



Implementing the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Water Resources Compact

Peter Johnson, Deputy Director



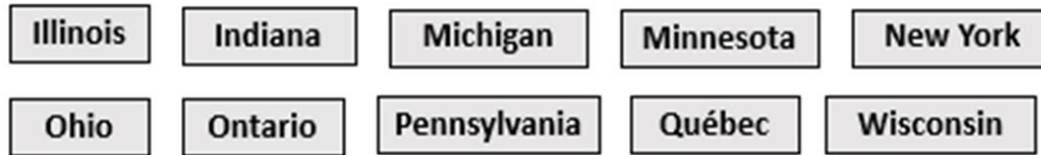
**GREAT LAKES
ST. LAWRENCE
GOVERNORS
& PREMIERS**

UNITED FOR GROWTH



Conference of Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers

- Formed in June 2015, building on 30 years of work by the Council of Great Lakes Governors
- Chief executives of:

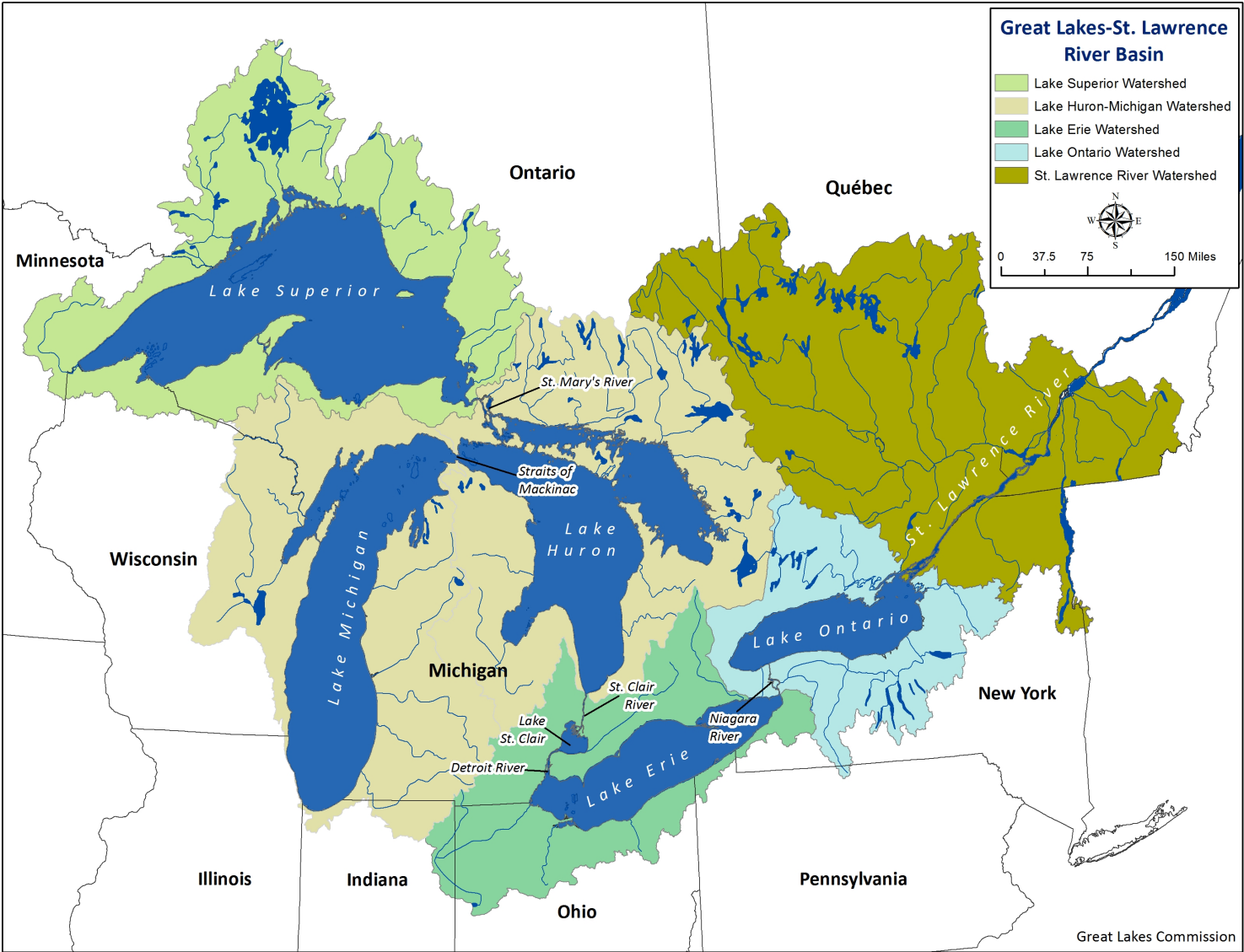


- Growing the region's \$6 trillion economy and protecting the world's greatest freshwater system

○ Chair: Wisconsin Governor
Tony Evers

○ Vice Chair: Ohio Governor
Mike DeWine





Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement of 2005

- Good-faith agreement among the region's Governors and Premiers
- Created Regional Body
- State and Provincial implementation
 - Provincial action
 - Interstate Compact



Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact

- Legally enforceable contract among the Great Lakes States
- Created Compact Council
- Implementation
 - Ratification by State legislatures (2006-2008)
 - Congressional consent (2008)—
Public Law 110–342, 122 Stat. 3739

State Ratification

Minnesota: Enacted into law

Governor Pawlenty signed on February 20, 2007



Illinois: Enacted into law

Governor Blagojevich signed on August 17, 2007



Indiana: Enacted into law

Governor Daniels signed on February 20, 2008



New York: Enacted into law

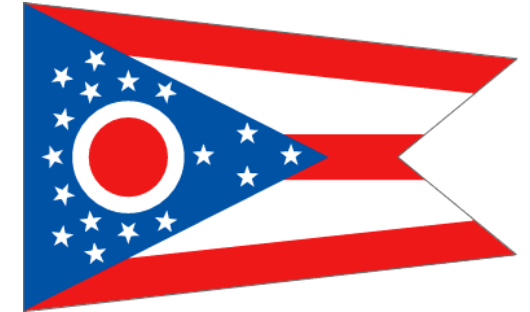
Governor Spitzer signed on March 4, 2008



State Ratification

Wisconsin: Enacted into law

Governor Doyle signed on May 27, 2008



Ohio: Enacted into law

Governor Strickland signed on June 27, 2008

Pennsylvania: Enacted into law

Governor Rendell signed on July 4, 2008

Michigan: Enacted into law

Governor Granholm signed on July 9, 2008



**MORE THAN 95% OF ALL LEGISLATORS
VOTED FOR THE COMPACT**

Congressional Consent

July 23, 2008--SJ Res-45 introduced in 110th Congress

U.S. Senate

Lead sponsors

Senator Carl Levin (D-MI),

Senator George V. Voinovich (R-OH)

August 1, 2008--Passed by Unanimous Consent

U.S. House of Representatives

Lead sponsors

Representative James L. Oberstar (D-MN)

Representative Vern Ehlers (R-MI)

Representative John Conyers (D-MI)

Representative Steven C. LaTourette (R-OH)

September 23, 2008--Passed 390-25

October 3, 2008--Signed by President Bush



Agreement Implementation

- Ontario: Enacted into law
 - Bill 198, Royal Assent June 4, 2007
 - Ontario Regulation 225/14, amended Ontario Regulation 387/04, effective January 1, 2015
- Québec: Enacted into law
 - Bill 27 (chapter C-6.2), Assented June 12, 2009
 - Regulation chapter Q-2, r. 5.1, adopted June 22, 2011
 - Regulation chapter C-6.2, adopted June 22, 2011
 - Regulation chapter Q-2, r. 35.2, adopted July 16, 2014



Agreement and Compact

Prohibits Diversions with exceptions

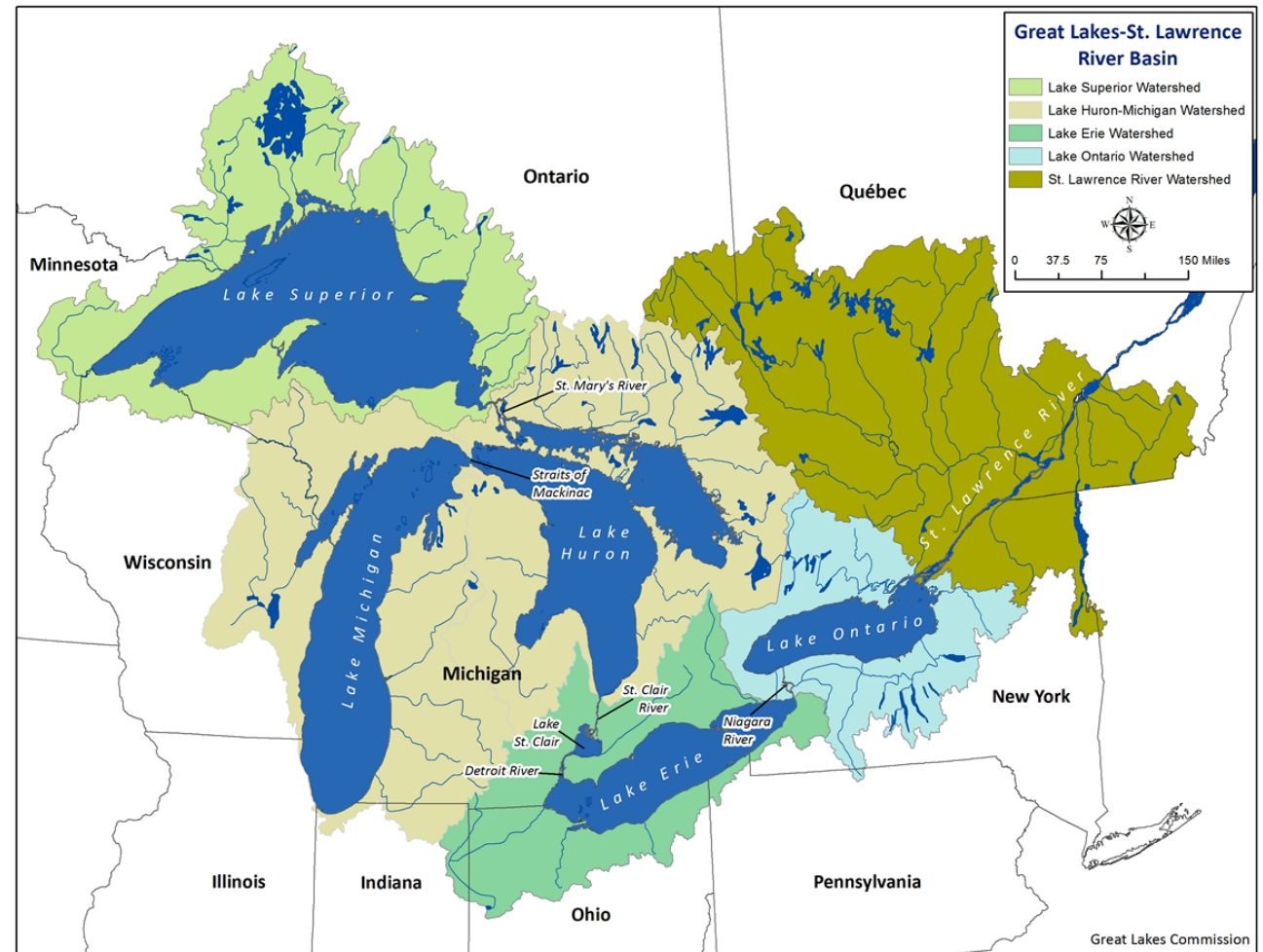
In-Basin Uses

- State management and regulation
- Use of common decision-making standard
- State/Provincial flexibility for determining thresholds

Water Conservation and Efficiency Goals, Objectives and Programs

Common Water Use Reporting Protocols

State and Provincial Programs



State and Provincial Programs

Because of the Compact and Agreement, every State and Province now:


Has put in place a Water Management Program consistent with the Compact and Agreement

Set thresholds for determining when a common decision making standard must be applied for in-basin withdrawals

Reports water use annually on the same time schedule using the same water use category definitions

Manages a Water Conservation and Efficiency Program

Submits annual assessments of their water conservation and efficiency programs



Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses

- 2008--Baseline set for new or increased withdrawals, diversions and consumptive uses
- By 2013--States have in place programs to manage and regulate withdrawals and consumptive uses
- 2014—First State program reports submitted, with review by Regional Body/Compact Council

Conservation and Efficiency



- 2007/8--Regional objectives adopted, reaffirmed in 2014
- 2010--State, Provincial goals, objectives, programs in place
 - Consistent with regional goals and objectives
 - Regional review every 5 years
- Annual Assessments performed by States and Provinces

Water Use Information

- 2009--New protocols adopted, implemented for 2011 data and beyond
- Ongoing collaboration with Great Lakes Commission, USGS and other partners
- Continued need for improved consumptive use information
- Improved information for cumulative impact assessment
- 2016—Protocols updated



Annual Report of the
Great Lakes Regional
Water Use Database
Representing 2017 Water Use Data

Cumulative
Impact Assessment
of Withdrawals,
Consumptive Uses
and Diversions

2011-2015



Cumulative Impact Assessment

- **First major assessment completed in 2013, second completed in 2017**
 - **“Minor” Cumulative Impact Assessments performed most years as part of the Great Lakes Commission’s Water Use Report**
- **Compares water uses to overall water budget**
- **Means for adaptive management**
- **Leads to review of decision-making standard**

Science Strategy Updates

The Parties commit to provide leadership for the development of a collaborative strategy with other regional partners to strengthen the scientific basis for sound Water management decision making under this Agreement.

The strategy shall guide the collection and application of scientific information to support:

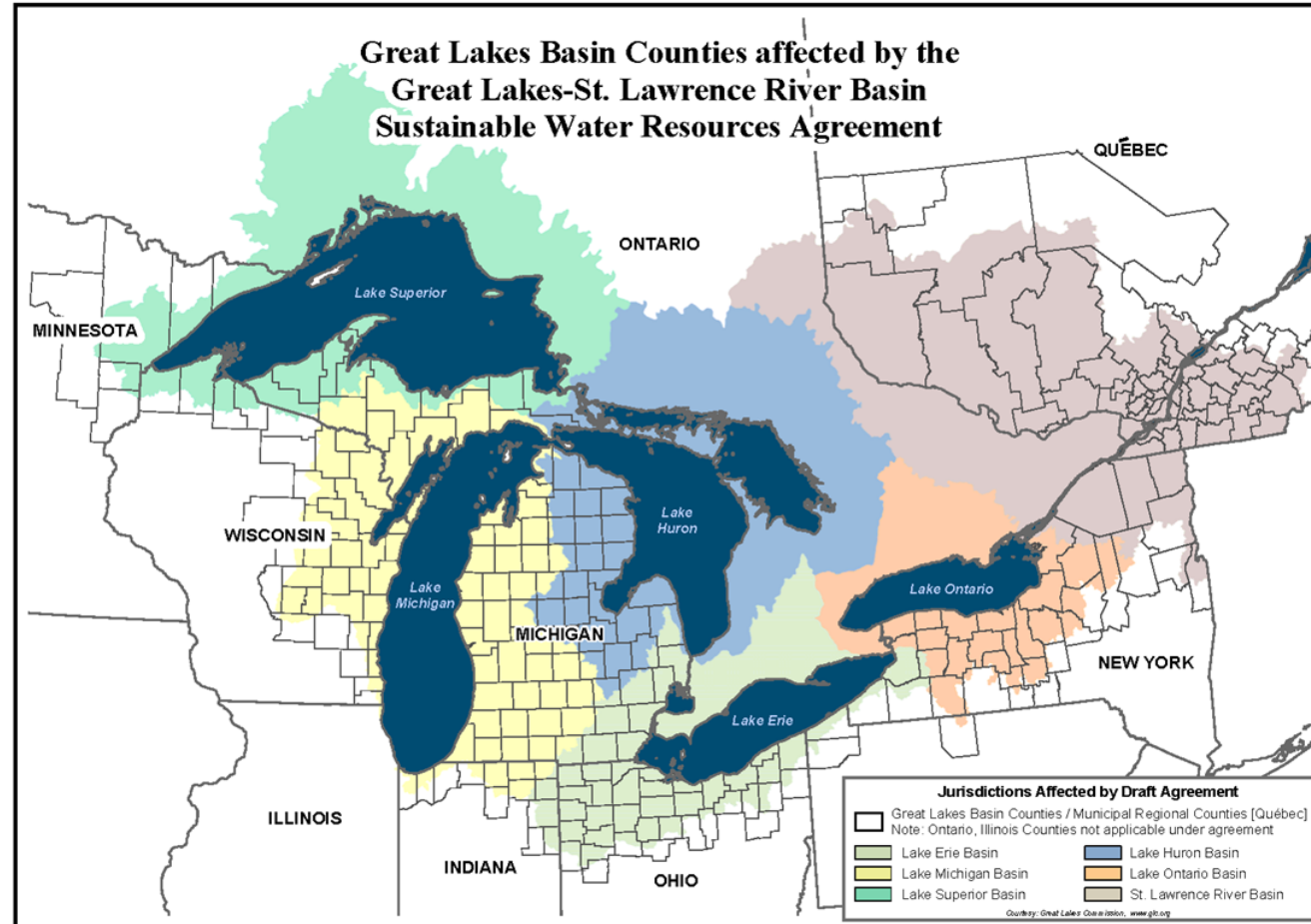
- An improved understanding of the individual and Cumulative Impacts of Withdrawals from various locations and Water sources on the Basin Ecosystem and to develop a mechanism by which impacts of Water Withdrawals may be assessed;
- The periodic assessment of Cumulative Impacts of Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses on a Great Lake and St. Lawrence River watershed basis;
- Improved scientific understanding of the Waters of the Basin;
- Improved understanding of the role of groundwater in Basin Water resources management; and,
- The development, transfer and application of science and research related to Water conservation and Water use efficiency.

Diversions

- Exceptions
 - Straddling communities
 - Communities in straddling counties
 - Intra-Basin transfers
- Exemptions
 - Ballast water
 - Short-term fire fighting
 - Humanitarian needs

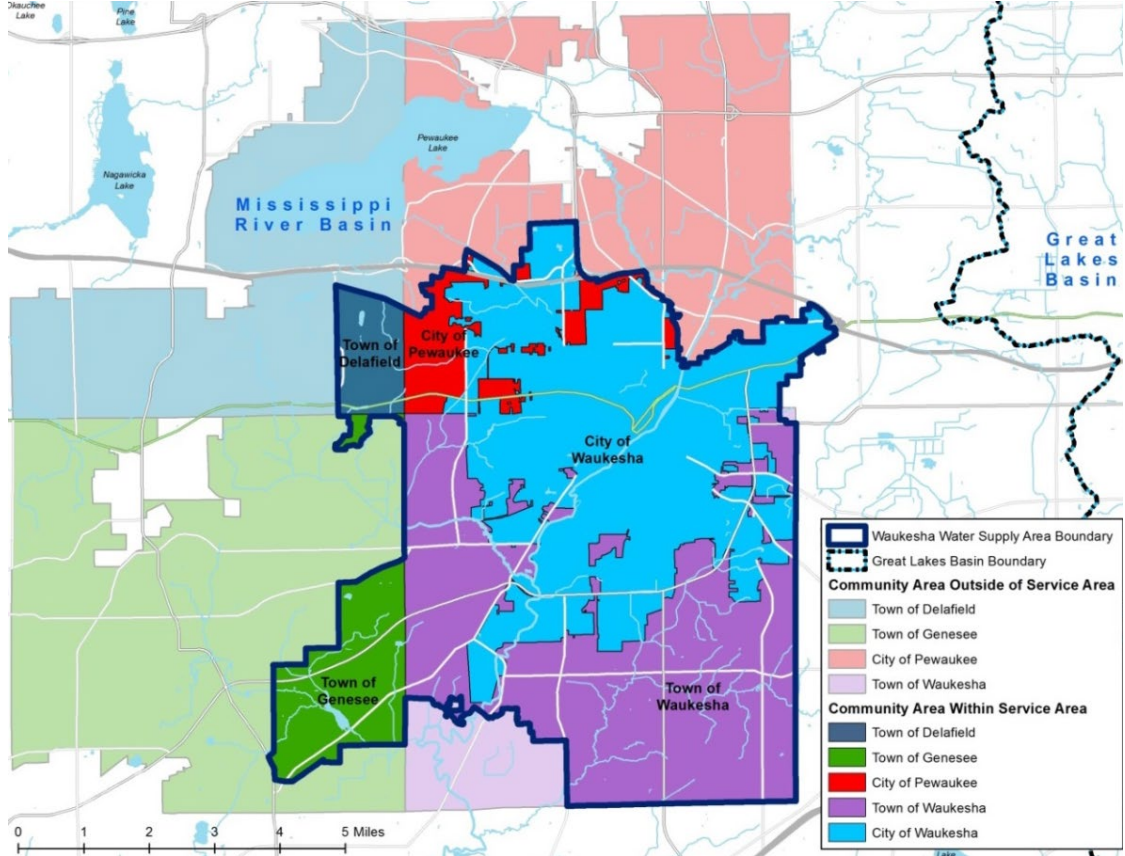
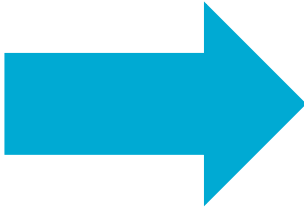


Straddling Counties



Diversification

Wisconsin Counties within Great Lakes Basin



Waukesha, Wisconsin--Requested 10.1 MGD average day demand for planned water service area for full build-out (2050).

Waukesha Regional Review Process

- Application forwarded to Regional Body/Compact Council by State of Wisconsin
- Public briefing describing proposal and process. Public comment period began.
- Public Q&A Meeting/Public Hearing in Wisconsin.





Waukesha Regional Review Process (Continued)

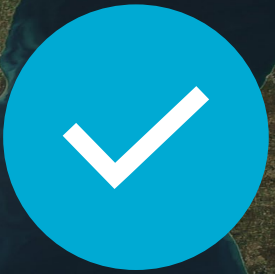
- Meeting of the Regional Body and issuance of Declaration of Finding. Service Area reduced to just the city and amount approved limited to 8.2 mgd.
- Meeting of the Compact Council and decision made on proposal
- Decision forwarded to State of Wisconsin; final decision and implementation

Regional Body and Compact Council Procedures

- **2017-- Regional Body and Compact Council announce that procedures to be updated**
- **Procedures Update Team formed; Draft procedures developed**
- **Input received from Tribes/First Nations/Métis; Advisory Committee, Resource Group and Observers**
- **Two feedback sessions/formal public comment period**
- **Rules and updated guidance adopted in December 2018**
- **Procedures update phase II beginning now. Scope:**
 - **Procedures for determining what is a “regionally significant” and/or “precedent setting” Proposal.**
 - **Procedures for monitoring and enforcing compliance with Council decisions made on Proposals that come before the Council for decision.**

Public Engagement

- **Two public meetings of the Regional Body and Compact Council every year**
- **Engagement with an Advisory Committee, Resource Group and Observers as well as Tribes, First Nations and Métis on projects**
- **New website under development allowing for improved public information**



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