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**Transcription of the public meeting held by  
the International Joint Commission  
on the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Review  
at Duluth, Minnesota, on October 24, 2005  
(duration: 78 minutes)**

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**Transcription de la réunion publique tenue par  
la Commission mixte internationale  
sur l'examen de l'Accord relatif à la qualité de  
l'eau dans les Grands Lacs  
à Duluth (Minnesota) le 24 octobre 2005  
(durée : 78 minutes)**

JACK BLANEY (Commissioner, Canadian Section, International Joint Commission): Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you very much for coming. I'm Jack Blaney and I am a Commissioner with the International Joint Commission.

And joining me tonight was to be Allan Olson, who is from Minnesota and also a Commissioner, but he had this morning an urgent and very unexpected family matter that he just simply had to deal with.

But as I will tell you later, by the way, we're having a full transcript of all proceedings tonight, and everything that you say will be sent to all commissioners, by the way, but also to the two governments.

Joining me tonight is Frank Bevacqua, from Washington, D.C. He is Director of Communications and Public Affairs for the U.S. Section of the IJC. And assisting him is the Director of Communications out of the Ottawa office, Paula Fedeski-Koundakjian, who will also be joining us.

Just very briefly – and then I have two persons I wish to introduce to you to make a few remarks – briefly, the International Joint Commission came out of a 1909 treaty between Canada and the United States when they were having at that time some disputes over some transboundary water.

And it was set up to resolve, anticipate, and prevent disputes on transboundary water issues, and that has grown into air and essentially general environmental issues between Canada and the United States.

There are three American commissioners and three Canadian commissioners. The Americans are appointed by the President of the United States and the Canadian commissioners are appointed by the Prime Minister of Canada.

I have a few minutes to overview before I ask you for your comments, but first of all, we have two persons who I'm very, very happy to have here, and I'm going to ask them to make a few comments. And first is the mayor of Duluth, Herb Bergson. (APPLAUSE)

HERB BERGSON (Mayor of Duluth, Minnesota): Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: These are your voters, Mayor. (LAUGHS)

HERB BERGSON: Thank you very much for the kind welcome and the kind words. It really warms my heart to see so many people out who are just citizens, people who care about this wonderful, beautiful lake.

I'm the mayor here, but I'm really proud that my father was the second president of the Save Lake Superior Association. I grew up in a family that realized the value of that lake.

And it's really easy for me to stand here and share the pride that we have in that lake because I was educated that way, but not everybody was educated that way, as we all know.

But to have so many people here, citizens, 7:00 evening for a meeting, you probably had a whole lot else to do, this is just wonderful.

And I pledge to you, as a member of the board of directors of the Mayors Great Lakes Initiative, that I will do everything in my power to uphold the standards for that lake that you dream about and that you desire and demand.

So what those things are, please let me know. And I would like to stay for the entire meeting, but I am really fighting a cold, so I'm hoping that I can get a copy of the tape afterwards and review it and catch up.

I'll stay for a bit, but those of you who have specific ideas and thoughts, please take the time to e-mail them to me or call me or drop them in a letter and send them to my office. I'd sure appreciate it.

And I know Tom Huntley is going to speak shortly, but I also want to recognize that Jackie Morrison (?) is here, a staff person for (inaudible) who cares deeply about that lake and often speaks out on its behalf. Thank you, Jackie, and Representative Hunt for coming. And thank you for allowing me to be here tonight and speak. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. We know it's your just general common good discipline rather than the cold, for the reason for your remarks being so brief.

(BREAK IN TAPE)

THOMAS HUNTLEY (Representative, State Legislature of Minnesota): ...also works very closely with the International Joint Commission. I will say this is a very important and interesting time for the people interested in the Great Lakes.

We have what we're going to talk about tonight, which is the Great Lakes Water Quality Act renewal. The governors are very busy trying to come up with a 2001 Annex to their agreement between the two provinces and the eight states about water issues, particularly diversion.

And two nights ago, I was in Phoenix, and they would really love our water. So again, the governors are very active in preventing diversions out of the Great Lakes and other basins.

Everybody, I assume, here is very familiar with the Great Lakes Restoration Acts that are being proposed in Congress to restore the greatness of the Great Lakes and their environment.

And then the fourth one is the President's effort to try to get collaboration between all of the branches of the federal government that are involved in the Great Lakes. It turns out there's about 140 different programs that the federal government has related to Great Lakes and they're all in different departments, and in the past, they haven't talked to each other.

So there are four major things that are happening in the Great Lakes right now, and we're happy to have the IJC here and the commissioner to listen to what the public says. And my main purpose here tonight is to listen also to what the public says, so thank you for having this meeting.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you very much. (APPLAUSE) Tom, you did fill out one of the speaker cards, is that it? Thank you very much. I have about three minutes of presentation. It's an overview of why we're here, and these

remarks, by the way, are absolutely wonderful because they were drafted by Paula and Frank, with very little editing on my part.

We're here tonight because the governments of Canada and the United States asked the IJC, the International Joint Commission, to find out what you think the governments should consider as they begin their review of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in the spring of 2006.

In 1972, when the Great Lakes were suffering from heavy loads of conventional pollutants, the governments signed a visionary agreement that focused on reducing pollution from municipal and industrial sources, and in particular on controlling the input of phosphorus.

In 1978, the governments recognized that it would be necessary to adapt to new challenges. So in that year, they signed a new Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

The 1978 Agreement took on an ecosystem approach - and we all think...we all know roughly what that means, taking everything into consideration, everything connects and affects everything else - take an ecosystem and focused on persistent toxic substances.

A protocol was added to the Agreement in 1987 to address degraded conditions in the Great Lakes Areas of Concern, 43 of them, and to reduce critical pollutants on a lake-wide basis.

Under the Agreement, Canada and the United States have set common objectives for a variety of pollutants and have agreed to implement a range of research, monitoring, and pollution control activities.

Efforts in both countries have resulted in dramatic reductions in discharges of nutrient – that largely means sewage and animal waste – nutrient and toxic pollutants, particularly from municipal and industrial sources.

The Agreement has resulted in binational initiatives that have brought about important results. For example, the Canadians and Americans have set the same limits for total phosphorus loads for each lake, and they have agreed that approaches to address persistent toxic substances will be guided by a philosophy of zero discharge.

Both countries have made major advances in understanding the dynamics of this very complex ecosystem.

The Agreement provides a framework for binational goals and cooperative efforts to restore and protect the Great Lakes, but the governments have not made any changes to this accord since 1987, nearly 20 years ago. There is now widespread recognition that parts of the Agreement are out of date.

At the same time, there are several issues which require binational cooperation, either under this agreement or some other process, such as preventing the introduction of aquatic invasive species, reducing the impacts of land use, the concentrated urban development activities around the lakes, and

conducting research programs that will enable us to understand large-scale ecosystem changes.

Currently, domestic policy initiatives are underway that will frame Great Lakes restoration efforts in each country. These include the Great Lakes Regional Collaborative in the United States and the forthcoming renewal of the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.

This makes this review of these common and shared goals between the two countries a very, very timely endeavour.

The two governments are now getting ready to review this agreement. In preparation for that, they have asked us, the IJC, to hold these meetings to find out your views on how well the Agreement is working and what, if anything, needs to be changed.

The governments and the IJC believe that it's very important for the Great Lakes community to be heard at this stage so that the governments get right from the beginning your sets of priorities.

The two governments have said there will be additional opportunities for public input once they have begun the review of their Agreement. They also have said that they will consult First Nations and Tribes on a government-to-government basis.

As indicated in the slides on the screen, in our printed materials, there are several ways to provide comment to us. Please join us also for a live Web



dialogue that will be held from November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 2, four full days on the Web if you want to.

When consultations end, the IJC will write a report synthesizing all of the views it has heard. We will also send all of the documents we have received, along with transcripts of these meetings, to the governments.

As for the meeting today, we will call you in the order that we have received forms. And if you wish to speak and you have not filled out one of these forms, you should get one from Paula and she will give it to you.

As a matter of fact, we might even allow some extemporaneous comments at the end, but we'd still like you to fill out the forms so we've got your name.

We are relying on the tape recording here, and that's why Frank came up and pulled the mic closer to me, so that we can produce a transcript. So when you do have any remarks, please come to the microphone so that they will be recorded.

So I'm going to call now the names in the order that we have received the cards, and I would ask you to keep your comments to about five minutes if you can. And after about five, if you are still in full flight, I'll kind of give you some hints that you should start thinking about kind of winding up. And just remember the standards set by the Mayor. (LAUGHS) I think you've got a few fans here, Mr. Mayor.

The first speaker is Ernest Martinson. You can actually speak...if you wish to speak here and talk to me as well as everybody else, that's just great, either here or there, your choice (inaudible)...now you can see everybody.

ERNEST MARTINSON (Hayward, Wisconsin): Okay, I'm Ernest Martinson from Hayward, Wisconsin, and I've tried to read the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement before I came up here but it put me to sleep.

You know, I go along with binational standards, objectives and goals, programs, but when you wash your hands by not giving any advice to the governments, then I'm really uneasy on how to implement these goals and objectives.

What is government good at doing? What is its track record? It seems to want to degrade the environment from subsidies and it wants to weaken the economy through regulations and wrong-headed tax policies such as taxes on profits, income, and anything you build, rather than green taxes.

I think that besides a scientific advisory board, you need an ecology and economy advisory board.

Look at any activity that impacts the Great Lakes, mercury deposition from power plants, the government has long protected the electrical industry as a natural monopoly, which many people say it no longer is, and it has given huge subsidies to central generation of fossil and nuclear power plants.

And that's very wasteful, because two-thirds of the energy from the fuels are wasted as waste heat to the environment. And Thomas Edison, when he

started out, he practiced distributed generation, where you used both the electricity and the heat from the fuels.

And I think that a market would do that now because it's efficient and it's economical, and I think I would first go with co-generation, but not too long because fossil fuels are bound to rise in price, and right now, their price does not reflect the true cost of fossil fuels.

And when that happens, instead of keeping fuel cells and wind and solar and biofuels in the wings, the market is going to bring that into play. It's only through government subsidies and protection that we have the disaster that we call the power industry today.

Look at your wastewater treatment plants. The federal government has given grants to local governments. That's a form of paying a polluter rather than the polluter pays.

The small town of Cable (?), not far from here but where I come from, Congressman David Obie wrangled over \$3 million in subsidies because he said the town of Cable had some leaking septic tanks and he didn't want to see the costs of expensive infrastructure laid on the property taxes.

But the property taxes should not be covering that. The polluter or the user or the producer of this wastewater should be doing it. And if they'd do that, I think they're going to discover the idea of composting in rural areas, and that's no shit. (LAUGHS)

Look at exotic species. If anything is exotic in the Great Lakes right now, it's ships from the high seas on the inland sea. And is this possible through government-built infrastructure, government subsidies of fossil fuels that are propelling these ships, and government subsidy of cargo such as agricultural grains that are on these ships, that we're shipping to other countries, destroying their native agriculture. This is a common complaint I hear.

So I think what we need, the International Joint Commission needs is an ecology and economy advisory board, because at least some of these ideas will be put on the table.

And I think we're going to have to start using the market, because government planning and regulation by itself is not going to work. I think the Soviet Union has demonstrated this.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Mr. Martinson. The next speaker is Glen Maxum.

GLEN MAXUM (Vice-President, Save Lake Superior): Thank you. I have in the past attended a number of IJC meetings both in the U.S. and in Canada, so I have a fairly good grasp of your organization.

And I fully support your logo there which says if you use the water, it matters. And of course, here in Duluth, we do use the water and it does matter.

And because of that, I am addressing...we're bringing focus onto a problem that is in many ways unique to this area, and I would assume that many

of the speakers are going to speak in more broader terms, and I'll stay within the assigned time here because I have everything scripted.

For more than 40 years now, hundreds of barrels – 1,428 to be exact – from the arms production department of the Honeywell Corporation have been lying on the bottom of Lake Superior near Duluth. Fewer than 1 per cent have been tested to determine whether the contents pose a threat to our drinking water.

In a classic example of Catch-22, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has said that it has no plans for further testing of the barrels “unless information can substantiate an imminent health or environmental threat.”

The determination of such a threat existing cannot of course be made until the MPCA or other agencies examine more barrels. And there is an indication now that those barrels are eroding and disintegrating; the contents of 99 per cent of them remain unknown.

The MPCA called a halt to further tests right at the point when the Agency was analyzing ash residue from one of the total of nine barrels recovered for conclusive evidence of these toxics known to be harmful to human health. Those toxics they found include cadmium, barium, benzene, lead, and PCBs.

Suspicion remains that some of the barrels might contain radioactive substances, as indicated in one of the underwater tests but not traceable during further examinations of dubious integrity.

We believe there is an element of urgency in the need to recover 10 per cent of the barrels for analysis from each of the seven dump sites and do so without delay.

When the last of the barrels was recovered in the 1990s, erosion was already clearly evident. We must know whether others still in the lake bottom will soon be destroyed by corrosion and release their potentially damaging contents into Lake Superior.

The Save Lake Superior Association of which I am Vice President is hoping that the cities of Duluth and Superior will once again act officially to restart the MPCA's probe of the barrel contents.

This could prove that no public health safety is at stake or that all of the barrels must be removed to ensure safe drinking water for well over 100,000 twin ports and the area residents.

We in the Save Lake Superior Association stand ready to help you in pursuing this insidious potential threat to public health. We have spent years looking into this issue, as have others, and here is an indication of what we have amassed over these years. This information is available to you, copies of any of it. If you care to have it, let me know. Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: Yes, every presentation deserves applause.  
(APPLAUSE) Thank you, Mr. Maxum. A postscript? A brief one, please.

GREG PRICE: Thirty seconds.

JACK BLANEY: Great.

GREG PRICE: Excuse me.

JACK BLANEY: You are?

GREG PRICE: Greg Price. I am in support of this. I just want to add one fact. The map exists. Two dump sites less than one mile from the intake for the water for the people of the city of Duluth. Two years after they dumped them, they established the EPA Water Quality Lab adjacent to the site. It ain't coincidence, it's documentation. Look out. Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you. The next speaker is Bill Middlefeld. Did I get that right?

BILL MIDDLEFELD: Thank you very much for coming and thank you for holding this public forum. I think it's an increasing priority on everybody's list.

I had the opportunity to work with the IJC over a number of years at Anoka high schools down in the cities and we brought kids up here when we worked with the Great Lakes Aquarium.

I was also on a team assembled by UMD that wrote the curriculum for Water on the Web, which you may know uses submersible units to help kids see what's happening in their lake system.

I was also fortunate in 2000 that my daughter and I put a canoe in, boom, right there and we pedaled to New York City, and we gathered stories and we made observations about people and the quality of community, and it was an amazing trip.

But one of the things that I have noticed in my educational career is that today's sensory stimulation of our kids is unbelievably loud and tactile. And so my recommendation – and I am involved in the Sustainable Duluth Team, working on water quality and land use issues locally – is that we would recommend that the IJC continue your effort to involve kids through very vivid, exciting electronic curriculum in the dynamic changes not only of the areas of concern, but in the entire Great Lakes basin.

And specifically, I have GIS mapping involved, and the sensory appeal of that kind of tool that our kids are playing with, you know, in all sorts of violent and sensory ways. I would be glad to help you on that, but I think it's a screaming need for the next generation to get psychologically involved with the dynamics of our lake.

Because if the State Department is right, the world population will rise to about 9 billion – we're about 6.5 billion today – and every added citizen of the planet is very interested in the water quality of not only Lake Superior, but all of the Great Lakes.

And as Tom mentioned, from Phoenix, there are already entities out that are laying their eyes on the Great Lakes, and we need to make sure that our kids are involved.

So I strongly recommend you get an exciting curriculum. I know you have some materials on your Web site, we have used some of those. But based on GIS mapping and the potential for the areas of concern and things like the barrels,



doing scenarios, kids like drama, kids like fear, and you could draw up a very dramatic illustration: here is the intake into the city of Duluth, and was that cadmium or benzene?

And it would be a lot of fun, I'd be willing to help. But I'm running out of time, so thank you very much. You have a tremendous mission and a very difficult set of circumstances. I have a copy of the U.S. budget for 2006 – anybody believe in budgeting at the federal level?

I was doing some work in Chicago – defence up 4.8 per cent, homeland security up 1 per cent, education down 1 per cent, environment down 5 per cent, HUD down 11 per cent.

There is going to be more and more pressure on us to preserve these resources, but we're going to need the next generation if we are going to stand up to numbers like this. So that's why I thank you for your support. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Mr. Middlefeld. I can tell you just as a matter of fact that the IJC I working with our two governments right now to produce digital maps which will be on our website of all of the watersheds coast to coast, and that will be a great resource for everybody, young and old.

The next speaker is Joanne Olson.

JOANNE OLSON: My name is Joanne, and I spoke up after the last IJC meeting (inaudible)...vocal, and I said at that time I am not a cynic, but I really don't trust what happens once this information gets back to the governments. I

got applause that time, I don't feel that coming from this group, but that's okay, that's okay.

And a man, I don't remember his name, but he said you were right, you continue to be involve, you continue to write your letters, do not leave it up to us, the Commission, and I thought that was wonderful, wonderful advice on his part, and I'd just like to share it with this group: continue to work towards answers for the community and for yourself. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Mrs. Olson. Actually, if you asked anybody today, any Commissioner, including myself, would give you the same advice today. We do advise the governments and they look at our advice and many times they have acted on our recommendations, but there's nothing like hearing from voters, right Tom? Nothing like hearing from voters.

The next speaker is Lynelle Hanson. And so far, that's our last speaker, unless someone else wishes to...

LYNELLE HANSON (Executive Director, St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee): Good evening. I know many of the individuals in the audience and I thought there would be about 10 or 15 more to go, because we've got some great people in the audience. My... (MIC NOISE)

JACK BLANEY: Frank is going to fix that. (LAUGHS – INAUDIBLE)  
Now you can see your friends.

LYNELLE HANSON: Now I can see everybody – Howard, Tim, Brian, you should be up here. (MIC NOISE – LAUGHS) My name is Lynelle Hanson,

I am the Executive Director of a non-profit organization called the St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee.

The St. Louis River, which is right outside our doorway, was designated as one of the areas of concern back in 1987. This AOC is a bi-state, and our organization has been working with both the State of Wisconsin and the State of Minnesota on these last 39 miles of the river, the western tip of Lake Superior, and the surrounding watershed.

Many of my board members talk about when the remedial action process started, that the IJC actually...persons from the IJC actually complimented some of the decisions that were made in this area.

Our organization is continuing towards assisting the implementation of the remedial action plan. But one of the recent collaborations...we worked with Great Lakes Regional Collaboration, the Great Lakes Governors, the Great Lakes Mayors, on many environmental issues, including aquatic invasive species, toxic pollution, loss of habitat, especially in the near-shore and coastal areas, non-point source pollution, intensive land conversion and areas of degradation, and the earlier focus that the IJC and the states put on the remedial action plan and the lakewide management plan.

All of these processes have been very commendable, but we ask now that the IJC encourage the governments to fund protection of our Lake Superior and the other four Great Lakes.

Protection, as our AOC community has been working for decades, protection is a lot more cost-effective. Many individuals have been working for 20, 30 years trying to restore this AOC, and we have found that protection of areas is much more cost-effective and it's much easier than restoring.

We have nine beneficial use impairments. Not one of those have been taken off the list, even after 20 years.

Lake Superior is unique as far as the Great Lakes are concerned. Historically, it's had about the same...or has not had about the same amount of development or pollution as the other Great Lakes.

But because of its relative pristine state, IJC and the Lake Superior Binational Program have both recommended special protection status, and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement sets that precedent for resource protection of this internationally-shared water.

And so we would like to see the water safe to drink, the fish safe to eat - one of our scientists out there, fish consumption advisories is his number one issue - and we want our beaches safe to play at.

And we ask that the Agreement continue to support healthy Great Lakes and continue to work for even more protection. Because we know that protection of our resources requires strong leadership, and the IJC is capable of that strong leadership through the Water Quality Agreement. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Don't get too close, thank you (inaudible)...please just come out, come to the mic and state your name so that we can get the record. Thank you.

HOWARD MCCORMICK: Thank you. My name is Howard McCormick, and have a number of interests in the Lakes, but tonight I would just like to talk about one, and that mercury is a problem in our Lake.

And I'll just explain to you that the Lake has been designated for special consideration, and not everyone recognizes the fact that this lake is the dilution (?) for the (inaudible).

This lake doesn't have (inaudible) water; as it runs into the other lakes, it's not going to reduce the contamination in the other lakes, and we have to keep this as a source of dilution (?) for the other lakes.

But I would like to just mention mercury. I am not going to lay out any plan. I know you people have a staff, they can work on that, I would think. But we have concerns within the state.

We just recently in our local newspaper had a headline talking about Minnesota reaches its mercury goal. Ah, sounds terrific, but it doesn't tell you anything about what the goal is, and I think the goal is the problem.

And what we have found in the state is that a number of people have been working diligently to reduce the inputs of mercury and we have been working with dentists and sewage treatment plants, homes, in removing mercury

thermometers from homes, the sale of mercury thermometers, a lot of good things like that, but our industry is not being controlled in the same (inaudible).

We find that over time, the bar graph for mercury reduction comes down, down, down, but there are two halves. And the top half is industry and the bottom half or the bottom portion is the man on the street, and it's that man on the street portion that gets smaller, but the other one doesn't change very much if at all, it gets bigger. We need more effort in that area.

We have need to control mercury within the state, but we have need to control mercury that enters from out of state. We need to have interstate controls, but we need international control.

I'd like to ask you a question: what is the IJC doing about inputs of mercury from other countries? Are you from Canada or the U.S.?

JACK BLANEY: I'm from Canada.

HOWARD MCCORMICK: You're from Canada? I suspected as much.

JACK BLANEY: Why? (LAUGHS)

HOWARD MCCORMICK: Why are you allowing to put mercury in your water? And if you get that one taken care of, we're going to come back at you and say why are we allowing you to put mercury in our water anyway.

Mercury international is critical because 90 per cent, greater than 90 per cent of mercury entering Lake Superior is airborne, and certainly some of it is from within the state, but much is from (inaudible).

Fish tissue residues are a problem. You know, we started off here by being very pleased with the turnout of people. Excuse me, people, but you're a (inaudible) number. It should be a huge room full of people who want to tell you we're not satisfied with what's going on, and I'm not satisfied with what's going on with mercury controls.

JACK BLANEY: Mr. McCormack, thank you very much. (APPLAUSE) I can in part answer your question. We have a board, a science board that reports to the IJC, which we created some years back called the International Air Quality Advisory Board. It is comprised of scientists from both the United States and Canada, very good scientists.

And they have for some years and are stepping up their activities in tracking mercury deposition in the Great Lakes. And they will tell you that mercury comes from all parts of the world, in China and everywhere else.

And so they are developing some very good models in terms of determining how mercury gets...now, firstly, this information is given to the governments and they will do what they will with it.

HOWARD MCCORMICK: Models are only part of the picture, we need (inaudible).

JACK BLANEY: Yes. But I am responding that we are at least getting the information, which is very important. If you would like to speak, would you please take the mic and give us your name please?

DALE BERGERON: My name is Dale Bergeron, and I guess my concern is that a balanced approach is taken to this issue...

JACK BLANEY: Which issue, Mr. Bergeron?

DALE BERGERON: The issue of water quality in the general sense. It's easy to say I want clean water, but it gets more and more complicated as we discuss energy, transportation, social and economic development.

And so I am hoping that the IJC takes into consideration future growth. The reality is that certain actions can even exacerbate the problems that we currently have.

An example might be in transportation, where, as it was already indicated, a huge portion of the pollutants of Lake Superior are airborne because of the tremendous surface area of the Lake, and yet most of the transportation is land-based in this country and the region certainly of the Great Lakes.

So the question is what could we do to protect the Great Lakes? So sometimes usage and protection are a balancing act.

And the last thing I'll say is that we all want to live on the Great Lakes, we all want our families to live on the Great Lakes, we'd like to have jobs on the Great Lakes, and yet we want perfectly clear water.

So I think one of the things I'd like to see – and by the way, I want that, too – one of the things that I would like to see is educational effort that indicate to communities that balanced approaches to social development are going to have to



be in parallel with any efforts for cleanup and restoration and that we take full responsibility for our individual actions.

I drove a car here, and I understand the impact that I made. I use lights in my house and I understand that that power came to me. But again, I think we can make a balanced, well-informed argument for producing water quality that allows for intelligent growth using best practice protocols. So that's what I'm advocating and hope.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Mr. Bergeron. Yes? (APPLAUSE)

MARNIE LONSDALE (Project Coordinator, City of Duluth Stormwater Utility): My name is Marnie Lonsdale and I am Project Coordinator for the City of Duluth Stormwater Utility, and I work on stormwater and surface water issues. And I just want to speak in support of Lynelle Hanson's statements for the need for protection.

I have just returned from the fourth national Non-Point Source and Stormwater Education Conference in Chicago. And numerous speakers speak on the fine work they are doing and how they're outreaching to individuals and the importance of getting individuals out, but in almost every case, they were talking restoration.

We are in a protection situation here. We have a much higher priority. The funding, the assistance, the protection, the things that we need to evaluate protection do not exist and we need help in getting those things done.

And I cannot overemphasize how important for all of the issues, from toxic pollutants to invasive species, getting that protection first is essential, and that is what we need, is to get that started right now. Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Ms. Lonsdale. Why don't you come up and ask your questions? You said you had a set of questions you wanted to ask as a statement. Want to do that?

SARAH CHAMBERS: No, I haven't made that transition yet.

JACK BLANEY: Okay. (LAUGHS) Yes?

ROSEY LEFLER-CAMP (Clean Water Action): I have a couple of comments. (INAUDIBLE)...interpreted...

JACK BLANEY: Yes, it's your choice. Give us your name and speak into the mic.

ROSEY LEFLER-CAMP: My name is Rosey Lefler-Camp (?), and I am speaking both as a resident here in Duluth and I am also representing an organization, Clean Water Action, and we'll be doing more formal written comments.

But as a resident here, I am also a parent with four children, and so I am really concerned about water that my children and all children drink, I am concerned about the water my children and all children swim in.

And here, on Lake Superior, we have had many beach closings over the last few years since our beaches have been tested, so I'm concerned about that. I am concerned about the fish that our family catch and eat and that we can't eat

because of the fish advisories that were mentioned because of mercury, particularly in Minnesota, the concern of mercury coming from coal-burning power plants.

So just as a parent with children and a person that's active with children in the community, I am concerned. And my organization, Clean Water Action, has been involved over the years on clean water issues and particularly working to pass the Clean Water Act here in the United States and keep it funded and keep it protected.

And I think we have some good laws on the books here in the U.S., but they're not being enforced and they're not being fully funded. And so I think, you know, that's going to be a big piece of our message and our comments from Clean Water Action, is, you know, we need to protect, like an earlier speaker mentioned, but we need to fully fund and we need to enforce.

And I am familiar with the IJC, but that's, I guess, what I ask of you, is to work to put some teeth into the laws that we have, that we've worked so far, that Congressman Oberstar, here in northern Minnesota, has worked so hard to pass, and at the State level, our legislators like Representative Huntley have worked on, but we need enforcement.

And the other piece, I guess, that we'll be talking a little bit about is a piece of the Clean Water Act called the Consumer Confidence Report, which was put out a couple of years ago, and it required that communities all over report to their citizens once a year what's in their drinking water.

And citizens want the right to know what's in their drinking water, but these reports really vary on how readable they are for the average citizen. And so we're going to talk a little bit about that in our written comments, too, about the importance for citizens having the right to know and being able to read the information that's being put out by government, whether it's with their drinking water, fish advisories, beach advisories, or whatever the reports are.

So I thank you for coming out and doing these community meetings. Clean Water Action represents thousands of members across both Minnesota as well as Lake Superior, and citizen meetings like this are really important, but people want to feel like they're being heard as well. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Ms. Lefler-Camp, and we very much look forward to getting your written submission. Other comments? I saw his name, then yours next, okay. Which microphone do you prefer?

BRIAN FREDERICKSON (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency): I'll do the same thing that Rosey did.

JACK BLANEY: Okay. Just give us your name, and...I do have more control over you when you're there, but I understand why you want to... (LAUGHS)

BRIAN FREDERICKSON: My name is Brian Frederickson and I work for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and I also do a lot of work on environmental issues in Duluth and have been for many, many years.

And I am here tonight...and actually, I was just going to come and listen, so Lynelle kind of chained me into coming up to the microphone to talk about these important issues.

And I am pretty familiar with the International Joint Commission, having worked with Frank and a bunch of other people in this room on the 1995 Biennial Meeting here in Duluth.

And I can tell you I even know how heavy it is to lug a case of Water Quality Agreements around because I moved them all over the place when we had that meeting here, and I probably still have cases of them in the store house somewhere. So in case anybody needs one, I can probably dig one up.

But I want to just come and make just a few brief comments on the Agreement itself. I think one of the things, from my own perspective on the Agreement, that I'm a little bit leery of is I have mixed emotions about talking about opening up the Agreement.

And the reason I say that is because it seems to me right now, at least in the United States, that we're backsliding on a whole bunch of major pieces of environmental legislation - the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act - and I would hate to see the same thing happen to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

So for that reason, I would suggest that it be handled with caution. And along the same lines, back in 1995 when we put together the Biennial Meeting and prior to that time, with the International Joint Commission there was a lot of

discussion about the precautionary principle, and this kind of gets to the whole issue of protection.

That was what was in a lot of the Water Quality Agreements, both from the perspective of toxic pollutants and other issues, that we don't need to wait until the system crashes before we act.

So if there is one element in the Biennial Meeting that could stand to be improved, I would think it would be the incorporation of this into the Agreement, this whole concept and not just as it relates to toxic pollutants, but as it relates to the protection of streams and watersheds.

And just a few other points, just for your consideration, if the Agreement is indeed opened up. The treatment of exotics. The exotics are a huge threat to the Great Lakes system, and I would encourage you to push the governments of the United States and Canada to treat exotics as a pollutant because that's essentially what they are, and they have tremendous effects on the ecosystems of these water bodies and all of the tributaries and lakes that are connected to them.

And then, another point, just the whole emphasis of the watershed approach. I don't think that that's carried through, particularly...

(BREAK IN TAPE)

...really a long period of time. And I would be very nice to encourage the governments to really re-energize the efforts, to clean up those areas and to de-list them and to restore the beneficial uses.

And having worked on one of those for over eight years, it's a huge job and there's a huge investment of time by all of the people involved - the citizens, the people that work on the local level, local governments – to participate in these things.

And when they go on for a period of time and there's all this energy and you start doing work and then the whole process gets dropped, you're kind of back to square one when it comes to starting it up again, so...

Those are my comments, and I appreciate the good work that you guys have been doing for years, and I encourage you to be a beacon for the Great Lakes, so thanks. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Brian. You see what you started, Mrs. Hanson? Good for you. It's exactly what you wanted. Please, which microphone would you like?

KATIE KREKORIAN: I'd rather go there, please.

JACK BLANEY: Okay.

KATIE KREKORIAN: (INAUDIBLE)...

JACK BLANEY: Thank you.

KATIE KREKORIAN: Hi, my name is Katie Krekorian. And I want to thank everybody who already works in these different groups to protect the Great Lakes. I am very interested in them, but I don't have the knowledge or time to devote like some of you have, and I really appreciate that.

And I just wanted to say that everything you have mentioned is great. I like to swim in the Lake, that's my big thing. Any season, I want to be in the Lake, and this past summer scared me, with all of the beach closings we've had here.

And does anyone know...is anyone here familiar with how those beach closings are determined? Does anyone participate in that? I wish there was some system to know if...I talked to Minnesota...a DNR up at French River, and he was of the opinion the e-coli warnings, you know, that there's so many variables, he'd still swim in the Lake, he doesn't necessarily trust the warnings because how long are they good, in effect for.

So how often is the Lake tested? If it's tested on Monday, can I swim in it on Tuesday? And do we have the funds...like, who's monitoring this to let me know if I can swim or not in the Lake? Anybody know anything about this?

UNIDENTIFIED: I can give you information. There's a couple of other people here that can advise you. (INAUDIBLE)

KATIE KREKORIAN: Because towards the end of the summer, I didn't go into Lake Superior, and that's my favourite thing to do. I moved here because of the Lake, and if I can't swim in it, I don't know what I'll do.

JACK BLANEY: I think there are a couple of people who would be delighted to see you after the meeting and give you information on that.

KATIE KREKORIAN: Okay. I would appreciate that.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you.



KATIE KREKORIAN: Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you. I went down to the beach today, it looked pretty nice, but I can't tell. I didn't put my foot in it, but I did put my hand in it, and I took some pebbles. Can you take pebbles from the beach? I thought I'd take a few...don't tell anybody, okay? Because I collect little pebbles of rock from everywhere I go and I have a special place where I put them.

Anybody else would like to make some...yes, please. Which microphone would you like? Okay?

CAROL ANDREWS: You look so much scarier than the audience.  
(LAUGHS)

JACK BLANEY: Give us your name, please.

CAROL ANDREWS: Not now. (LAUGHS) My name is Carol Andrews and I am a resident of the City of Duluth, and I just wanted to touch on...I have a lot of concerns for the Great Lakes, but I chose three.

The first was invasive exotics. Brian touched on this, too. I think it's sort of like the silent killer. And both the aquatic invasives, but also the land-borne, land invasives, whatever you called those, such as buckthorn.

And I just want to put out public notice...side note that that is the time of year when you can really see the buckthorn and the European honey (inaudible). If you walk down...I live by Chester Creek, and that's one of the few things that still has green leaves this time of year.

Maybe lilacs, so don't cut down your lilacs, but look closely. The buckthorn, what it will do is take over, crowd out the native species, crowd out the plants that grow on the ground, and they're what helps prevent erosion.

So it really does not only impact the habitat and degrading habitat, but also increasing runoff eventually. And I've seen areas in the Twin Cities where it's 100 per cent buckthorn, nothing grows underneath, very little can survive there. They go from 40 bird species of diversity down to three or four, usually exotic birds, so...

So invasive exotics is the first. The second is loss of habitat, both due to invasive exotics but also from new construction. And the third is increased runoff, both from...both the concerns about volume but also degraded quality resulting from a variety of things: filling of wetlands, increased impervious surfaces, as basically we sort of pave the planet.

And the City of Duluth, like Marnie said, they're doing great things to try to control and reduce the impacts from new areas and educate people so we're not...so we're reducing our impacts, but we really have to push the protection of the areas that we haven't impacted and keep educating people.

The littlest things make a big difference, you know, not throwing their cigarettes on the street, not pushing their sand and leaves into the storm drains, things like that are paying off, we need to keep doing it, have cities work together, where one has done one program teach the others and keep pushing that.

So I'm not exactly sure how the IJC pushes that, but I just wanted to put those out as my biggest concerns. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Ms. Andrews. Yes?

JULIE O'LEARY (Minnesota Environmental Partnership):  
(Inaudible)...all the way up front...

JACK BLANEY: I think they'd like to see the speaker, they'd like to see your face.

JULIE O'LEARY: Thank you. My name is Julie O'Leary. I am a resident of Duluth, and actually, I am a life-long resident of the Great Lakes. I was born and grew up in Detroit, and I have lived in the northern part of the lower peninsula, I have lived in the upper peninsula of Michigan, and I have lived here in Minnesota for more than 20 years now, so I have a really broad perspective on the Great Lakes.

Currently, I work with the Minnesota Environmental Partnership, which is a coalition of environmental organizations in the State of Minnesota that works on a common agenda around water quality, and I am also the Lake Superior Region Board member of Great Lakes United, which is an international coalition of organizations working on Great Lakes water quality.

And as a result of the places I've lived in my life and also the work I've been fortunate to do, I have been able to see the Great Lakes, all over the Great Lakes, and many sides of all of the Great Lakes.

And I just want to echo the comments that Lynelle and others have made about preservation and the fact that up here, on Lake Superior, we really have something that we can still protect and we don't have to talk yet about restoration.

And to put this in a little bit of context, I know there's many of us in the room here who have spent the better part of the last year working on Great Lakes restoration effort, to put together a collaborative plan for Great Lakes restoration, many hours of work and travel by people to put together a strategy for all of the Great Lakes, mostly focused on restoration, ultimately with a price tag of over \$20 billion, which apparently the federal government is now starting to back away from that price tag.

And I think the message for all of us here is we still have something to protect here. We don't have to spend \$20 billion to restore it if we do some things now to protect it.

And towards that end, I guess the specific thing I would like to encourage the IJC to do is to consider incorporating the precautionary principle into the ecosystem approach if you do open the Agreement for revision.

This includes, for those of you who aren't familiar with it, pre-emptively identifying threats to the environment, taking preventive action where possible, and especially if an outcome is uncertain, shifting the burden of proof to the proponents of an activity instead of continually looking at the Lakes as some sort of a sink that can dump into and dump into and dump into until finally the levels of a contaminant are so high that we can't use it anymore, which has been our

approach to most of our environment, and to increase public participation in decision-making about the Lakes that we live on.

There have been a couple of comments made about the turnout here, both positive and negative. And as a relatively new board member to Great Lakes United, I have heard the older board members talk about previous Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement hearings where they travelled around the Lakes and hundreds of people turned out at these hearings.

And maybe that still happens in some places, but I think to some extent, the public will turn out and turn out and turn out, and when they see efforts stop or not go anywhere or the comments that they're bringing about what they'd like to see done not bear any fruit, then they do stop coming.

And we do get smaller groups at these, and I think actually, the environmental community and the residents in Duluth and Superior turned out for an awful lot of meetings over the last year on water quality of the Great Lakes, and I commend everybody who is still coming here to provide our feedback to you. And I thank you for coming to listen to us. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you very much, Mrs. O'Leary. Actually, we're pleased with this group tonight. It's a good group. It's larger than we had in the City of Montreal.

I could give you a one-hour speech about citizen engagement and why they participate and don't, it's a special topic of mine, but I will save you that tonight.

Anybody else? Are you ready yet? Have you made the transition?

SARAH CHAMBERS: (Inaudible)...

JACK BLANEY: This gentleman first, then you. Which mic?

TIM LARSON: My name is Tim Larson. I'd make a couple of points. Nobody has talked about climate change and its effects on the Great Lakes. This one is a tough one to prove, but I'd ask the IJC to concern itself with changes in the temperature in Lake Superior.

I was out on a boat, the (inaudible) program sponsored a Lake tour this summer, and we dropped a thermometer down in the Lake going down about 75 feet, all the way down, it was warmer...it was 50 something degrees.

This is Lake Superior. Evidence is that the Lake's temperature is changing quite a bit, I think. And you know, people will say, well, we can't prove why this is happening, but I would ask the IJC just to monitor that as part of the policy.

The second thing is along the lines of prevention. We know how to do things to minimize impact, and Lake Superior is a special place. I can't remember the name of the zone designation for Lake Superior as part of Great Lakes programs, but we know how to do things without impacting the Lake as much, but often people don't do that.

And there just needs to be stronger encouragement, whatever, enforcement, at the local level of things that are happening to protect our water quality and our watersheds. I think the term watershed really needs to be more

part of people's vocabulary and protecting the integrity of those watersheds.  
Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Mr. Larson. (APPLAUSE) There's no doubt at it, that all organizations, including IJC and the governments themselves, are now thinking about ecosystems and watersheds, and I think we're going to see lots of movement in that direction, stronger movements in that direction over the years to come.

And we had...yes, please, Sir.

ARNOLD OVERBIE (President, Save Lake Superior Association): My name is Arnold Overbie. I am President of the Save Lake Superior Association, and we have been involved in Lake Superior issues for 30 years. And our first major battle was the tailings (?) in Lake Superior, it was obvious and easy to see.

Today's problems are sort of invisible, the mercury one in particular. And Howard McCormick spoke on this very well, and I'd just like to re-emphasize the importance of that, these atmospheric depositions of mercury and other things that are falling on the surface of Lake Superior.

And I'd like to encourage the IJC, Canada and the United States, but the IJC in particular, to use whatever influence that you have to make the governments do some meaningful things to reduce mercury emissions for the benefit of people today, for our kids, for our grandchildren and generations to come.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you. (APPLAUSE) I'm not a political activist by any means, but as someone suggested, you know, all of these things will be sent to the governments, the transcript, the synthesis and everything else, but you can also write letters to your legislators, and that also helps a lot on any matter, on any view you might have.

Anybody else? Yes, Sir.

LEE-ROGER LYNN (Member, Save Lake Superior Association, North Shore Watershed Watch): My name is Lee-Roger Lynn. I am also a member of the Save Lake Superior Association and the North Shore Watershed Watch and a long-time resident of the north shore of Lake Superior, and probably the third and last speaker from Save Lake Superior.

I'm sort of a new kid on the block as far as environmental things are concerned. I worked for a company that did nothing but pollute. I (inaudible) diesel engines for (inaudible) engines, so...they do have their place in society, but when you work for a company like that, you're always working on things other than pollution, and if you speak about pollution too much, they always let you know where the front door is, so...

One thing, though, that is a surprise when I come to these meetings, people seem to be very concerned about pollution. And everybody knows where pollution comes from - it comes from the factories, it comes from the cars, it comes from basically consumption of natural resources.



And if you had a four-function calculator, you could probably figure out what's happening. You burn these things and you get more pollutants than you take care of.

It's no surprise, and I'm just thinking that I'm hoping the IJC and the people who work for the government know or will take cumulative effects into account. You can basically add these things up. Sustainable development. They're two very simple and straight-forward issues that people talk about and grind on and never do anything about.

(Inaudible)...for instance. They're going to invest \$4 billion in new (inaudible) plants and steel mills and power plants, and they're going to emit thousands and thousands of tonnes of things that produce acid rain and mercury, and the State is...Minnesota is basically approving these permits (inaudible)...writing new legislation to make sure that these plants are permitted.

Well, everyone needs work and all that, but where is it going? You're (inaudible) these plants and you're polluting for 50 years. You're going to grind about the 4 billion tonnes of rocks in there and (inaudible) to get some copper and (inaudible) or whatever else you get so you can get a better cell phone and you can build a better house with 400 pounds of copper, and it doesn't make any sense.

So I would just hope that the government somehow gets a grasp of this and puts politics aside and looks a bit ahead of time. I mean, what do we have

children and grandchildren for? Our own edification, our own gratification? You know, this continuous talk about this stuff, to me, it's annoying and irritating.

I'm hoping that the IJC and whoever else is involved can get a grasp on this and do something about it. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: For those who have spoken who have not filled out cards, if you could at the end, it would help us enormously if you would fill out one of these little slips, because (inaudible) Mr. Joe-Lynn, but I didn't get the name quite right and I'm sure our recorder didn't get it quite right, either. So as you go out, if you could fill out one of those slips, we'd be very much appreciative.

Other comments? Yes, the man in the green sweater, and then...yeah.

DENNIS FINK (St. Louis County Commissioner): I'm okay to stand here.

JACK BLANEY: Okay.

DENNIS FINK: I'm St. Louis County Commissioner Dennis Fink, and I am part of a group called Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board.

First off, it's very important that you come out and talk to us and allow us to have some input. We find that to be extremely important.

But at local government, one of the things that's really important is that we are the people who tend to be responsible for legislation or implementing legislation and rules that are set forth by someone else.

One of the concerns that our Northern Counties group has is that we're never asked how's it working and what should we do in those circumstances, particularly from organizations like yourself.

We've been following some of the actions for about ten years, at least I have at this particular point, and it always seem to be surprising that that local government entity is not included.

So if I have a point here today, it is to come and say thank you for coming, but please ask for our opinion on a day-to-day basis or more often, and not only the local folks here, but the governments who implement as well. Thank you.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you very much, Mr. Fink. (APPLAUSE) I'm not supposed to comment on these kinds of things, we just listen to your comments and questions, record them and set them on and do syntheses. But the kinds of comments you're making we're hearing much more often, and much more engaged with cities and local government.

Yes, Ma'am?

CONNIE MINOA (Executive Director, Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education): Hello, my name is Connie Minoa, and I am Executive Director of EAGLE, which is the Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education, as well as a resident and lover of Duluth and Lake Superior.

This area is one of my favourite places on the planet. I came here back in '95 and was drawn here because of Lake Superior alone. And I have gotten that Lake Superior itch in my and I will probably need my quota of Lake Superior for

the rest of my life. It is the most beautiful place that I have been to in the Midwest and certainly going to be very close to my heart for years to com.

But I do want my children to be able to enjoy this environment and I want their...my grandchildren and their grandchildren to enjoy this environment and be able to see it as beautiful as it is right now in 2005, although it is suffering, and we need to definitely pay a lot of attention to what is happening in that Lake.

And that water is some of the cleanest water on the planet, but a lot of people want to get their hands on it, as well as we want to be able to drink it for years to come. And I am very concerned about the quality of the water especially on Lake Superior, because this is where we live, but other lakes are suffering even more.

And mercury is a big issue, as well as PCBs, and I would just like to see a special attention paid to those two issues.

As well, all of these people have devoted their Monday night to coming out here, and I would certainly like to see these comments taken very seriously, because we certainly have put a lot of effort into this and there's a lot of groups out here tonight that have done a lot of work on these issues and continue to and do a lot of great work, and we want to see our work not be disregarded or not utilized.

And certainly with the restoration that has taken place, a lot of people have put a lot of time and effort into that, and to see that restoration effort dissolving is very disheartening and disappointing.

And so you need to be that voice for us on the government level and on an international level to take these comments and actually utilize them. So we really put our trust in you that you will do that. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you, Ms. Minoa. Others?

UNIDENTIFIED: Is there time for seconds?

JACK BLANEY: If it's brief, yes.

UNIDENTIFIED: It'll be brief.

JACK BLANEY: Actually, anybody who wishes to make a second comment, by all means. This is a town hall dialogue and it's good to have it.

UNIDENTIFIED: I'm not going to harangue on the presentation I made earlier, but a couple of anecdotal things that I've come across in my years relating to pollution.

About 1960, after I'd been here for a while, I was working then as a newsman and I'd heard about some pollution over on the south shore, in which there was bright red water running into the Lake, and it happened to be coming from the manufacturer of dynamite.

And some people apparently complained, and the company finally did something: they added 30 feet to the pipe. (LAUGHS) That was their answer.

And a few years ago, I was going a great circle route and came to a nearly Canadian wood processing company, and we noticed as we look down over the edge of this precipice that there was kind of like a trench running from that

factory out into the Lake, and the material in it was white and apparently a pollutant of some kind.

And there again, I found, after making some inquiries, that that company did something: they put boards over that narrow channel so you didn't see it anymore.

And the third incident was back during the years of Brejnev, President Brejnev of the Soviet Union. And we took a train ride on the Trans-Siberian from Kvarosk (?) across over Lake Bikal.

Along the way, there were many streams where there was placer mining going on it, just completely drawing the rivers. But when we got to Bikal, I was impressed with its beauty.

And I had taken along a packet of postcards from Duluth and opened them up to show my guide, and there was a long string of them, and they were mostly pictures of our beautiful Lake Superior.

And she gave me a nasty stare and she looked at the pictures a couple of times and she said, your lakes, I know, are not that blue. And besides, yours are polluted, your Lake Superior is polluted, and our lake is not.

Well, later that day, we took a ride on a hydrofoil, and I went into the men's room and found out that as they move across the lake, water came in from a tube in front, it flowed into the toilet and right out the back.

And then we walked along the edge of the lake, and it was just full of eutrication. It was green from the cows that were feeding fairly close to the lake

and going out into their lake. And it was terribly polluted. But the government said no, no, this lake is not polluted.

So that was their solution. I hope this will never be a solution by our governments. Thank you. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Finally. Please come up. Which microphone would you like? This one?

SARAH CHAMBERS: I'll face the jury.

JACK BLANEY: Yeah. I don't know this lady's name, but she told me she only has questions. I said, well, make your questions as a statement, because we won't answer your questions. But please, I'm glad you came.

SARAH CHAMBERS: Sarah Chambers. I am a Duluth resident, and I'm very glad I came, it's been an education, let me tell you.

And I don't have any questions, but I do want to say one thing. I am a resident by choice. I was born and raised on Lake Michigan, on the eastern shore. So coming here is like going home, only everything is reversed, and I still get my east and west mixed up. But it's a great place to live, it really is, and it's been echoed here, you know, all evening.

I'm glad I came because it's been an education, and listening to you has been very good. Sometimes I would rather talk than listen, but I'm listening tonight.

And there's one thing that really concerns me, being a resident, and that's the topography of Duluth: everything runs downhill. Everything runs downhill,

and all the infrastructure, all the re-engineering we do, it's still going to run downhill. And where does it go? It goes into the Lake.

And we've lost streams, we have diverted streams, we have our culverts that get plugged with leaves and cigarette butts, filters, and we have pollution out on the street, on Forest Street here, we have all kinds of pollution.

And invariably, if it isn't stopped, as everyone has said, preserved, it's going to continue running on downhill. And the balance between preservation and development is going to be an ongoing battle. We're never going to win, neither side is going to win. Maybe we can have a win-win, I don't know.

Education is a winner, and it starts before our children even go to school. It starts even before they go to school. And I agree with everything everyone has said, but the time has come to put our money where our mouth is. We just can't talk about it, as it was very well eloquently said earlier, we've got to put our money where our mouth is. No questions. (LAUGHS – APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Yes? Lots of good quotes tonight when it (inaudible), right? Lots of good quotes.

AMELY LINDBERGH-LIVINGSTON: My name is Amely Lindbergh-Livingston. I am a lifetime resident of Duluth. And it was wonderful to hear all of the different organizations that are working to save our lake and save our water quality in the area, international as well as local.

I'm up here right now to speak of a very local issue. Many of you spoke about the watershed problems and how everything runs downhill. Right now, our



council has just decided to develop an area of land and place 72 homes on 68 acres that, having lived next to this land my entire life, I happen to know that in the spring, there's a heavy watershed through that area, and any time there's a heavy rain, same thing.

That water has an opportunity to be filtered through the groundwater now. If all of these homes are built, I can only suppose that there's going to be a longer pipe built to send it directly down to the Lake.

And it's something that we as citizens need to look at and be concerned about now before it actually happens, to consider it as preservation as opposed to restoration. (APPLAUSE)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you very much. Seconds are brief, okay?

ERNEST MARTINSON: Ernest Martinson, take two. Government controls point source pollution by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit, but it has no control of non-point source pollution, which is like runoff.

Well, I was a potential contributor to that last week when I changed my car oil. I took it to the garbage and recycling center, they wouldn't take it. Well, I was taking it there because service stations wouldn't take it before, so I went to the City, they didn't know anything about it. I went to the Wisconsin DNR, they couldn't tell me anything.

Well, it tells you that the market is not working because that used oil is a resource. What's the problem? I mean, what's the solution? (LAUGHS)

JACK BLANEY: Thank you. Others? I know it's warm. Any summary comments from...

UNIDENTIFIED: May I have (inaudible)...

JACK BLANEY: If you stand, please. Just so I can hear you.

UNIDENTIFIED: I (inaudible) from the medical profession that residents around the lake (inaudible)...cancer (inaudible)...something in that lake, in the drinking water (inaudible)...cancer in this area than there is (inaudible)...wondering (inaudible)...

JACK BLANEY: I don't know if you heard the question. The question or the statement was there is a higher rate of cancer for those people living around Lake Superior than any other place in the States. I don't know whether anyone knows anything about that. The question is recorded. Whether or not...we don't have the information.

UNIDENTIFIED: (inaudible)...Honeywell (inaudible)...

JACK BLANEY: If anyone has heard, at the end of the meeting, please speak to...first name?

UNIDENTIFIED: Barbara.

JACK BLANEY: Speak to Barbara at the end of the meeting, okay. Other comments that you want to make? You can, by the way...and I know some people are promising, and we look forward to the written submissions.

You can write them, you can e-mail them, you can fax them, you can phone, you can use anything you'd like to let us...written submissions are nice to

have, e-mail or just paper, but they're really good to have, and it helps to back up and support other comments that you're making tonight.

So it looks like...Tom, you don't have any final last word that you'd like to say before I make a closing statement?

THOMAS HUNTLEY: Well, I think you heard tonight how people in the Duluth area feel about the Lake and how much they love it and how much they want to protect and how important it is to our community.

JACK BLANEY: Thank you very much. Well, this has been a great evening. I thought the information, the spirit, the energy tonight, the passion, was just absolutely, truly wonderful. It matches the Great Lakes, the very precious Lakes that we do have.

These Lakes are precious, by the way, not only to Canada and the United States and the people who live around the Lakes, they are precious to all of North America. They are so fundamental to the health of our economy and society.

And to have you come out on Monday night and spend the time with us, give us your ideas and give us some of your passion, it was very, very important to us tonight.

We would hope you keep in touch. Do write us. And you will be hearing from us. And those from whom we have addresses, you will be getting copies of what we send to governments. So thank you very, very much for coming, and have a good evening. (APPLAUSE)

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