

# Minnesota's Efforts on Ballast Water: Past, Present, and Future

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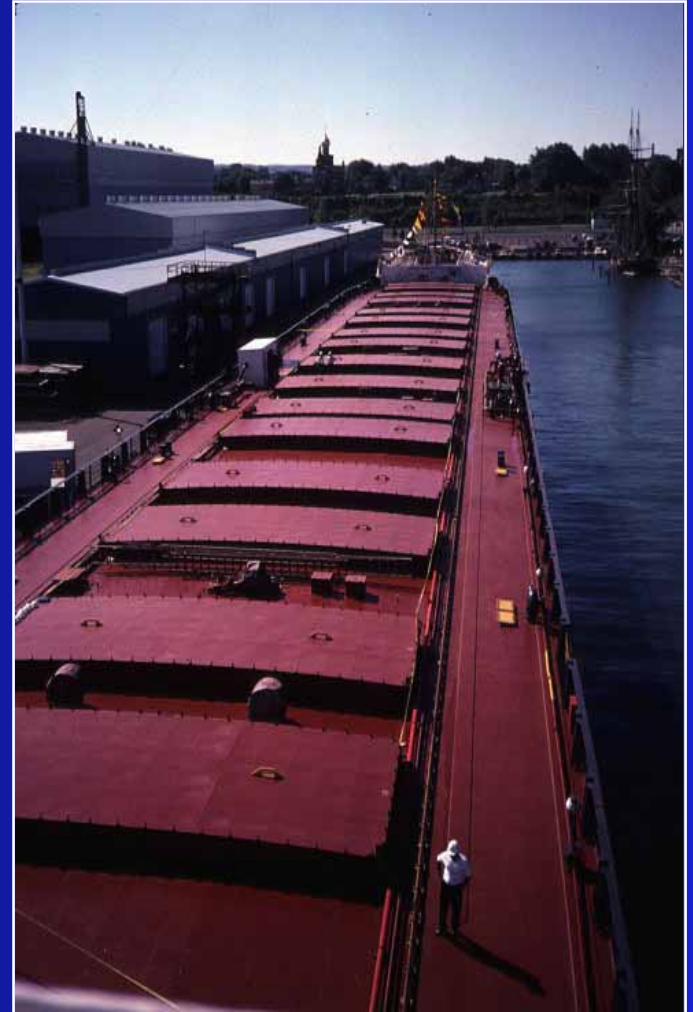
# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- For more than a decade, DNR has participated in numerous ballast water related efforts to move the issue forward



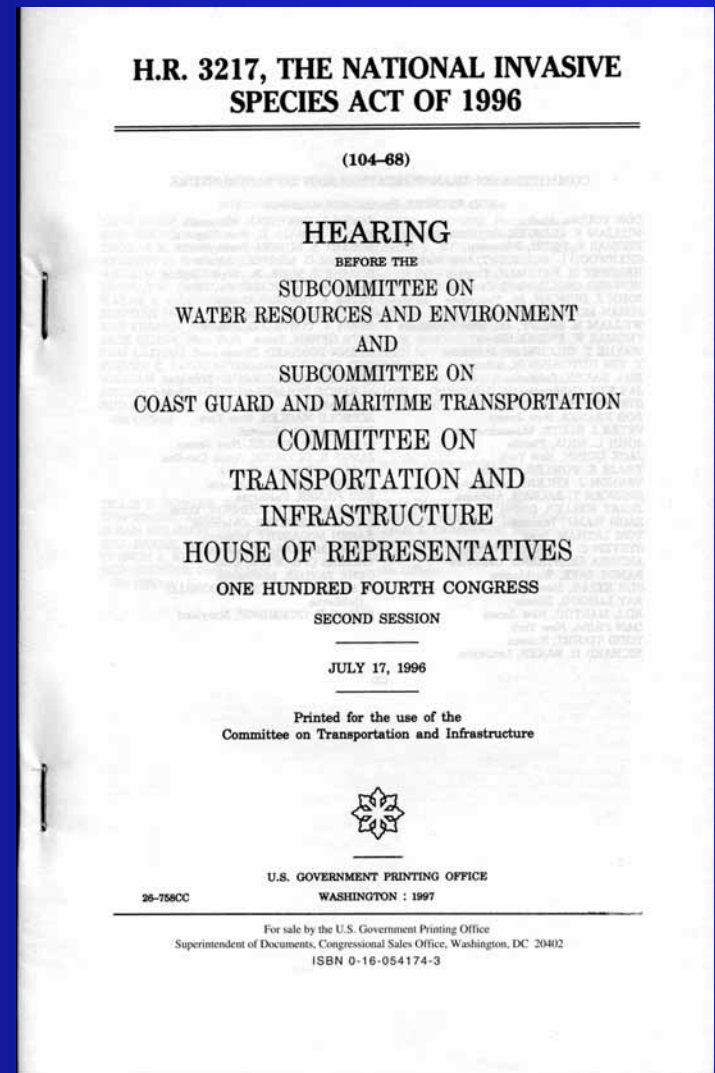
# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **1996** - Participated on the steering committee for the **Great Lakes Ballast Water Demonstration Project**
  - What technologies?
  - How effective?



# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- 1996 - Testified at Congressional hearings on the *National Invasive Species Act* which addressed national ballast regulations



# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

Testimony included:

- *“...individual states such as Minnesota that have many water resources at risk cannot solve the problem alone.”*
- *“We need strong federal leadership in prevention and control.”*

# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **1997** - Sought \$250,000 of state funds through LCMR to expand the efforts of the **Great Lakes Ballast Water Demonstration Project** including pathogens





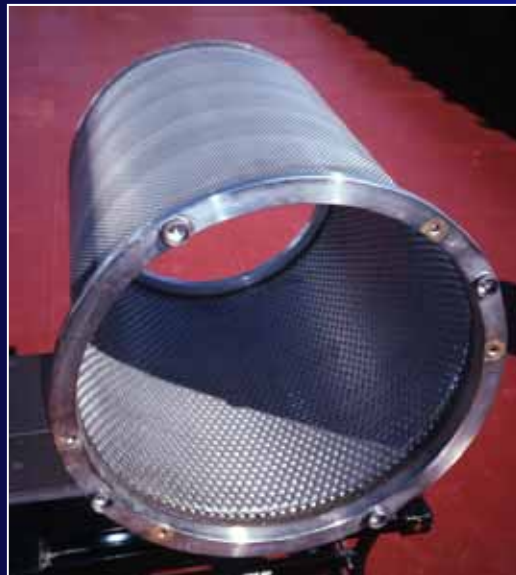
# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **1998 to 2001** - Managed LCMR funds for the GLBW demonstration project



# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **LCMR** ballast water demonstration project tested filtration and secondary treatments





# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **1999** - Participated in **International Joint Commission's (IJC)** Great Lakes Water Quality Forum; the recommendations on *Alien Invasive Species* that sought IJC involvement in developing binational ballast discharge standards for the Great Lakes.

# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **2000** - Participated on the **Great Lakes Panel** on aquatic invasive species - *Ballast Water Management Committee*



# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **2001** - Participated in the **Great Lakes Panel's** workshop that produced a "*Policy Statement on Ballast Water Management* "

# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **2002** - participated on the **Council of Great Lakes Governors' Ballast Water Initiative Task Force**



# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

## Governor Ventura's response to Gov. Engler

- *"As you requested, I will do everything in my power to resist the state-by-state legislative efforts to address a regional Great lakes problem."*
- *"I look forward to working with you to ensure that this issue ... and others are addressed at the appropriate regional level."*

# Minnesota's Ballast Water Efforts

- **2005 to 2007** - Participating in conference calls of the **Great Lakes ANS Coalition** - an entity established per Michigan's Ballast Water Legislation
- **2001 to 2007** - Review and comments on Congressional ballast water related bills



# DNR Summary Points

- Involved for many years
- Region wanted binational approach for Great Lakes
- Great Lakes region has had numerous entities try to move ballast ahead - few have made impact
- State has provided input to Congressional members on Congressional ballast water bills
- Still involved in Great Lakes and Minnesota efforts

# Federal Water Quality Permits

- **United State Environmental Protection Agency**
    - **1973:** EPA promulgated a regulation that excluded discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels from NPDES permitting.
    - **September 2006:** U.S. District Court decision in CA that will vacate the regulatory exclusion for discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels effective September 30, 2008.
    - **EPA** appealing decision.
    - Seeking public comments/data and considering how to develop a permit program.
- ([www.epa.gov/owow/invasive\\_species/ballast\\_water.html](http://www.epa.gov/owow/invasive_species/ballast_water.html)).

# Minnesota's Ballast Water Work Plan

- Call for federal action on Great Lakes shipping.
- Communication and coordination.
- Develop state regulatory program for vessel discharges
- State legislative activities
  - LCCMR-Partnership opportunities (Great Ships Initiative)
  - Potential budget initiative in 2009 for implementation of state ballast water program.
  - Information sharing
- Project management

# Questions ?

