

For Immediate Release
March 15, 2013

Ohio Lake Erie Commission to Hold December Quarterly Meeting in Columbus

SANDUSKY, OH - The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) will hold its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, March 20 at 9 a.m. at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), located at 50 West Town Street in Columbus.

During the OLEC meeting, the progress and status of recent commission of activities will be discussed, including a review of the funded Lake Erie Protection Fund grants.

OLEC members are expected to approve two targeted priority projects for funding from the Lake Erie Protection Fund addressing internal loading of phosphorus in Lake Erie and water conservation measures.

OLEC Executive Director Gail Hesse will report on future 2013 projects including Lake Erie monitoring and coordination and a brief update on the Lake Erie Phosphorus Task Force.

OLEC oversees Ohio's Lake Erie Protection Fund, which is a source of grant money for projects that benefit the Lake Erie watershed economically and environmentally. This fund is supported by Ohioans who purchase a Lake Erie license plate displaying the Marblehead Lighthouse or Toledo Harbor Lighthouse designed by Ohio artist Ben Richmond.

All OLEC meetings are open to the public and include reports from the member state agencies and advisory committees followed by a public comment period. Organizations and citizens are encouraged to attend.

OLEC was established for the purpose of preserving Lake Erie's natural resources, protecting the quality of its waters and ecosystem and promoting economic development in the region. The director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) serves as the commission's chairman. Additional members include the directors of the state departments of Transportation, Health, Development, Agriculture and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

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