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January 28, 2010

Mr. Charles R. Bristol,
Treasurer, Friends of the Detroit River
PO Box 725
Trenton, MI 48183

Dear Mr. Bristol,

I am writing to urge the full consideration of the proposal being submitted by the Friends of Detroit River to restore habitat in the Detroit River Area of Concern (AOC) through the opportunity provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The proposal entitled "Detroit River AOC Habitat Restoration – US Steel Site" is an important element in the effort to remediate the Detroit River AOC.

The geographical features of this site make it a strong candidate for a combined upland, shoreline, and aquatic shoal reconstruction project. The location of this site in the central part of the Detroit River, which is highly industrialized, provides a fine opportunity to restore emergent shoreline and upland habitat needed in our urban areas.

The metro Detroit region is enduring especially difficult times in the midst of these hard economic times, and the restoration of the Great Lakes is a crucial component of ensuring a brighter future for our region. Rehabilitating this emergent shoreline and habitat in the Detroit River will contribute to the long-term goals of this Initiative and the region as a whole.

Again, I urge that this proposal by the Friends of the Detroit River be fully considered in the context of it's relevance to the broad goals of the GLRI as well as the specific work required to remedy the issues still necessitating direct attention within the Detroit River AOC.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress