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Date: December 8, 2013 2:21:45 PM EST
To: Joel Baird <joelbaird@bfp.burlingtonfreepress.com>
Cc: Jackie and Dave McMakin McMakin <jacdavmac@gmail.com>
Subject: thanks

Hello Mr. Baird,

Thanks for the great article on Lake Champlain in this morning's paper. We have been residents of Vermont for almost four years. Since coming here, we have read many articles on cleaning up Lake Champlain. It seems there is much work, many plans, and many actions taken to clean up the Lake, but things are getting worse.

Last summer we biked around Lake Attersee in the Salzkammergut in Austria. The water in this lake was crystal clear. At the railway station, there was a placard describing how it got that way. Here is a rough translation of that placard.

People told us that in the sixties, Lake Attersee was known as "the piss pool". Now it is known as "the drinking water lake". My attachment gives the story of how it got that way. The back story is that once all the communities formed the Union, they also got funds from their own jurisdictions and also from the E. U. that has a priority to clean up Europe's rivers and lakes.

A while ago, we saw the film on the Clearwater and the part that sloop played with Pete Seeger and others in the campaign to clean up the Hudson.

So what do I take from all this? That the Lake can be cleaned up with these moves:

1. A workable plan whose goal is total permanent clean up, not a percentage of cleanup.
2. Tight organization including every Lake border jurisdiction.
3. Funding from the jurisdictions, regions, and federal government and private donations.
4. A campaign that organizes the above entities and each citizen in an effort to get the job done not in a temporary way, but a permanent solution.

I would like to forward this letter addressed to you and my attachment to the key players who, hopefully, could be inspired by Lake Attersee's efforts and hopefully emulate them. Which key players should I send this to????

Thanks for your great work on thorny issues.

Jackie McMakin