



## GREAT LAKES INDUSTRY UPDATE

Spring 2015

Welcome to CGLI's inaugural newsletter!  
This newsletter will be distributed quarterly to provide brief updates on issues and topics that impact industry.  
We welcome your comments/suggestions!

### In this edition . . . .

- **Chemical Management**: US and Canada evaluate four chemicals for designation as “chemicals of mutual concern”
- **Invasive Species**: CAWS Advisory Committee evaluates potential impact of proposed Asian carp and other aquatic nuisance species controls on commercial transportation
- **Excess Nutrients**: Stakeholders provide perspectives on excess nutrients and algal blooms in the Great Lakes at policy conference
- **Water Stewardship**: CGLI project team defines water stewardship assessment tool for Great Lakes industry
- **Resilience and Preparedness**: Great Lakes organizations focus on crude oil transportation

### **Chemical Management**: Four chemicals recommended for designation as first round “chemicals of mutual concern”

CGLI and members of its Chemical Management Work Group participated on multi-stakeholder “identification Task Teams” charged with reviewing nominated chemicals to determine if they should be designated “chemicals of mutual concern,” or CMCs, under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA). After review, the ITTs recommended four chemicals for designation as CMCs (mercury, PCBs, certain perfluorocarbons, and PBDE flame retardants) and indicated that “no determination” is possible based on current data as to the remaining four chemicals (HCBd flame retardants, NP/NPE, chlorinated paraffins, and BPA). Under the GLWQA, CMCs may be subject to management action, including “measures to achieve virtual elimination and zero discharge of CMCs” and life-cycle management of products containing CMCs. In addition to CGLI, the ITTs included government agency personnel and representatives of environmental NGOs.

Final recommendations regarding CMC designations are expected in June 2015. Additional chemicals will be nominated for CMC designation in future years. [Read more.](#)

### **About CGLI**

*CGLI promotes the economic growth and vitality of the region in harmony with its human and natural resources (sustainable development).*

*CGLI works to ensure that industry is a substantive partner in the development of the Great Lakes regional policy. CGLI provides industry's perspective in collaborative efforts to protect the region's shared freshwater resources.*

**Invasive Species: CAWS Advisory Committee evaluates potential impact of proposed Asian carp and other aquatic nuisance species controls on commercial transportation**

CGLI participates on a multi-stakeholder advisory committee that is developing consensus recommendations for controlling the two-way transfer of Asian carp and other aquatic nuisance species (ANS) between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins through the Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS). The committee currently is evaluating various scenarios that combine specialized locks and fixed barriers at alternative locations in the CAWS to reduce the risk of ANS transfer between the basins.

In April, the advisory committee evaluated the degree of risk reduction and potential transportation impacts of proposed ANS controls in the CAWS. Additional evaluations may consider the potential impacts on flooding in NE Illinois and NW Indiana and the potential impact on water quality in the CAWS and in the Great Lakes (including the potential for contaminated sediment in the CAWS to reach the lakes). The advisory committee also may consider the potential that companies on the CAWS with NPDES permits would have to meet stricter discharge limitations if permanent barriers are constructed. The committee expects to develop final recommendations by late fall 2015. [Read more.](#)

**Excess Nutrients: Stakeholders offer perspectives on excess nutrients and algal blooms in the Great Lakes**

CGLI participated in the 2015 Science-Policy Confluence Conference convened by the Environmental Law and Policy Center in March to discuss the impacts of excess nutrients on the Great Lakes. The conference focused on algal bloom experiences in the Great Lakes, primarily within the western basin of Lake Erie, and included scientific presentations that characterized the known or postulated causes of algal blooms, information about best practices on agricultural lands, and proposed policy measures. CGLI participated in the invitation-only conference as a representative of regional industry.

EPA Region 5 Administrator Susan Hedman and EPA Region 5 Water Division Director Tinka Hyde presented EPA's priorities in addressing nutrients in the Great Lakes. Agency officials made it clear that EPA is directing states to tighten nutrient release limitations on point sources while they work with non-point sources to reduce phosphorus loadings to all surface waters in the region. TMDLs and nutrient water quality criteria were identified as primary tools to be used by the agency. [Read more](#)

**Water Stewardship: CGLI project team defines water stewardship assessment tool for Great Lakes industry**

CGLI has completed Phase III of a significant project designed to identify a tool that Great Lakes companies can use to evaluate their water stewardship initiatives. The project, which was funded by the Great Lakes Protection Fund, explored various water stewardship tools in the context of the Great Lakes, with a particular focus on the Alliance for Water Stewardship International Water Stewardship Standard. The project team

*As a coordinated voice for industry, CGLI creates an opportunity for industries to contribute to and engage in both Great Lakes protection and restoration, and to preserve and enhance the region's economy.*

*Contact us for more information*

Kathryn A. Buckner  
President  
[kabuckner@cgli.org](mailto:kabuckner@cgli.org)

Dale K. Phenicie  
Technical/Project Director  
[dkphenicie@cgli.org](mailto:dkphenicie@cgli.org)

Ana Sirviente, PhD  
Program Development Director  
[asirv@cgli.org](mailto:asirv@cgli.org)

Amelia Szmansky  
Member Services  
[amelia@cgli.org](mailto:amelia@cgli.org)



Council of Great Lakes  
Industries  
3600 Green Court, Suite 710  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
734-663-1944

concluded that the AWS-IWSS provides a valuable tool for assessing Great Lakes industrial water stewardship with certain modifications designed to reflect the unique characteristics of the Great Lakes region -- specifically, abundant water supplies and robust governance systems.

CGLI is considering next steps in facilitating water stewardship assessments. A potential next step may be to create a regional “road map” that industry can use to apply the AWS-IWSS in the Great Lakes region. [Read more](#)

### **[Resilience and Preparedness: Great Lakes stakeholders focus on Crude Oil Transportation](#)**

Crude oil transportation in and through the Great Lakes region is a high priority for many Great Lakes environmental and government organizations. In April, CGLI presented an industry perspective on the issue at a workshop convened by the Council of the Great Lakes Region and the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network. The purpose of the workshop was to “explore the multi-dimensional issues associated with the movement of crude oil and petroleum products within the Great Lakes basin . . . the laws and policies governing such movements; specific cargo designations and properties; routing choices within the Great Lakes basin; the economic, social, and environmental risks, costs, and benefits of different transportation options; and the development of regional strategies for avoiding and/or responding to environmentally impactful accidents.” CGLI’s participation focused on the need to consider the critical importance of this activity to the region’s economy as well as the risk. [Read more](#)

CGLI’s Resilience and Preparedness Work Group will convene for a webinar on the oil transportation issue on April 30 to provide an update for Great Lakes industry on this emerging issue. Presenters will include Tom Crane, Deputy Director, Great Lakes Commission; Joel Brammeier, President & CEO, Alliance for the Great Lakes; and Jerome Popiel, Regional Response Team 5 Co-Chair, Ninth Coast Guard District. Please contact Amelia Szmansky, [amelia@cgli.org](mailto:amelia@cgli.org), if you are interested in joining the webinar.