



# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG

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File No. ....

C10 MR

October 5, 2015

VIA EMAIL

Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump  
Attn: Frank Fernandez

Dear Frank Fernandez:

Re: Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump – Resolution in Support

At the Regular Council meeting held on September 14, 2015, the Town of Cobourg Municipal Council considered a request for support from the “Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump” citizens group and passed the following resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Henderson, seconded by Councillor Rowden:

“WHEREAS the Committee of the Whole has considered a Resolution from Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump citizens organization opposing the construction of a nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes basin;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the resolution from the Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump citizens organization in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries and, as recommended, send letters to urge the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to reject (and seek alternatives to) Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury and abandon radioactive nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.”

The correspondence received from “Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump” contained the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR), which is an underground long-term burial facility, at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station site in Kincardine Ontario Canada, and bury and abandon in the DGR all of Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste, some of which remains highly radioactive and toxic for over 100,000 years. The proposed site is approximately one kilometre inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 metres below the lake level;

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation did not consider or evaluate any other actual sites for the location of the proposed DGR;

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Town of Cobourg

**WHEREAS** fresh water is the nation's and Canada's most important resource and should be protected and managed prudently;

**WHEREAS** the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource, containing twenty one percent of the world's, and ninety five percent of North America's fresh water, vital to human and environmental health and economic and agricultural well-being of both Canada and the United States of America;

**WHEREAS** Lake Huron and connecting waters including Lake St. Clair, are a source of drinking water for millions of people downstream in Canada, the United States of America and First Nations;

**WHEREAS** individuals, citizen and environmental groups and municipalities and counties in both Canada and the United States have expressed concern and opposition to the proposed nuclear waste repository;

**WHEREAS** as of September 22, 2015, one hundred seventy (173) resolutions have been passed by communities in the Province of Ontario and States of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio representing over 22 million citizens opposing the proposed nuclear waste repository, with the vast majority of the resolutions opposing any permanent underground nuclear waste repository anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin;

**WHEREAS** under the *2012 Protocol Amending the Agreement Between Canada and the United States of America on Great Lakes Water Quality*, the governments of Canada and the United States acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes;

**WHEREAS** the Governments of Canada and of the United States share a responsibility and an obligation to protect the Great Lakes from contamination from various sources of pollution, including the leakage of nuclear waste from an underground nuclear waste repository;

**WHEREAS** in April 2015 resolutions HR 194 and SR 134 were introduced respectively in the US House of Representatives and US Senate expressing the sense that (1) the Canadian Government should not allow a permanent nuclear waste repository to be built within the Great Lakes Basin; (2) the President and the Secretary of State should take appropriate action to work with the Canadian Government to prevent a permanent nuclear waste repository from being built within the Great Lakes Basin; and (3) the President and the Secretary of State should work together with their Canadian Government counterparts on a safe and responsible solution for the long-term storage of nuclear waste;

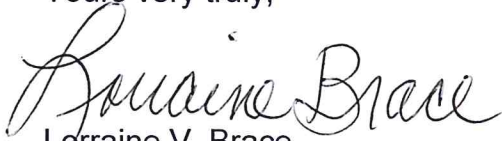
**WHEREAS**, In the mid 1980's, the US Department of Energy was considering potential sites for a US nuclear waste repository, including some sites location in the Great Lakes Basin and as a result of significant Canadian opposition, Joe Clark, then Secretary of State for External Affairs, intervened and the US government honored Canada's request to exclude any sites within 40 kilometers of the Canadian border; and

**WHEREAS** placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised. The potential damage to the Great Lakes from any leak or breach of radioactivity far outweighs any suggested economic benefit that might be derived from burying radioactive nuclear waste at this site. The ecology of the Great Lakes, valuable beyond measure to the health and economic well-being of the entire region, should not be placed at risk by storing radioactive nuclear waste underground so close to the shoreline;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town of Cobourg Council, that:

1. In order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, the Town of Cobourg Council urges that neither this proposed nuclear waste repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station site nor any other underground nuclear waste repository be constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, the United States, or any First Nation property.
2. The Town of Cobourg Council urges the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to reject (and seek alternatives to) Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury and abandon radioactive nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.
3. A copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, Leona Aglukkaq, Canada's Minister of the Environment, Robert Nicholson, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thomas Mulcair, MP and Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada and the Official Opposition, Justin Trudeau, MP and Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, Elizabeth May, MP and Leader of the Green Party of Canada, Patrick Brown, MPP and Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario and the Official Opposition, Andrea Horwath, MPP and Leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario, Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Green Party of Ontario, MPP Lou Rinaldi, Northumberland-Quinte West, and MP Rick Norlock, Northumberland-Quinte West.

Yours very truly,



Lorraine V. Brace,

Municipal Clerk

LVB/lrc

p.c. M.P. Rick Norlock

M.P.P. Lou Rinaldi