

From: John Austin 
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 11:57 AM
To: John Austin
Subject: Michigan Water Failures Threaten Blue Economy

Thank you for your interest and support!

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Dear Friends,

We have all been working together to appreciate and grow our Michigan Blue Economy. Michigan can realize new economic opportunities as the "smart water" business innovators; a global water education and research powerhouse; and leverage our abundant and beautiful waters to make Michigan the most attractive place to live, work and play. As we saw in the michiganblueeconomy.org report, 1 in 5 Michigan jobs are already tied to water.

And water is essential to life. Bad water can literally kill you. And Michigan is blessed with lots of clean water.

That is why I share with you how important it is to confront our water challenges. All the work we have been doing to grow our Blue Economy is at risk in recent water failures dominating the news, which must be made right.

The Flint water crisis underscores the urgency to attend to our aging water infrastructure. Another threat to Pure Michigan and our natural



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The Michigan Economic Center and GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute are very excited to release our interactive report and website.

- [Access the "Michigan's Blue Economy" interactive report](#)
- [Share your Michigan Blue Economy story](#)



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water economic advantage are oil pipelines under and near our precious Great Lakes.

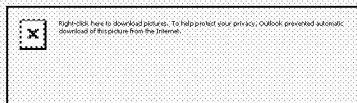
Here is a recent editorial I published in the Detroit Free Press urging us to action to protect our special Blue Economy, and invest to rebuild our communities, and keep our people safe and healthy.

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/15/michigans-mounting-water-failures/73830438/>

Please share with your own social media networks, and send a message to miblueeconomy@gmail.com about the importance of protecting our water, and rebuilding our water infrastructure.

For more about the Blue Economy go to www.MIEconomicCenter.org or [Michigan Economic Center](#) and [GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute on Facebook](#).

Thank you,



John Austin

Director, Michigan Economic Center

President, State Board of Education

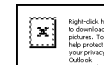
Nonresident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

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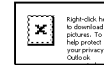
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Our mailing address is:

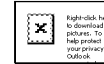
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