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OHIO LAKE ERIE COMMISSION TO HOLD QUARTERLY MEETING

TOLEDO, OH - The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) will hold its quarterly meeting at 10:30 a.m. on March 25 at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts in Columbus.

Featured speakers include John Watkins of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management and Dr. Ethan Kubatko, assistant professor at The Ohio State University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering & Geodetic Science. Watkins will discuss how the economic stimulus will impact Lake Erie. Dr. Kubatko will present on hydrodynamic modeling in Lake Erie.

Commission members are expected to approve the latest round of small grants and targeted priority grant applications.

OLEC Executive Director Edwin Hammett will also report on the Western Lake Erie Basin Study, Balanced Growth Programs, and provide an update on public outreach programs.

All meetings of the Ohio Lake Erie Commission are open to the public and include a public comment period. Organizations and citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting and provide input on issues of concern.

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission 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 Department of Natural Resources serves as the commission's chairman. Additional members include the directors of the state departments of Transportation, Health, Development, Agriculture and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

Visit the Ohio Lake Erie Commission web site at www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo or call the commission office at 419-245-2514 for additional information on the Lake Erie watershed pilot projects.

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