



**Committee of Advisors
to the
Great Lakes Fishery Commission**



Resolution #2: Oil and Gas Exploration and Drilling

Whereas there is consideration in the state of Ohio to reverse the existing ban on oil and gas drilling in Lake Erie, and

Whereas current energy prices and actions by OPEC to reduce production have brought increased pressure to expand domestic exploration, and production, and

Whereas the Great Lakes may harbor some untapped reserves of oil and gas, and

Whereas drilling accidents and spills would not be subject to quick dispersal or “flushing” through the system (given the “replacement” timeframes for the water in each Lake), therefore

Be it resolved that the U.S. Advisors [to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission] urge that the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to advise the agencies responsible regulating oil and gas exploration of the economic importance of the Great Lakes fishery, and how habitat impairments resulting from exploration and operational accidents could threaten the fisheries and the economic benefits that are accrued from them.

Submitted by Ed Sander, U.S. Advisor, Lake Ontario
Resolution 01-02
Passed by U.S. Committee of Advisors, June 4, 2001
Windsor, Ontario

The opinions expressed here are those of the independent committee of advisors and not necessarily those of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. The Committee of Advisors consists of both U.S. and Canadian representatives, from First Nation, commercial, recreational, academic, agency, and public fishery interests in the Great Lakes Basin. Advisors provide advice to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission; U.S. advisors are nominated by the State Governors, and appointed by the commission. Canadian advisors are nominated by the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and appointed by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.