## Draft—For Discussion Purposes Only November 13, 2024



## GREAT LAKES—ST. LAWRENCE RIVER WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL BODY

## RESOLUTION #37— AFFIRMATION OF BASIN-WIDE CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY OBJECTIVES

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2005, the Governors of the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Premiers of Ontario and Québec signed the *Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement* ("Agreement"); and,

WHEREAS, Article 304 paragraph 1 of the Agreement came into force on December 13, 2005, pursuant to Article 709 paragraph 1g of the Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, Article 304 paragraph 1 of the Agreement states that:

"Within two years of the signing of the Agreement, the Regional Body shall identify Basin-wide Water conservation and efficiency objectives to assist the Parties in developing their Water conservation and efficiency program. These objectives shall be based on the goals of:

- a. Ensuring improvement of the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources;
- b. Protecting and restoring the hydrologic and ecosystem integrity of the Basin;
- c. Retaining the quantity of surface water and groundwater in the Basin;
- d. Ensuring sustainable use of Waters of the Basin; and,
- e. Promoting the efficiency of use and reducing losses and waste of Water."; and,

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2007 the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Water Resources Regional Body (Regional Body) adopted Basin-Wide water conservation and efficiency objectives; and,

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2014 the Great-St. Lawrence Water Resources Regional Body (Regional Body) affirmed Basin-Wide water conservation and efficiency objectives;

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2019 the Great-St. Lawrence Water Resources Regional Body (Regional Body) affirmed Basin-Wide water conservation and efficiency objectives;

WHEREAS, Article 304 Paragraph 3 of the Agreement states in part that:

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"...the Regional Body shall review and modify as appropriate the Basin-wide objectives and the Parties shall have regard for any such modifications in implementing their programs. This assessment shall be based on examining new technologies, new patterns of Water use, new resource demands and threats, and the Cumulative Impact assessment under Article 209."; and,

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2023 a Cumulative Impact assessment under Article 209 of the Agreement was released, and the Regional Body has reviewed the Basin-wide water conservation and efficiency objectives pursuant to Article 304 Paragraph 3 of the Agreement and has determined that they should remain unchanged.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in fulfillment of its obligations under Article 304 Paragraph 3 of the Agreement, the Regional Body reaffirms as basin-wide Water Conservation and efficiency objectives the basin-wide conservation and efficiency objectives adopted by the Regional Body on December 8, 2007 and reaffirmed on December 9, 2014 and December 11, 2019.