I'm concerned that delaying action may risk additional damage. Over 180 invasive species have already entered the Great Lakes; we can't afford to wait longer or add loopholes and compliance standards that can be easily avoided. I ask you to support measures in the bill that ensure that all ships comply with ballast treatment before entering the Great Lakes, before we hear of the damage that the next generation of lamprey or asian carp have wrought.

These species don't just represent an ecologic threat; they are a blow to our second biggest industry. I believe this issue transcends any single user group. There is a compelling economic and ecologic basis for preventing the release of ballast water into the Great Lakes, for our generation as well as our children's.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Steve Lorey

Royal Oak, MI