port and harbor infrastructure for port communities across the Great Lakes.

Therefore, Chicago District is supportive of your proposed effort to provide important data to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' coastal modelers that will enable them to understand the impact of Great Lakes wind, weather and waves on this infrastructure. Not only will this work enable the Corps of Engineers to assess the impact of the Great Lakes physical environment on this infrastructure, the effort will support decision making and prioritization of limited operations and maintenance funding.

Chicago District urges NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System to support this proposal at full funding level for each of the next five years in order to provide important economic, safety and infrastructure planning support to the region's cities.

If you should have any further questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Shamel Abou-el-Seoud, Chief of Construction-Operations Branch, at (312) 846-5470.

Sincerely,


Vincent V. Quarles
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander

Roy J. Deda, P.E.
Deputy for Project Management



IN REPLY REFER TO:
Executive Office

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DETROIT DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
477 MICHIGAN AVENUE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-2550

Dr. Jennifer Read
Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dear Dr. Read:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting your proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15." The proposed activities will address important economic, safety and resource management challenges to the Great Lakes federally authorized harbors.


The US Army Corps of Engineers is charged with maintaining the port and harbor infrastructure (e.g., breakwaters) that were originally authorized for commercial navigation but also protect some of the most valuable municipal infrastructure on the Great Lakes, e.g., water/wastewater treatment plants, social entertainment venues, and port and harbor infrastructure for port communities across the Great Lakes.

Therefore, Detroit District is supportive of your proposed effort to provide important data to US Army Corps of Engineers modelers that will enable them to understand the impact of Great Lakes wind, weather and waves on this infrastructure. Not only will this work enable the Corps of Engineers to assess the impact of the Great Lakes physical environment on this infrastructure, the effort will support decision making and prioritization of limited operations and maintenance funding.

Detroit District urges NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System to support this proposal at full funding level for each of the next five years in order to provide important economic, safety and infrastructure planning support to the region's cities.

If you should have any further questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Michael K. O'Bryan at (313) 226-6444.

Sincerely,


Michael C. Derosier
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer

International Joint Commission
Canada and United States



Commission mixte internationale
Canada et États-Unis

October 1, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read
Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Re: Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, 2011-15

Dear Dr. Read:

Better estimates of evaporation are critical to understanding the hydrology of the Great Lakes. Current evaporation estimates have a high level of uncertainty because of the lack of data and the limited understanding of how this process works on the different lakes. The International Joint Commission's International Upper Great Lakes Study determined that evaporation was a key issue and installed two eddy covariance systems to directly measure evaporation from Lakes Superior and Huron. The Study also determined that ideally there should be one system on each of the Great Lakes. The data collected from these systems are being incorporated into the model being used by the Study and are providing improved estimates of evaporation and a better understanding of the process. These stations are currently funded by the Study, but the Study will be ending in early 2012.

The International Joint Commission was pleased to learn that there is funding available to improve monitoring of the Great Lakes system. We believe that continuing these two stations and expanding this monitoring to all five Great Lakes would be a valuable strategic investment. It is a relatively modest investment for improving our scientific understanding of this key process. We hope that this proposal will receive a positive response and that there will be secured funding for the next five years.

Respectfully,

Murray Clamen
Secretary, Canadian Section, IJC

Chuck Lawson
Secretary, U.S. Section, IJC

cc: Dr. Eugene Stakhiv, US Co-chair, IUGLS
Mr. Ted Yuzyk, Canadian Co-chair, IUGLS

www.ijc.org

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27 September 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Read:

As manager of Boundary Water Issues, MSC Operations Ontario for Environment Canada, co-chair of the U.S.-CAN Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Great Lakes Testbed and Secretary of the Canadian Section of the International Saint Lawrence River Control Board, I am writing to express support for the Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS) proposal to Funding Opportunity NOAA-NOS-IOOS-2011-2002515.

Continued support for GLOS is necessary to advance data management and communications coordination for the region's bi-national priorities. For example, GLOS outreach efforts to the recreational boating and harbour communities in the St. Lawrence River help to support communication of Control Board water level and flow decisions and weather conditions as a way to improve boating experiences. The International Saint Lawrence River Control Board looks forward to continued progress on this project as a tool for leveraging communications resources and improving information delivery.

Furthermore, GLOS provides a valuable service to the Great Lakes Testbed as the regional association recognized by IOOS and responsible for coordinating observing systems in the Great Lakes. In particular, GLOS has been working in cooperation with Environment Canada and USGS to organize the development of a Great Lakes Testbed Charter and is a key partner and conduit for our efforts to integrate Great Lakes data bi-nationally. The Great Lakes Testbed benefits from the existing staff support, infrastructure capacity, and data integration framework that GLOS provides and hopes to utilize these resources in the future as the Testbed seeks to implement more data exchange and continue development of the GLOS data catalog, which will serve as the Testbed's data portal for registry with GEOSS.

We support GLOS and this proposal and recommend it for full funding by the IOOS office.

Sincerely,

Gail B. Faveri, P. Eng.
Boundary Water Issues Unit
Environment Canada & MSC Operations (ON)
867 Lakeshore Road
Burlington ON L7R 4A6
Telephone: 905.336.6007
Facsimile: 905.336.8901
Email: gail.faveri@ec.gc.ca



Commander
United States Coast Guard
Sector Detroit

110 Mount Elliott Ave.
Detroit, MI 48207
Staff Symbol: sr
Phone: 313-568-9521
Fax: 313-568-9579
Email: James.D.Marquez@uscg.mil

16000

OCT 1 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read
Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS)
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dear Dr. Read:

I am pleased to provide this information regarding your proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15" which responds to Funding Opportunity NOAA-NOS-IOOS-2011-2002515. The proposed activities will address important Coast Guard needs in the Lake Huron-Lake Erie Corridor.


The St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair and Detroit River are Great Lakes connecting channels that join Lake Huron to Lake Erie. These waterways are a drinking water source for over four million people. This system, especially the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers, is a high energy system with parts of the St. Clair flowing up to 230,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), while the Detroit River can flow up to 210,000 cfs. This area is also the location of significant industrial activity, including a large petrochemical complex. Additionally, the Detroit River is home to the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, the first and only International Wildlife Refuge in North America. As such, any oil or hazardous substance discharges would quickly travel downriver and significantly impact several environmentally sensitive areas, in addition to the drinking water supply for large portions of southeast Michigan and southwest Ontario.

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Detroit uses the Huron Erie Connecting Waterways Forecasting System (HECWFS) output to provide support to both spill response planning activities (e.g., identification of optimal locations to deploy boom equipment, such as deflection or collection booms) and spill event responses (e.g., using HECWFS output to confirm river speed, estimate travel time and river current speed at boom deployment sites). HECWFS provides a product that strongly supports Coast Guard emergency response activities. GLOS also hosts routine meetings with the user community to identify new user needs or system improvements, which are frequently incorporated into system updates; this is fundamental to improving an already effective tool.

Therefore, the U.S. Coast Guard is encouraged by your proposal which might allow you to continue to provide updates to this important decision support tool. If NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System approves this proposal at the full funding level for each of the next five years, critical support will be provided to the spill response and source water protection communities along the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers.

Please contact LCDR James Marquez at 313-568-9479 or James.D.Marquez@uscg.mil if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



J. E. OGDEN
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Coast Guard Sector
Detroit, MI



HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Mount Clemens Health Center

43525 Elizabeth Road
Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043
586-469-5235 FAX 586-469-5885
macombcountymi.gov/publichealth

Steven C. Gold, M.P.H.
Director/Health Officer

Kevin P. Lokar, M.D.
Medical Director

September 23, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
Michigan Sea Grant
Samuel T. Dana Building
440 Church St., Suite 4044
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1041

Dear Dr. Read:

SUBJECT: FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NOAA-NOS-IOOS-2011-2002515

The Macomb County Health Department (MCHD) is pleased to provide this letter of support of the Michigan Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS) in their application for funding under the RFP titled "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15".

The MCHD, with financial support from Federal, State and Local partners, has established a real-time, automated source water monitoring system in the Huron-Erie Corridor. Enhancements provided through the GLOS program will provide a greater degree of public health protection through modeling of flows and predictability of contaminant concentrations at public drinking water intakes.

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support and I hope your application is successful.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Gary R. White, R.S., M.S.
Interim Deputy Health Officer

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Department of Health

Dottie-Kay Bowersox, MSA
Public Health Administrator

730 Washington Avenue
Racine, Wisconsin 53403
262-636-9203
262-636-9165 FAX



Environmental Health Division
262-636-9203

Community Health Programs
262-636-9201

Laboratory
262-636-9501

www.cityofracine.org

Sept. 30, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Read,

I am pleased to write this letter in support of your project proposal to NOAA titled Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, 2011-15.

As a member of the Great Lakes Beach Association Board of Directors and the individual responsible for posting water quality data on both the Wisconsin Beach Health (www.wibeaches.us) and our local organization (www.cityofracine.org) websites, I recognize the need to increase the density and accuracy of observations to enhance the forecasting of water quality advisories at our beaches to protect public health. GLOS is also contributing to the nearshore health goals identified in the FY2010-14 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative action plan.

I look forward to using and promoting the enhanced data that GLOS will provide to the beach management community in the Great Lakes region. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (262) 636-9501. I wish you success in securing the funding.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Julie Kinzelman, PhD, MT (ASCP)
Research Scientist/Laboratory Director
City of Racine Health Department
730 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

"Caring for the Community"



Department of Public Health
Monroe County, New York

Maggie Brooks
County Executive

Andrew S. Doniger, M.D., M.P.H.
Director

September 24, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Read:

The Rochester Embayment Remedial Action Plan Oversight Committee is pleased to offer support for the project, Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, 2011-15" submitted in response to the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) opportunity number NOAA-NOS-IOOS-2011-2002515. We urge funding of this project in its entirety at the requested amount of 4 million dollars annually to ensure operation for a time period that will result in collection of significant and defensible data.

We see this project as complementary to the activities of Oversight Committee partners such as the Lake Ontario Coastal Initiative, the Lake Ontario Management Plan committee, and complementary to recent data acquisition efforts such as the Lake Ontario Nearshore Nutrient Study.

The Rochester Embayment Remedial Action Plan Oversight Committee values the actions outlined in this proposal to continue and expand the collection of information begun under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative by expansion of GLOS into the Western Lake Ontario area, especially the Rochester Embayment. We support GLOS and this proposal and again recommend it for full funding.

Sincerely,

Charles Knauf
Remedial Action Plan Coordinator
Rochester Embayment Area of Concern
Environmental Health Project Analyst
Monroe County Department of Public Health
111 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14620

111 Westfall Road • Room 916 • Rochester, New York 14620
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City of Cleveland
Frank G. Jackson, Mayor

Department of Public Utilities
Division of Water
1201 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1175
(216) 664-2444
www.clevelandwater.com



September 21, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read
Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dear Dr. Read:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting your proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15." The proposed activities will address important needs of Cleveland Water related to the quality of raw water taken into our system.

Cleveland Water provides clean, safe water to 1.5 million customers. Cleveland's raw water supply is Lake Erie which, has seen increasing hypoxic conditions during the summer over the past decade or more. Hypoxic water is not a good source of raw water due to the high organic content, taste, odor, and the tendency for manganese to dissolve in low or no oxygen conditions. The presence of manganese, high organic levels, and taste/odor compounds mean that costs for treatment are greatly increased.

Since 2009 the Great Lakes Observing System, through its federal partner at the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, has provided a near shore buoy dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles proximate to our water intakes. The oxygen information tells us when we are in danger of taking in hypoxic water and the temperature information warns us that there is the potential for internal waves allowing us to shut down our intakes in order to avoid taking in low quality raw water or adjust treatment appropriately.

Therefore, Cleveland Water is supportive of your proposal which will continue to provide this important decision support information to us. Cleveland urges NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System to support this proposal at full funding level for each of the next five years in order to provide this important support to our water system.

Sincerely yours,

Rolfe Porter
Acting Commissioner of Water

An Equal Opportunity Employer



September 28, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read
Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dear Dr Read:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting your proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15." The proposed activities will bring important economic, safety and resource management benefits to the federally authorized harbors that are members to the Great Lakes Small Harbors Coalition.

The Great Lakes Small Harbors Coalition represents the collective voice of over nine million citizens in 115 federal harbor communities across the Great Lakes where dredging and harbor maintenance issues are of particular concern. Boat groundings, life endangerment, damage to local economies, a massive backlog of projects, and dramatic deterioration of our navigation infrastructure have all resulted from the lack of sufficient funds to support harbor dredging and maintenance.

Therefore, the Great Lakes Small Harbor Coalition is supportive of your proposed effort to provide important data to US Army Corps of Engineers modelers that will enable them to understand the impact of Great Lakes wind, weather and waves on important port and harbor infrastructure (e.g., breakwaters) that protect some of the most valuable municipal infrastructure on the Great Lakes, e.g., water/wastewater treatment plants, social entertainment venues, and port and harbor infrastructure for port communities across the Great Lakes. Not only will this work enable the Corps of Engineers to assess the impact of the Great Lakes physical environment on this infrastructure, the effort will support decision making and prioritization of limited operations and maintenance funding.

The Great Lakes Small Harbors Coalition urges NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System to support this proposal at full funding level for each of the next five years in order to provide important economic, safety and infrastructure planning support to the region's cities.

Sincerely,

Chuck May
Chair Pro Tem
Great Lakes small Harbors Coalition



Great Lakes Fishery Commission

ESTABLISHED BY CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES TO IMPROVE AND PERPETUATE FISHERY RESOURCES

LAKE SUPERIOR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

TO: Dr. Jennifer Read

FROM: Mark Ebener, outgoing Chairman, Lake Superior Technical Committee

RE: Great Lakes Observing Program

DATE: September 30, 2010

I am writing behalf of the Lake Superior Technical Committee in support of the Global Great Lakes project and setting up a common database for the Great Lakes and our technical committee.

The Lake Superior Technical Committee is composed of fishery biologists and managers from each of the natural resources entities with political jurisdictions over fish and fish habitats in Lake Superior. Members of the technical committee include representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Geological Survey, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The technical committee reports directly to the political jurisdictions that are responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations in Lake Superior. The technical committee's primary responsibilities are to monitor the status of important fish populations, coordinate assessment and research on fish populations among fishery agencies, develop linkages between the fish populations and their in-lake and terrestrial habitats, and to write reports that evaluate progress toward achieving fish communities objectives established by the management agencies.

For many years now the technical committee has been moving towards consolidating data bases that will help us understand the dynamics of Lake Superior fish populations and their habitat. We are currently developing a large-scale database and its template to help us monitor the impact of sea lampreys on lake trout in Lake Superior. Norine Dobiesz from the University of Minnesota at Duluth has been assisting us by developing programs that will allow us to readily access online databases and analytical tools for relating our fishery data to environmental and habitat parameters. Additional funding from the Great Lakes Observing System to the Global Great Lakes project at UM-D would benefit the technical committee and continue to move us toward an more integrated approach to managing Lake Superior fish populations.



September 27, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Read:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting your proposal, "Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, FY2011-15." The proposed activities will bring important economic, safety and resource management benefits to the cities, towns and municipalities along the Great Lakes coastline on both sides of the US-Canada border.

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI) is a binational coalition of mayors and other local officials that works actively with federal, state, and provincial governments to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. Timely and integrated observations of Great Lakes physical, chemical and biological properties is key to implementing and assessing success of these restoration efforts. Therefore the Cities Initiative is a strong supporter of the Great Lakes Observing System and its mission to advance the coordination of the extensive network of people, processes and technology that work together to maximize access to critical, real-time and historical information about the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River system for use in managing, safeguarding and understanding these immensely valuable freshwater resources.

Through its efforts to date, the Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS) has already provided important support to Great Lakes communities. These activities include working with communities in the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor – Michigan cities in St Clair, Macomb and Wayne Counties as well as Ontario municipalities in the Ausable-Bayfield, Upper/Lower Thames and Essex Region Conservation Authorities – to provide decision support for source water protection, spill response and search and rescue operations. GLOS observations are also supporting municipal water intake operations in the Cleveland, Ohio where temperature sensors on near shore buoys are helping managers determine when to shut intakes to avoid increased treatment cost in the face of short term episodes of water quality decline. In addition to building on these activities that directly support key municipal services and infrastructure, over the next five years the following proposed activities will greatly support municipal decision-making:

- Help an increased number of Great Lakes municipalities save costs on water treatment through timely observation of water temperature and other water quality parameters, e.g., algae and cyanobacteria;
- Support local public health officials with responsibility for managing Great Lakes bathing beaches by providing data/information to support open/close decisions as well as providing support for source tracking to aid clean-up efforts;

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax
www.glsclcities.org

Denis Lapointe, Mayor of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Chair
Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair
David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair



- Provide important data to US Army Corps of Engineers modelers to enable them to understand the impact of Great Lakes wind, weather and waves on important port and harbor infrastructure (eg breakwaters) that protect some of the most valuable municipal infrastructure on the Great Lakes, eg water/wastewater treatment plants, social entertainment venues, port and harbor infrastructure for communities such as Milwaukee, Cleveland and Duluth; and
- Provide data to municipal planners and consulting firms retained by municipalities to plan long-term design and upgrades to infrastructure in the Great Lakes based on input from the International Upper Great Lakes Study and other outreach activities.

In summary, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative urges NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System to support this proposal at full funding level for each of the next five years in order to provide important economic, safety and infrastructure planning support to the region's cities.

Sincerely,

David A. Ullrich
Executive Director

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax
www.glsclcities.org

Denis Lapointe, Mayor of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Chair
Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair
David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair



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Tim A. Eder

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Marc T. Boucher

Québec Government Representative
Chicago, Illinois

Sept. 30, 2010

Dr. Jennifer Read, Executive Director
Great Lakes Observing System
229 Nickels Arcade
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Dr. Read,

This letter is in support of the proposal for Implementation of the Great Lakes Observing System, 2011-15.

GLOS is important to the Great Lakes region as it provides for enhanced monitoring of the Great Lakes, supporting the goals of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the public-driven Lakewide Management Plans, which identify critical pollutants affecting the lakes and the programs in place to assess, restore, protect and monitor lake health.

GLOS products and services will also assist policymakers with impending challenges such as climate change, coastal management planning, and changes in food web dynamics due to multiple stressors. In light of the recent oil spill on the Kalamazoo River in Michigan, the region will also benefit from GLOS's contributions to improving spill response planning and particle tracking models on our lakes and tributaries.

The Great Lakes Commission is eager to work with GLOS and other partners to integrate data into useful applications that benefit the long-term health of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Tim A. Eder
Executive Director