May 21, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

We write to request that you maintain the Great Lakes Advisory Board (Board).

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) created the Board to ensure transparent, credible, and diverse views in guiding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative’s (GLRI’s) investments. The Board—comprised of many of the region’s most respected experts—has provided invaluable advice for the guidance of the GLRI to the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force and its Great Lakes Regional Working Group. The Board was created under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) so that input could be provided in compliance with federal law.

During last year’s House Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee hearing, you were asked whether the Board would be maintained. You responded that EPA would work with Congress in addressing this matter. However, we now understand that EPA is considering abolishing or replacing the Board.

We wish to reiterate, as we have done in past appropriations reports, that we support the establishment and maintenance of the Board. We urge you to maintain the Board and request that you seek our input should EPA consider any changes to this important entity.

Sincerely,

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress

Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress

Janice Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress

Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress

Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress

Paul Mitchell  
Member of Congress

Daniel W. Lipinski  
Member of Congress

Bradley S. Schneider  
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress