

# Threats to Our Water: NAFTA, SPP, Super-Corridors, Atlantica



North American  
Free Trade Agreement

**NO WAY!**



By Janet M Eaton, PhD  
for the  
Water Privatization Task Force, Sierra Club

# Threats to Our Water:

## Topics Covered



1. Trade threats to water under NAFTA
2. What is the SPP and how does it increase the threat?
3. NAFTA Super-Corridors with water pipelines !
4. What are cross border regions like Atlantica and what do their promoters have in mind?
5. The push is on to sell water !!
6. Resources for learning more and creating resistance

# Threats to Our Water

## NAFTA



### North American Free Trade Agreement

1. Water was not excluded from NAFTA. This means water transported commercially across the US/Canada border would probably not survive a NAFTA corporate challenge if any government tries to limit the quantity being exported.
2. Attempts to export bulk quantities of water from Lake Gismore in Newfoundland and from the Great Lakes led to Canadian legislation in 2001 to prohibit the export of bulk water, but these laws are full of loopholes.
3. The revised Great Lakes Compact is intended to stop large withdrawals from the Great Lakes Watershed, but also has loopholes which could allow the siphoning off of water for sale by the bottled water industry.

# Threats to Our Water

## NAFTA



### North American Free Trade Agreement

4. Canada has much fresh water eyed by entrepreneurs and investors for export to lucrative US market as well as global markets.
5. With a proposed super-corridor through Maine and a super-port in Halifax (see NAFTA Super-Corridors), Maine's water could be transported by truck or pipeline to Halifax for shipment to Europe and beyond.
6. NAFTA means that Canadian/provincial and US/state governments will not be able to limit the quantity exported commercially across the border.

# Security & Prosperity Partnership of North America ( SPP)



**Signed March 31st, 2005**

**Also known as NAFTA Plus,**

**Many feel it is a recipe for North American Union**



# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## What is it ?

### SPP launched March 2005 - Waco, Texas

Canada, the United States and Mexico announced the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) for North America on March 23, 2005 in Waco, Texas. 1

“Through this partnership we will ensure that North American remains most economically dynamic region of the world , a secure home for our people for this and future generation.” 2



1 <http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?id=1085>

2 Joint Statement by President Bush, President Fox, and Prime Minister Martin <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/03/20050323-2.html>

# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## What is it?

### SPP launched March 2005 - Waco, Texas

The Leaders' Joint Statement says:

“The SPP builds upon, but is separate from, our long-standing trade and economic relationships.”

“The Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) provides a framework to advance collaboration ...in areas as diverse as security, trade facilitation, transportation, the environment and public health. This partnership has increased institutional contacts between the three governments to respond to a shared vision of a stronger, more secure and more prosperous region.”

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Joint Statement by President Bush, President Fox, and Prime Minister Martin <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/03/20050323-2.html>



[www.spp.gov](http://www.spp.gov)

# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## How is it Working?

### SPP Working Groups set in place :

- Thirteen cross-border working groups -- ten on Prosperity and three on Security -- made up of corporate leaders and senior government officials were established, reporting to Senior Ministers of each country . (See next slide)
- They are directed to report to three top Ministers within their governments twice a year and to meet once a year with the leaders in March of each year.





# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## How is it Working?

### SPP Cross Border Working Groups on Prosperity:

- **Manufactured Goods & Sectoral and Regional Competitiveness**
- **Movement of Goods**
- **Energy**
- **Environment**
- **E-Commerce & Information Communications Technologies**
- **Financial Services**
- **Business Facilitation**
- **Food and Agriculture**
- **Transportation (See slide 11)**
- **Health**



[http://www.spp.gov/prosperity\\_working/index.asp?dName=prosperity\\_working](http://www.spp.gov/prosperity_working/index.asp?dName=prosperity_working)

[www.spp.gov](http://www.spp.gov)

# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## How is it Working?

### Working Groups' Progress:

- **June 2005: Committees reported back to leaders in Ottawa – with major reports including spread sheets showing goals, objectives, time lines, accomplishments etc.**
- **March 2006: Committees reported again to leaders in Cancun ( See slides 12, 13) The process is accelerating with no oversight from Parliament or Congress.**
- **In the next slide see the mission of one of these working groups – the transportation group.**
- **This is all going on below the radar screen of public scrutiny !! But some activists are beginning to unearth the secretive processes!!**
- **In September 2006 FOIA information was released and posted on Judicial Watch website. (See slide 14)**



# Security & Prosperity Partnership How is it Working?

## The Transportation Working Group

“Will improve the safety and efficiency of North America's transportation system by expanding market access, facilitating **multimodal corridors**, reducing congestion, and alleviating bottlenecks at the border that inhibit growth and threaten our quality of life (e.g., expand air services agreements, ... and working with responsible jurisdictions, will develop mechanisms for enhanced road infrastructure planning, including an inventory of border transportation infrastructure in major corridors and public-private financing instruments for border projects.”<sup>1</sup>

**“Multimodal corridors will include dedicated corridor for utilities and water pipelines.”**<sup>2</sup>



1 [http://www.spp.gov/prosperity\\_working/index.asp?dName=prosperity\\_working](http://www.spp.gov/prosperity_working/index.asp?dName=prosperity_working)

2 Texas Dept of Transportation <http://www.keeptexasmoving.org/projects/>

# Security & Prosperity Partnership What's the Latest ?

## Leaders' Joint Statement, 31 March 06 Cancun:

“On March 31, 2006, Prime Minister Harper and Presidents Bush and Fox reviewed progress on implementing the SPP and reaffirmed their commitment to advancing a positive agenda for the continent... Building on existing commitments, we agree that priority initiatives warrant special attention in the coming year.”

One of the commitments made was to appoint a North American Competitiveness Council (NACC) .

## What is the NACC ?

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Leaders' Joint Statement, 31 March 2006 Cancun:

<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?id=1085>



[www.spp.gov](http://www.spp.gov)



# Security & Prosperity Partnership What's the Latest ?

## What is the NACC? Eliminating barriers to trade !

“The Council will comprise members of the private sector from each country and will provide us recommendations on North American competitiveness, including, among others, areas such as automotive and **transportation**, steel, manufacturing, and services. The Council will meet annually with Security and Prosperity Ministers and will engage with senior government officials on an ongoing basis.”



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Prime Minister of Canada's Website:  
<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?id=1085>



# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## What's the Latest ?

### Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests revealed that :

The “Council of the Americas” (see next slide) convened a public / private sector dialogue with 50 government and business leaders from Canada, Mexico and the US in January and a subsequent meeting in Washington on March 13<sup>th</sup> to allow senior business leaders to provide views on the possible creation of a North American Competitiveness Council (NACC) and to recommend ways to help their companies be more competitive in the global market by having the SPP reduce cost of doing business and eliminate barriers to trade in North America.

US Secretary Gutierrez stated: “ We ..want to create institutions to ensure the sustainability of regional development and integration. In this case the NACC would be an important institution under the SPP.”

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Judicial Watch FOIA SPP Documents <http://www.judicialwatch.org/5979.shtml>

**Judicial Watch**<sup>®</sup>



*Because no one is  
above the law*



# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## What's the Latest ?

### Freedom of Information requests revealed that :

The “**Council of the Americas**” is behind the North American Competitiveness Council. **What is the “Council of the Americas”?**

“The Council of the Americas is an American business organization whose stated goal is promoting free trade and open markets throughout the Americas. It was founded in 1965 by David Rockefeller and a group of like-minded business people. It has been instrumental in the conception of NAFTA and CAFTA and fast track.”

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council\\_of\\_the\\_Americas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council_of_the_Americas)

**Judicial Watch<sup>®</sup>**



*Because no one is  
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# Security & Prosperity Partnership

## Water is on the Table !

The Minutes of a 2004 meeting of the *Task Force on the Future of North America* which drafted the SPP was leaked by the Council of Canadians. It says:

“No item - not Canadian water, not Mexican oil, not American anti-dumping laws - is ‘off the table;’ rather contentious or intractable issues will simply require more time to ripen politically.”



*No item – not even  
Canadian water is off the  
SPP table !*

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Leaked report of the Task Force on the Future of North America, 2004. Council of Canadians Website  
[http://www.canadians.org/browse\\_categories.htm?COC\\_token=23@@36cbd3e6423c06caef59921ad88ba514&step=2&catid=374&is\\_cat=1](http://www.canadians.org/browse_categories.htm?COC_token=23@@36cbd3e6423c06caef59921ad88ba514&step=2&catid=374&is_cat=1)

# Security & Prosperity Partnership Water is on the Table !

## The report goes on to say:

“Canadian cultural industries, agriculture, and fresh water are likely to meet with stiff resistance .”

“Mexican oil and Canadian water - are invested with greater emotion than are those same natural resources in other countries.  
...Consequently, policy recommendations on these issues are best considered long term goals.”



*Water a long term  
goal of the SPP !*

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Leaked report of the Task Force on the Future of North America,  
2004. Council of Canadians Website  
[http://www.canadians.org/browse\\_categories.htm?COC\\_token=23@@36cbd3e6423c06caef59921ad88ba514&step=2&catid=374&is\\_cat=1](http://www.canadians.org/browse_categories.htm?COC_token=23@@36cbd3e6423c06caef59921ad88ba514&step=2&catid=374&is_cat=1)

# Security & Prosperity Partnership Water is on the Table !

“Under NAFTA Plus (aka the SPP) and the dismantling of borders, it would be difficult or impossible for Canada to prevent the transfer of water or other natural resources through trade transactions with the United States.”

--- Miguel Pickard\* August 24, 2005

\* Miguel Pickard is an economist and researcher, co-founder of CIEPAC (Centro de Investigaciones Económicas y Políticas de Acción Comunitaria [www.ciepac.org](http://www.ciepac.org)) in San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico and an analyst with the IRC Americas Program (online at [www.americaspolicy.org](http://www.americaspolicy.org)).

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<http://americas.irc-online.org/am/3>



A M E R I C A S P R O G R A M

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# NAFTA Super-Corridors



NAFTA SUPER-CORRIDORS MEXICO TO CANADA

Photo Credit: forthecause.US

# NAFTA Super-Corridors

- The SPP, with its Transportation Working Group and the new NACC mandate on transportation, accelerates NAFTA Super-Corridors with their proposed water pipelines! National transportation bodies and cross border consortia like NASCO\* are also fueling this process.
- I-69 Corridor: “Another NAFTA Super-Highway is moving state-by-state from the planning stage to the funding and construction process. As listed on the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration’s website, the ‘I-69 Corridor is planned to connect Mexico and Canada through Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.’” 1



\* NASCO- North American Super- Corridor Coalition: Mission is to develop the world’s first international, integrated and secure, multi-modal transportation system, along the International Mid-Continent Trade Corridor, to improve both trade competitiveness and the quality of life in North America.

<http://www.nascocorridor.com/pages/about/about.htm>

# NAFTA Super-Corridors – for cars, trucks, trains & water pipelines



# NAFTA Super-Corridor Artist's Rendition

Water  
Pipelines



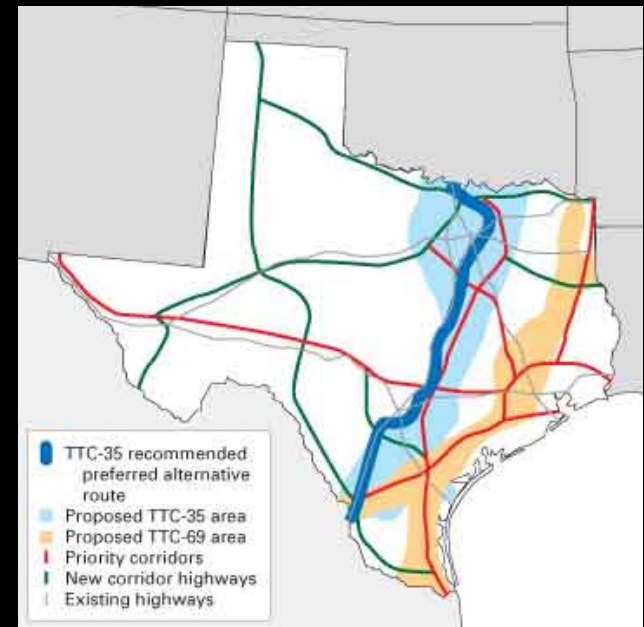
# NAFTA Super-Corridors

## Trans -Texas Corridor Water Threats

The Trans-Texas Corridor (TTC) is a proposed multi-use, statewide network of transportation routes in Texas ...As envisioned, each route will include:

- separate lanes for passenger vehicles and large trucks ( six automobile lanes, four truck lanes)
- freight railways ( two lines)
- high-speed commuter railways
- *infrastructure for utilities including water lines*, oil and gas pipelines, and transmission lines for electricity, broadband and other telecommunications services (on the outer edge)

**TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) will oversee planning, construction and ongoing maintenance, although private vendors will be responsible for much of the daily operations.**



Recommended Routes

Trans-Texas Corridor



# NAFTA Super-Corridors

## Trans-Texas Corridor Water Threats

Water is one of fourteen major concerns of the Corridor Watch Group. Here is what they say about water:

**Potential threats to Texas' water created by the Trans Texas Corridor are very serious.**

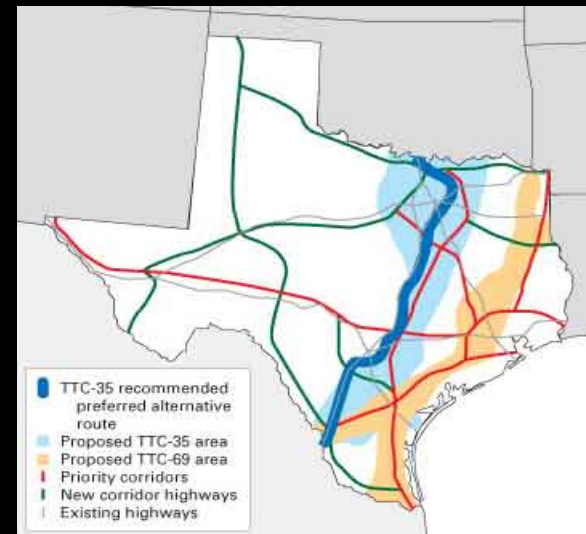
Water pipelines are in the plan.

The Trans-Texas Corridor Plan acknowledges ... that water pipelines will facilitate the transfer of "water over long distances."

It appears that water wells placed on the Trans-Texas Corridor (state land) are not presently subject to any local control or regulation. HB-3588 (legislation) allows TxDOT to lease land along the Corridor for any commercial or industrial purpose, that could include water mining? If so, such enterprises apparently will not be subject to regulation by ground water conservation districts.

**Some of our worst fears have just been reinforced by a Senate Subcommittee Report.**

<http://www.corridorwatch.org/ttc/cw-i-water.htm>



# NAFTA Super-Corridors

## Trans Texas Corridor Other Threats

### Corridor Watch Issues & Concerns

1. Confiscation of land by 'eminent domain'  
584,000 acres of farm and ranch land
2. Loss of business in hundreds of communities
3. Environmental issues – air & water contamination, loss of habitat & ecosystems fragmentation
4. Costs
  - Misplaced transportation spending
  - Toll income to foreign Spanish Cintra Corporation
5. Labor issues
6. Process is hidden
7. **Threat to water and water rights !**



# NAFTA Super-Corridors

## Trans Texas Corridor Other Threats

### Monthly Review: NAFTA Corridor Threats

"The human and environmental costs of the Texas leg of the I-35 NAFTA corridor cannot be kept secret indefinitely. The final toll of the damage caused by the NAFTA corridor system, which will entail more lost jobs, the increased use of fossil fuels, and continuing dependence on imported oil, will also include mass consumption of prime farmlands, displaced populations, disrupted communities, and widespread environmental damage."

Monthly Review. The NAFTA Corridors: Offshoring U.S. Transportation Jobs to Mexico By Richard D. Vogel  
<http://www.monthlyreview.org/0206vogel.htm>



# NAFTA Super-Corridors Labor Threats

**“Undeniably, both the U.S. and Mexican labor movements have suffered serious setbacks under NAFTA. But the offshoring of U.S. production and transportation jobs and the wholesale exploitation of Mexican workers are just one facet of global capital’s assault on international labor and must be considered in that context ....**

**“The preparation for this massive offshoring has been in progress for more than a decade—the ongoing privatization of the Mexican economy and the ground transportation rules of NAFTA are facilitating the plan to divert jobs to the south.”**

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The NAFTA Corridors: Offshoring U.S. Transportation Jobs to Mexico By  
Richard D. Vogel <http://www.monthlyreview.org/0206vogel.htm>





# What are Cross Border Regions?



## **The Federal Government's Policy Research Institute (PRI) Study of Cross-Border Regions states:**

“Only limited attention has been paid to the sub-national dimensions of North American economic integration, and particularly to the emergence of cross-border regions. The impact of these regional phenomena could pose significant challenges to Canada's Sectoral policies (e.g., natural resources, infrastructure, agriculture), intergovernmental relations, regional development policies, and even national identity.”

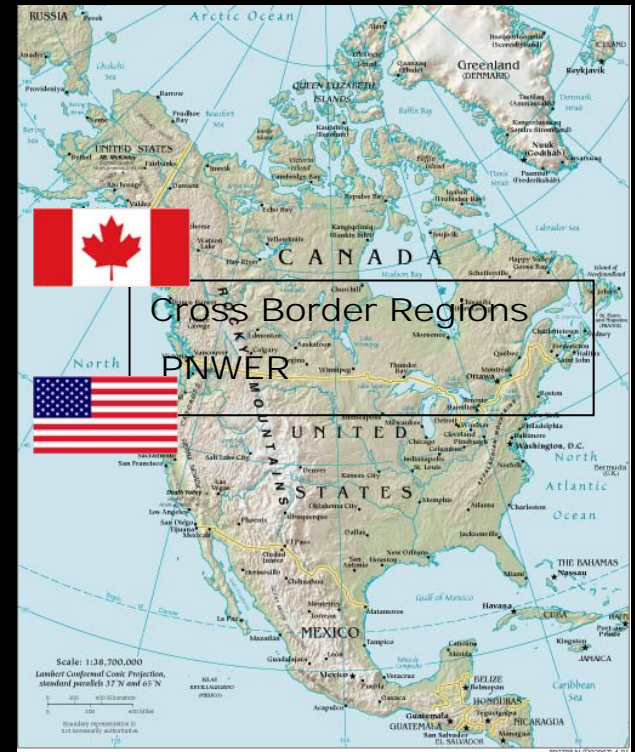
Note that in the SPP critiques ‘water’ is found within natural resource discussions !





# What is the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) ?

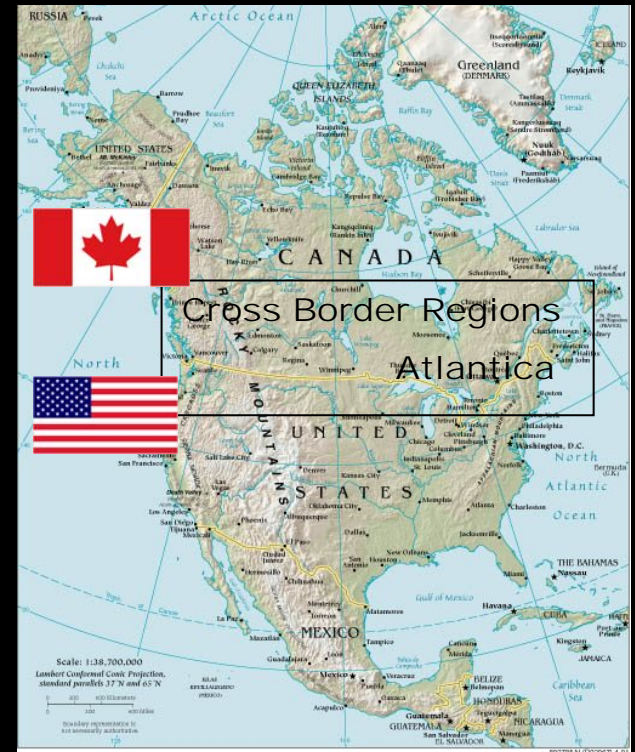
PNWER (the Pacific Northwest Economic Region) is headquartered at the World Trade Center in Seattle. It consists of Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and the Yukon. It is set up to operate as a Public-Private Partnership which signifies heavy corporate involvement. The PNWER Private Sector Council includes the Alaskan Rail Road, ExxonMobil, TransCanada Pipelines, US Bank, Columbia Falls Aluminum, Boeing, and BP.



# What is Atlantica?

Atlantica is another of the cross border regions that have emerged under NAFTA and the SPP. Its formal name is the International Northeastern Economic Region. Other regions that have been identified are:

- Quebec – New York Corridor
- Great Lakes Economy
- Mid –continental Region
- North American Rocky Mountain West



Cross Border Regions Roundtable Ottawa March 6-7 2006 ; The Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance Dated: 8/3/06

<http://www.aims.ca/atlantica.asp?typeID=6&id=1331&fd=0&p=1>

# What is Atlantica?

Atlantica is the name that the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS) and its Director Brian Lee Crowley use to describe the *US/Canada Northeast Economic Region* that straddles the border between Quebec and the Maritimes on the one hand, and northern New England and upstate New York on the other. <sup>1</sup>

Tim Woodcock writes in *Business Voice* magazine: “So, what is the International Northeast? Defined by geography and economic prospect, it is, at least, Atlantic Canada, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Quebec, Ontario and New York. To see these states and provinces listed together may be jarring to some. Yet, the map does not lie: these states and provinces share a geographic region... our shared region.” <sup>2</sup>



<http://www.atlantica.org/>

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1 <http://www.atlantica.org/>

2 <http://www.aims.ca/atlantica.asp?typeID=4&id=979>

# What is Atlantica? Hub for Global Economy!

The proposed super-port in Halifax would be the entry point for gigantic container ships coming from Asia and Europe. Thousands upon thousands of trucks would barrel down NAFTA Super-Corridors and across New England/New York driven by non-unionized Mexican truck drivers. Halifax is strategically located at the intersection of three important global trade routes. Projecting well out into the Atlantic, it provides a competitive route for ships.



— Halifax - strategically located at intersection of 3 trade corridors



# What is Atlantica? Hub for Global Economy!

According to Statistics Canada, “North America increasingly appears to be a single continental market tied together by ribbons of steel and asphalt.” North America is now one market for overseas container trade, with ports in Canada and the U.S. competing with each other for traffic to the interior of North America.

NAFTA Land Transportation Standards Subcommittee

<http://www.railcan.ca/documents/news/125/Eighthplenarysess.pdf>



Super-Corridors



Super Ports



Super Container Ships



# What is Atlantica? A Threat to Sustainability

What would a super port in Halifax unloading giant container ships, with containers distributed by trucks to WalMarts along NAFTA super-corridors mean for

- Efforts to limit extraction and exploitation of oil, gas, quarries, mining, and bulk water export from Atlantic Canada ?
- Global warming and dramatic climate changes given the emissions from thousands of trucks?
- Increased demand for dirty tar sands oil using vast quantities of water and natural gas ?
- Labor with further job loss and importing non-unionized labor?
- Preventing further privatization of the public sector, including highways?
- Building sustainable local economies and local democracy?

**It would be a globalist corporatist's economic dream !**



Super Corridors



Super Ports



Super Container Ships

# How Does Atlantica Threaten Water?

## Newfoundland precedent

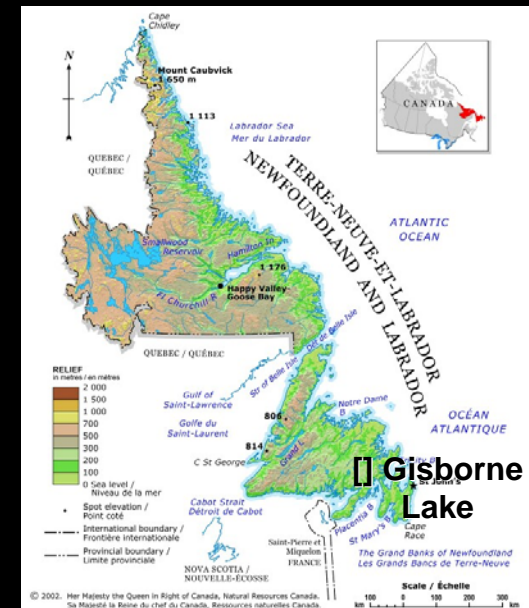
“Atlantic Canadian water has already been under threat in Newfoundland which led to a landmark decision of both federal and provincial governments to attempt to ban the export of bulk water.

“Entrepreneur Gerry White wanted to sell water from Gisborne Lake in Newfoundland. He developed a plan to skim 500,000 cubic metres from Gisborne Lake each week and ship it in bulk to overseas customers.

“Edward Fizzard, the town’s mayor, who backed the plan, imagined a water pipeline from Gisborne Lake to a bottling plant in Grand Le Pierre and work for locals loading tankers to take the water to distant ports.”



Gerry White



# How Does Atlantica Threaten Water? Environmentalists speak out

When environmentalists got wind of this, White's grand plan was scrapped. The environmentalists successfully argued that allowing Gisborne Lake water to be sold in bulk would make Canadian water a "commodity" and thus subject to the terms and conditions of GATT and NAFTA. They said:

"Changing water levels and flows will have unpredictable and harmful consequences to basin habitat, biodiversity, shorelines, jobs and culture, particularly to First Nations."



"Water is an essential need, a public trust, not a commodity. It belongs to everyone and to no one .... if Newfoundland is allowed to export bulk water, it becomes, ipso facto, a "good" under NAFTA, which would allow any other company in Canada to do the same."

**Canadian Environmental  
Law Association**

# How Does Atlantica Threaten Water ?

## Proponents Forge Ahead

- Atlantica proponents scoffed at the bans on exporting Canadian water instituted as a result of opposition to the Lake Gismore proposal. As noted in October 2000 opinion piece in the *Halifax Herald*, they declared: “Water export bans all wet.” 1

A global water strategy consultant at recent Banff Global Business Forum stated that :

“Bulk Water exports will take place from Canada – Manitoba, Newfoundland, Quebec, and British Columbia – in two to five years.” 2

1 Brian Lee Crowley. *Water export bans all wet*. Halifax Chronicle Herald Dated: 25/10/00  
<http://www.aims.ca/regulatoryreform.asp?typeID=4&id=489>

2 Diane Francis. *Time to Tap Canada's Water Riches*. The Financial Post Sept 27, 2006  
<http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/columnists/story.html?id=bb04244-e54d-48f7-bdbc-6d4d03383696>





# The Push to Sell Canada's Water!

Canadians have always seen themselves as stewards of water and hence have always moved to protect their water when it came under threat of bulk export to the US or elsewhere !

Now the rhetoric to sell our water is being raised in mainstream

- media by SPP proponents, journalists, business strategists, investors, etc. seeking profits in this lucrative market as the next nine slides show !!





# The Push to Sell Canada's Water!

“Canadian oil industry players should pay attention to this water controversy (between water export opponents and proponents) . Their expertise in the transportation and storage of liquids, and their expertise in walking a tightrope between free enterprise and environmental consideration combine to make an emerging water commodities market very attractive as a means of business growth and diversification.”

--- Paul Michael Wihbey, Global Water & Energy  
Strategy Team (GWEST), 2004

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Paul Michael Wihbey. 2004. **Canadian Water: Vital Natural Resource and Tradable Commodity in First Energy Capital Corp and GWEST First Commentary & The Global Politics of Energy** , A First Capital Corp & GWEST Collaboration.

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water!

GWEST anticipates that an international water market will emerge in the near future as a consequence of 'bulk' Turkish water sales (in the Middle East). Canada, with an estimated 20% of the world's fresh water supply, will be obligated to develop a coherent water policy and pricing strategy, taking into account the possibility of a water commodity market based on

- **Demand from the US and Asia**
- **The opportunity for have-not provinces to secure new sources of revenue**
- **The definition and role of water within the NAFTA and GATT accords**

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water!

November 24, 2005

*America is thirsty; Let's sell it before they take it*

"They're already looking for ways to take our water. We should tone down the emotion and figure out how to sell it to them."

STEVE MAICH

October 2005

*Water Warning - Get Ready for Floods, Dams and Selling our Water to the US* by Chris Wood.

Chris Wood argues there will be irresistible pressures for large-scale transfers of water within Canada and to the United States

MACLEANS.CA

THE  
WALRUS

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water !

October 2005 – *The Walrus* -- Elizabeth May responds

**“The fact that climate change will result in persistent droughts on our prairies and reduced water levels in the Great Lakes is a good argument against engineering water transfers south of the border. We are fighting for an Annex agreement to the Great Lakes Charter that will prevent diversions, with climate change cited as a reason. Adapting to climate change will certainly mean keeping our water within natural watersheds and basins. All the more reason that we cannot risk diversions or mega-dams, and why we must reduce fossil-fuel emissions.”**

--- Elizabeth May, at the time, Sierra Club of Canada Director, now leader of the Green Party of Canada

*Water Warning - Get Ready for Floods, Dams and Selling Our Water to the US* by Chris Wood.

THE  
WALRUS

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water !

“Bulk water exports will take place from Canada – Manitoba, Newfoundland, Quebec, and British Columbia – in two to five years.”

-- Paul Michael Wihbey , GWEST, Sept 22, 2006, Global Business Forum Banff

Diane Francis. *Time to Tap Canada's water Riches.* The Financial Post Sept 27, 2006

<http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/columnists/story.html?id=dbb04244-e54d-48f7-bdbc-6d4d03383696>





# The Push to Sell Canada's Water !

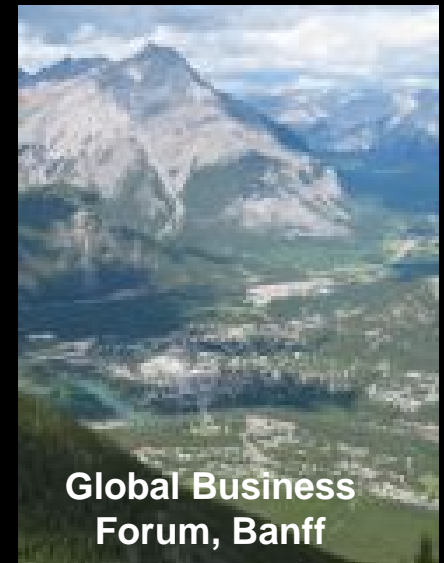
“Hopefully, water won't be a rallying cry for the economically and technologically ignorant left-of-centre parties in Canada or its provinces.

“Fresh water represents another massive opportunity bestowed on the country, which could benefit every Canadian in future. As well, it's a matter of responsible stewardship. The price and terms must be fair.”

--Diane Francis, Sept 27, 2006

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Diane Francis. *Time to Tap Canada's Water Riches*. The Financial Post Sept 27, 2006 <http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/columnists/story.html?id=dbb04244-e54d-48f7-bdbc-6d4d03383696>



Global Business  
Forum, Banff

**Diane Francis  
facilitated the  
'Water Session' at  
the recent Global  
Business Forum,  
Banff, Alberta ,  
Sept 22, 2006**

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water !

"It would cost between \$4-billion and \$9-billion to build a water pipeline to Texas from Manitoba. Annual revenue could be \$7-billion, which is about the current budget of the provincial government and City of Winnipeg government combined."

--Paul Michael Wihbey , GWEST, Sept 22, 2006, Global Business Forum Banff

Diane Francis. *Time to Tap Canada's water Riches.*  
The Financial Post Sept 27, 2006

<http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/columnists/story.html?id=dbb04244-e54d-48f7-bdbc-6d4d03383696>



# The Push to Sell Canada's Water Blue Gold!!!

*Money Week*, which provides analysis of the week's financial news, with practical investment advice says:

“There are countries that have an over-abundance of water – and here there are opportunities for sale to other countries. Canada, for example, has the same amount of water as China, but just 2.3% of its population. Brazil has far less need of its water than many of its neighbours. As the value of water rises, countries like these will start to export their spare reserves to those more in need – and willing to pay. **Pipelines will spring up, connecting states and countries. Tankers will transport water across the sea as often as they do oil. Water will be on the move.** And those who can transfer it will be there to benefit.” - Merrlyn Somerset Webb

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Merrlyn Somerset Webb. *Money Week*. May 12, 2006 *How to profit from the world's water crisis*  
<http://www.moneyweek.com/file/17125/look-to-a-very-liquid-investment.html>



<http://www.moneyweek.com/file/11557/latest-issue.html>

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water ! Blue Gold !!!

Merryn Sommerset Webb of *Money Week*, in August 2006 also says in regard to Canada:

*"Invest in Canada: no risk of a water shortage...."*

".....Fly from Toronto to Vancouver and you look out on lake after lake. Canada is one of the most water-rich countries in the world: when, in 2025, 30% of the world's people face a water shortage, as is forecast by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, none of them will be in Canada...."

"Canada has a lot of most of the things I am bullish on (water, oil and precious metals)"

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Merryn Sommerset Webb. *Money Week*. August 18, 2006

<http://www.moneyweek.com/file/17125/look-to-a-very-liquid-investment.html>



<http://www.moneyweek.com/file/11557/latest-issue.html>

# The Push to Sell Canada's Water Blue Gold !!!

**“The world may be awash in water, but the prospect of a scarcity of useable supplies has already made it a hotter investment than oil.**

**“Canada has one of the world's largest supplies of fresh water. But because control remains in the public domain, there are few ways for Canadians to directly invest in the resource.**

**“Instead, funds such as the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, which this month launched a bid for a British water utility, are looking outside the country's borders....**

**“Water isn't a commodity like oil because water prices tend to be decided locally, rather than on a global market. And unlike oil, water is also not exported en masse to other countries — yet.” ---Tavia Grant, Globe & Mail**



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*Water Heats Up For Investors* Globe & Mail October 12, 2006  
<http://www.theglobeandmail.ca/servlet/story/RTGAM.20061011.wwaters1011/BNStory/Business/home>

[www.lakelouise.worldweb.com/Photos/](http://www.lakelouise.worldweb.com/Photos/)



# The Push to Sell Canada's Water

## Look behind the scenes !!

“ As a new era of Canada-U.S. relations opens up, Canadians would do well to take a closer look at the forces moving behind the scenes to turn on the taps for massive water exports to the United States.”

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Tony Clarke. *Turning on Canada's Tap* . Canadian Dimension  
<http://canadiandimension.com/articles/2006/09/07/646/>

# Resources for learning more and creating resistance to the SPP/ Super-Corridors and Water Privatization



**Don't sell our Water !  
Resist the SPP and NAFTA Super-Corridors**

# Resources to Resist the SPP/Super-Corridors

Stay tuned to these websites to learn more and take action:

◆ Vive le Canada website <http://www.vivelecanada.ca/>



◆ Council of Canadians <http://www.canadians.org/>



◆ Polaris Institute <http://www.polarisinstitute.org/>



◆ Canadian Action Party <http://www.canadianactionparty.ca>



◆ Common Frontiers <http://www.commonfrontiers.ca/>



◆ NDP website <http://www.ndp.ca/>



◆ Stop Atlantica <http://www.stopatlantica.com/>



# Resources to Resist the SPP/Super-Corridors

Also tune in to these websites:

- ◆ Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

[www.policyalternatives.ca](http://www.policyalternatives.ca)



- ◆ Centre for Research on Globalization [www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca)



- ◆ Canadian Labour Congress <http://canadianlabour.ca>

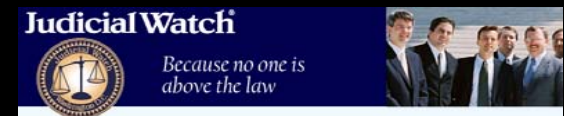


- ◆ Texas Corridor Watch

<http://www.corridorwatch.org/ttc/index.htm>



- ◆ Judicial Watch <http://www.judicialwatch.org/5979.shtml>



In the U.S., conservative websites are also sounding the alarm about threats from the SPP and NAFTA Super-Corridors, e.g.,

- ◆ World Net [www.worldnet](http://www.worldnet)

- ◆ Phyllis Spivey <http://www.newswithviews.com/Spivey/phyllis3.htm>

- ◆ Steven Yates <http://www.newswithviews.com/Yates/steven.htm>



# Resources to Resist Water Privatization and Commodification

Sierra Club of Canada

<http://www.sierraclub.ca/atlantic/water/index.htm>



Council of Canadians <http://www.candians.org>  
( See Blue Planet Project / Water Campaign)



Polaris Institute <http://www.polarisinstitute.org>  
(See Operation Water Rights)



Canadian Catholics for Development and peace  
<http://www.devp.org/testA/current.htm> (See Water Life before Profit)



CELA - Canadian Environmental Law Association  
Water Source Protection Documents  
<http://www.cela.ca/coreprograms/detail.shtml?x=1437>

Canadian Environmental  
Law Association

Coalition Eau Secours quebecoise pour une gestion responsable de l'eau  
[http://www.eausecours.org/entree\\_grand\\_public/1a\\_banniere\\_et\\_express\\_o.htm](http://www.eausecours.org/entree_grand_public/1a_banniere_et_express_o.htm)

Canadian Union of Public Employees  
[http://cupe.ca/media/CUPE\\_water\\_activists](http://cupe.ca/media/CUPE_water_activists)





# Resources to Resist Water Privatization and Commodification

- ◆ Sierra Club [www.Sierraclub.org/CAC/water](http://www.Sierraclub.org/CAC/water)
- ◆ Alliance for Democracy [www.thealliancefordemocracy.org](http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org)
- ◆ Food and Water Watch [www.foodandwaterwatch.org](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org)
- ◆ Mass Global Action [www.massglobalaction.org/home/ocow/](http://www.massglobalaction.org/home/ocow/)
- ◆ Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation [www.savemiwater.org](http://www.savemiwater.org)
- ◆ Defending Water for Life in Maine <http://defendingwaterinmaine.org>
- ◆ Save Our Groundwater (NH) [www.saveourgroundwater.org](http://www.saveourgroundwater.org)
- ◆ McCloud Watershed Council [www.mccloudwatershedcouncil.org](http://www.mccloudwatershedcouncil.org)
- ◆ Concerned Citizens Coalition of Stockton (CA) [www.cccos.org](http://www.cccos.org)
- ◆ Felton Flow [www.feltonflow.org](http://www.feltonflow.org)

*The Alliance for Democracy*



# End Notes

**This power point was researched and created by Janet M Eaton, PhD, independent researcher and educator, and the Sierra Club of Canada's International Liaison to the Corporate Accountability Committee and Water Privatization Task Force.**

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**Ruth Caplan, Chair of the Sierra Club's Corporate Accountability Committee and Water Privatization Task Force, assisted in editing the presentation for the Sierra Club website. Her expertise and invaluable contribution are gratefully acknowledged.**

