**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 11:49 AM **To:** Great Lakes and Water Policy Section (MNRF)

**Subject:** Comment Period for Updated Procedures for Regional Review under the Great Lakes-

St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement (the Agreement)

**Attachments:** Information\_Sheet.pdf

This notice is to inform you of a public comment period being held by the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Water Resources Regional Body (Regional Body) regarding the Agreement signed by the Great Lakes Premiers and Governors in 2005.

On September 1, 2017 the Regional Body and Compact Council initiated a collaborative review of the Regional Body Procedures and Compact Council Guidance for Regional Review of proposals brought forward under the Agreement to divert water from the Great Lakes Basin. Ontario is participating in this process as a member of the Regional Body.

The proposed updates are intended to address lessons learned and respond to public, stakeholder and Indigenous communities' input heard during the Regional Review process conducted for Waukesha, Wisconsin's straddling county diversion proposal in 2016. The content of the Agreement itself is not being reviewed.

Ontarians have an opportunity to comment on the proposed updated Regional Body Procedures and Compact Council Guidance and Rules as part of the Regional Body's public participation process. The Regional Body public comment period is from **September 10<sup>rd</sup> to October 10<sup>rd</sup>**, **2018**.

We encourage stakeholders, municipalities and the public to submit comments submitted directly to the Regional Body through one of the following methods (email, mail, or during an upcoming public hearing) identified on the Regional Body's website (<a href="http://www.glslregionalbody.org/ProposedUpdates.aspx">http://www.glslregionalbody.org/ProposedUpdates.aspx</a>).

After the public comment period closes, the Great Lakes States and Provinces, as part of the Regional Body and Compact Council, will review all of the public input received. Further updates will be made as needed prior to adopting a final version.

If you have any questions regarding Ontario's involvement in the Procedures update, please contact mnrwaterpolicy@ontario.ca

Thank you,

Jason Travers

Director Natural Resources Conservation Policy Branch Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry