

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Assistant Commissioner

Office of Water Resources, 14th Floor

625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1010

Phone: (518) 402-2794 • Fax: (518) 402-8541

Website: www.dec.ny.gov



Alexander B. Grannis
Commissioner

December 8, 2009

Mr. David Naftzger
Executive Director, Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council
Secretary, Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Water Resources Regional Body
c/o Council of Great Lakes Governors
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1850
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Subject: Water Management Program Report and Water Conservation and Efficiency Program
Report Submitted on behalf of New York State

Dear Mr. Naftzger:

On behalf of the State of New York State, the Department of Environmental Conservation has electronically submitted to you a Water Management Program Report and a Water Conservation and Efficiency Program Report, pursuant to and in satisfaction of the obligations included in Section 3.4 of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

James M. Tierney
Assistant Commissioner, Office of Water Resources
New York Department of Environmental Conservation
Alternate of Governor Paterson, Member, Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water
Resources Compact Council

cc: Peter Johnson, Program Director, Council of Great Lakes Governors
Jennifer Kozlowski, Special Assistant for the Environment, Office of the Governor of
New York State
Mark Klotz, NYSDEC, Director, Division of Water
Don Zelazny, NYSDEC, Great Lakes Programs Coordinator
Mike Holt, NYSDEC, Chief, Water Supply Permits Bureau

Water Conservation and Efficiency Program Review
New York State

The following information shall be included in the Water Conservation and Efficiency Program reports submitted by the States and Provinces to the Regional Body and Compact Council pursuant to the requirements in the Agreement Article 300 and the Compact Section 3.4.1.

1. Lead agency/agencies and contact person(s):

*NYSDEC Division of Water – Bureau of Water Resources Management
Michael Holt P.E. – Chief of Water Quantity Management Section – (518) 402-8099
Richard Kruzansky – (518) 402- 8182*

2. Status of the State or Province’s Water conservation and efficiency goals and objectives consistent with the Basin-wide goals and objectives. If developed, include State or Provincial goals and objectives or link to electronic version.

NYSDEC’s Division of Water currently regulates all significant water withdrawals for public water supply purposes within the great lakes basin. Each new application for a permit requires the submittal of a water conservation plan. The main components of these plans are 1) customer and source metering, 2) water auditing, 3) leak detection and repair and 4) outdoor water use management. The Division is currently working on expanding its water conservation requirements to significant non-potable water withdrawals and intends to complete its basin-wide goals and objectives by 12/8/2010 (2 years from the Compact’s effective date).

3. Water Conservation and Efficiency Program Overview.
 - a) Citations to State/Provincial Water Conservation and Efficiency Program implementing laws, regulations and policies.

Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) 15-1503

- b) Summary description of the State’s or Province’s Water Conservation and Efficiency Program including what elements are voluntary and mandatory.

All new applications for public water supply permits are required to include a water conservation plan. Plans are reviewed and appropriate conditions are included in each permit.

- c) For each of the regional objectives identify how the State/Provincial program is consistent with the regional objective. More details for each objective are available at http://www.glslregionalbody.org/Docs/Resolutions/GLSLRWRRB_Resolution_6-Conservation-Efficiency.pdf and can be referenced below.

OBJECTIVES

- Guide programs toward long-term sustainable water use.

All water supply permit applications for new or increased groundwater withdrawals must submit the results of a pumping test:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5003.html>. All water supply applications for new or increased surface withdrawals must submit hydrological data to confirm dependable water supply yields while adequately protecting water levels and in-stream flows for habitat.

- Adopt and implement supply and demand management to promote efficient use and conservation of water resources.

Water conservation plans are required to provide annual water audit data which compares produced water to metered sales.

- Improve monitoring and standardize data reporting among State and Provincial water conservation and efficiency programs.

All water withdrawers with the capacity to withdraw 100,000 gallons per day or greater are required to report their water use on an annual basis. Standard reporting forms, <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/55509.html>, for the submittal of this data have been developed.

- Develop science, technology and research.

The Division of Water is reviewing and considering the adoption of the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) recently developed water auditing methodology and software:

<http://www.awwa.org/Resources/WaterLossControl.cfm?ItemNumber=47957>

- Develop education programs and information sharing for all water users.

Water Conservation Manual: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/39346.html>

Water Conservation Tips for the Public:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5009.html>

4. Description of how the State or Province promotes Environmentally Sound and Economically Feasible Water Conservation Measures.

All new applications for public water supply permits are required to include a water conservation plan. Plans are reviewed and appropriate conditions are included in each permit.

5. Description of the State or Provincial Water conservation and efficiency program implementation timeline and status.

The existing plan has been in effect since 1989. The Division is currently working on expanding these water conservation requirements to significant non-potable water withdrawals and intends to complete its basin-wide goals and objectives by 12/8/2010 (2 years from the Compact's effective date).