UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

Great Lakes Advisory Board

1. Advisory Committee's Official Designation

Great Lakes Advisory Board

2. Authority:

The Great Lakes Advisory Board is renewed in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C 10. The board is in the public interest and supports the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in performing its duties and responsibilities.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities:

The board will provide advice and recommendations on matters related to:

i. the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; and
ii. the domestic implementation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between the U.S. and Canada.

4. Description of Duties:

The duties of the board are solely to provide advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator through the Great Lakes National Program Manager. In response to specific requests (i.e., charge questions) from the Agency, the board will provide advice and recommendations on:

i. Great Lakes protection and restoration activities.
ii. Long term goals, objectives and priorities for Great Lakes protection and restoration.
iii. Other issues identified by the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force/Regional Working Group.

5. Agency or Federal Officer Receiving the Advisory Committee's Advice/Recommendations:

The board will provide advice and recommendations, and report to the EPA Administrator through the Region 5 Administrator in their capacity as the Great Lakes National Program Manager.

6. Support:

Support will be provided by the Great Lakes National Program Office.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years:

The estimated annual cost to operate the Council include the following:

i. Federal personnel (based on full-time equivalent (FTE) usage basis) and other Federal internal costs. The estimated annual person years of staff support is 0.5, at an estimated annual cost of $69,320. The estimate for other Federal internal costs is $32,139.
ii. The GLAB will be comprised of Representative members who will not receive payment for their service while on the committee.
iii. Reimbursable costs. The estimate for reimbursable costs, including members' travel expenses, is $27,930.
iv. The estimated total cost is $129,389.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

The board expects to meet in-person or by electronic means (e.g., telephone, videoconference, webcast, etc.) approximately two (2) times per year, or as needed and approved by the DFO. As required by FACA, the board will hold open meetings unless the EPA Administrator determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c). Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the committee as time permits, and file comments with the board.

9. Duration:

The need for this committee is continuing, subject to the termination section below.

10. Termination:

This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After this period, the charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of the FACA.

11. Membership and Designation:

The board will be composed of approximately 15 members who will generally serve as representative members of non-federal interests. Representative members are selected to represent the points of view held by organizations, associations, or classes of individuals. If needed, members may be appointed to serve as regular government employees (RGEs) or special government employees (SGEs). In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates from a broad range of interests relating to the Great Lakes, including but not limited to, state, tribal,

and local governments, environmental groups, industry, business groups, agricultural groups, foundations, and academia.

12. Subcommittees:

EPA, or the board with EPA's approval, may form subcommittees or workgroups for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees or workgroups may not work independently of the chartered committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the chartered board for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered committee nor can they report directly to the EPA.

13. Filing Date:

10/13/2026
Agency Approval Date

8/13/2026
GSA Consultation Completion Date

11/04/2026
Date Filed with Congress