



CRS Report for Congress: Great Lakes Water Withdrawals: Legal and Policy Issues: June 30, 2008 - RL32956

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## Crs Report for Congress: Great Lakes Water Withdrawals: Legal and Policy Issues: June 30, 2008 - RL32956 (Paperback)

By Pervaze A Sheikh, Cynthia Brougher

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Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. The Great Lakes and their connecting waters form the largest fresh surface water system on Earth and support substantial social, economic, and ecological interests in the United States and Canada. Because less than 1 of Great Lakes water, on average, is renewed annually, many are concerned with potential threats to lake levels and quality, including environmental and climatic changes, growing consumptive uses of water, and most notably, a growing demand to move Great Lakes water to water-thirsty regions across the United States and throughout the world. Several laws, policies, and governing bodies already regulate the use, withdrawal, and diversion of water from the Great Lakes Basin; however, the concern over domestic and international demand for Great Lakes water has prompted officials from the United States and Canada to reevaluate these laws and policies. The Council of Great Lakes Governors (CGLG) -- a partnership of the governors of the eight Great Lakes states and the Canadian provincial premiers of Ontario and Quebec -- was tasked with creating a new common conservation standard to manage water diversions, withdrawals, and consumptive...



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