

**From:** "Riley, Rebecca" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** July 6, 2016 at 4:51:35 PM CDT  
**To:** Elizabeth Brackett  
**Cc:** "[REDACTED]"  
**Subject:** RE: Ballast Water

Thank you for the opportunity to respond!

For the first point:

Although international ships are the primary source of aquatic invasive species introductions in the Great Lakes, Lakers are part of the problem, too. They can move invasive species from lake to lake, meaning that new invasions spread faster and cause more widespread harm to the ecosystem.

And for the second:

To keep new invasive species out of the Great Lakes, we need to use the best technology available now and in the future. The Coast Guard knows ship technology. EPA knows pollution-fighting technology. We need both areas of knowledge—but the Clean Water Act, which EPA has been enforcing for decades, is truly key here. The Clean Water Act is designed to slowly ratchet up protections over time. That means as technology improves, our water gets cleaner. This bill would do the opposite. It would lock in place what we have now, standards that we know are too weak to protect our water from new invasive species in the future. Federal courts have said we need to do better. The Clean Water Act will get us there. This bill steadfastly prevents it.