

White House Budget ‘Leaves Great Lakes on Thin Ice’

**Statement by Jeff Skelding, National Campaign Director
Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition**

Washington, D.C. (February 4)—“The White House budget released today leaves the Great Lakes on thin ice and underscores the need for Congress and the next President of the United States to do more to restore a national resource that millions of people depend on for their jobs, public health and quality of life.”

“Absent leadership from this President, we urge the U.S. Congress to fund the manageable solutions we have at our disposal to restore the Great Lakes now, because every day we wait, the problems get worse and the solutions more costly.”

“We need strong federal leadership to partner with the region’s states and cities to restore the largest source of surface freshwater in the world. Instead, the White House budget cuts programs to stop sewage contamination and confront the threat of aquatic invasive species.”

“Most of the leading presidential candidates have signed a pledge to restore the Great Lakes. We can’t wait until January. Now is the time to increase funding to restore the Great Lakes as called for in the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy. Congress must act to restore the cuts in this short sighted budget.”

For more information, visit: <http://www.healthylakes.org>

Immediate Release:

February 4, 2008

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