

*Protecting Our Water Environment*

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Terrence J. O'Brien  
*President*  
Kathleen Therese Meany  
*Vice President*  
Gloria Alitto Majewski  
*Chairman of Finance*  
Frank Avila  
Patricia Horton  
Barbara J. McGowan  
Cynthia M. Santos  
Debra Shore  
Mariyana T. Spyropoulos

**Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago**

100 EAST ERIE STREET

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611-3154

312-751-5600

Contact: Richard Lanyon  
Executive Director  
312-751-7900

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2010

**SUPREME COURT SAYS ‘NO GO’  
ON OLD DECREE AND JURISDICTION**

***MWRD continues collaborative work in aggressive fight to thwart Asian carp***

Chicago - The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday rejected the State of Michigan’s request to reopen Supreme Court cases dating to the 1920s involving the Chicago-area waterway system and how much water can be diverted from Lake Michigan. This is the latest in a series of attempts by Michigan in seeking judiciary decrees to provide what it feels can stop invasive species from entering Lake Michigan, most notably the Asian carp. The law filings have named the State of Illinois, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) as parties to defend against Michigan’s claims.

In response to the court decision, MWRD Board President Terrence J. O’Brien said, “This is indeed an effort that cannot be litigated, particularly while the focus of the intergovernmental agencies is so keen on protecting all of the waterways and people’s livelihoods from the St. Lawrence Seaway to the Gulf. The MWRD is in complete cooperation with the federal, state, inter-state, and local authorities diligently devising a series of combative responses to any invasive species that might transit through the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and our other waterways. Everyone wants to protect the ecology and economic environment of all stakeholders in the region.”

The MWRD mission for its 121-year history is to protect Lake Michigan, along with the public health and safety of the millions of residents relying on the MWRD to provide effective and efficient stormwater management. “Our experience spans three centuries now. Our award-winning engineers and scientists reclaim wastewater for other uses to benefit society and we work collaboratively with the other agencies to continue our mission to protect the citizens regardless of what part of the lake they live or work on,” he concluded.

# # #