



**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

***Opposing the Construction of a Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin***

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR), which is an underground long-term burial facility for Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste at a location less than a mile from Lake Huron and approximately 1,300 feet below the lake level; and

WHEREAS, OPG has reported that the majority of the radioactive waste will decay in 300 years and the remaining waste radioactive in more than 100,000 years; and

WHEREAS, members of the U.S. Congress and multiple local governments including Cook County and DuPage County in the State of Illinois are questioning the siting of this repository; and,

WHEREAS, any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could have a potential impact on Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of northeastern Illinois Counties including Will County; and

WHEREAS, Will County has the duty to protect the public health, safety and welfare of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health & Safety Committee of the Will County Board has reviewed and recommends approval of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Will County Board opposes the construction of any deep geologic nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin, and urges the U.S. Congress to use its authority to review the OPG application and to provide a recommendation on behalf of the United States of America.

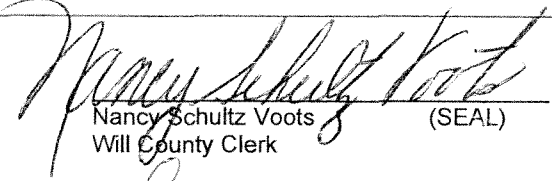
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Will County Clerk shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to the members of the United States Congress representing Will County, Illinois.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Preamble of this Resolution is hereby adopted as if fully set herein. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval as provided by law.

Adopted by the Will County Board this 16th day of April, 2015.

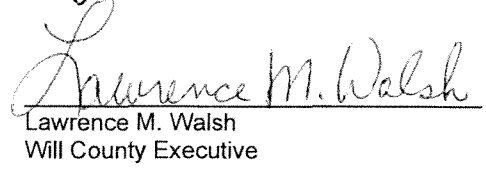
<b>AYES:</b>	Howard, Ogalla, Moustis, Moran, Rice, Harris, Traynere, Bennefield, Fritz, Freitag, Gould, Balich, Brooks Jr., Winfrey, Parker, Babich, Wilhelmi, Hart, Maher, Tuminello, Weigel, Collins, Ferry
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Singer, Fricilone, Staley-Ferry

Result: Approved - [Unanimous]



Nancy Schultz Voots (SEAL)  
Will County Clerk

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.



Lawrence M. Walsh  
Will County Executive

## Responding to Questions that May Arise With Respect to Motion to Oppose OPG's Nuclear Waste Repository

**Q. What is it that OPG is proposing to bury...isn't this just mops and rags that aren't anything to worry about?**

A.

- OPG is proposing to bury low and intermediate radioactive nuclear waste approximately 1 km from the shore of Lake Huron.
- Low level waste is comprised of mops, rags, and paper towels. Low level waste stays dangerous for about 300 years.
- Intermediate level waste is comprised of resins, filters and **irradiated components from within the nuclear reactor itself**. These materials are almost as dangerous as nuclear spent fuel and remain **radioactive, toxic and dangerous for over 100,000 years**.

**Q. What does OPG presently do with low and intermediate waste? Where is it presently stored?**

A.

- All of the low and intermediate radioactive waste from all of Ontario's nuclear reactors (Darlington, Pickering and Bruce) is shipped to the Bruce site, and stored there.
- The low level waste is stored above ground in a warehouse and the intermediate waste is buried just below the surface in concrete and steel shielded vaults.

**Q Isn't it safer to bury it 680 metres below ground vs leaving it at the surface? What about terrorism or earthquakes or other weather events?**

A.

- This nuclear waste has been safely stored above ground for 40 years.
- When it is above ground, it can be monitored for leaks, and any leaks can be dealt with.
- As for terrorism, there is technology that exists today (above ground reinforced hardened concrete casks) that is bomb proof. One solution would be to re-encase this waste above ground, and have it remain there where it can be monitored.
- One of the concerns with burying it right beside the lake is that once they seal up the repository and abandon the site (which OPG is planning to do after 300 years), it won't be monitored....it will be out of sight and out of mind.

- Should the nuclear waste leak into the lake, this would be an immense disaster....and we won't know about it until it is too late.
- OPG is NOT providing any guarantees. This has never been done before and OPG says its "not likely" to leak

Q. Do any deep geologic repositories exist anywhere else in the world? What is their track record?

A.

- A DGR in limestone does not exist anywhere in the world.
- A DGR in limestone is untested and unproven
- There are 2 DGRs in Germany, however they both have experienced serious problems and are now both closed:
  - **ASSE II** DGR in a **salt mine** in Germany was used to house low and intermediate nuclear waste. After 20 years of operation, this DGR starting leaking, despite assurances that this would never happen. 12,000 litres of water per day are leaking into this DGR that was supposed to be completely dry and non-corrosive. The scientists have no idea where the water is coming from, or how to stop it. The groundwater at ASSE II is contaminated. The Asse II **DGR is in danger of collapsing and remains an unmitigated disaster to this day.** See <http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/the-world-from-berlin-the-most-problematic-nuclear-facility-in-europe-a-576027.html> What would have happened if this Asse II DGR had been approved on the shore of the Great Lakes?
  - Morsleben is also a DGR in a salt mine. This too has had problems and is in danger of collapse.
- The US Department of Energy constructed a DGR in New Mexico (USA) called the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP). It is the only operating DGR in existence in the world. WIPP houses nuclear wastes from the US defence program. OPG's evidence to the Joint Review Panel is that WIPP is similar to OPG's proposed DGR Project because it is at depths of several hundreds of metres, founded in sedimentary rocks, and developed for large volumes of low-and intermediate-level radioactive waste. OPG evidence indicates that the basis for long-term safety at WIPP (i.e., repository depth, low permeability natural barriers) is similar to the long-term safety basis for OPG's proposed DGR Project. We note that, despite assurances by the DOE that WIPP would never leak, 15 years into its operation, a radiation leak occurred on February 14, 2014 resulting in 21 workers being contaminated. Although eight months have passed since the leak occurred, the cause of the leak still remains unknown. WIPP is presently closed.

- Links to selected articles about the accident at WIPP See:

<http://www.mintpressnews.com/remember-nuclear-dump-site-never-supposed-leak/180580/>

<http://www.abqjournal.com/387458/news/wipp-workers-face-big-changes.html>

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303801304579409503957776302>

<http://www.abqjournal.com/464099/news/concern-over-another-wipp-drum.html>

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/energy-environment/feds-to-unveil-cleanup-plan-for-nuke-waste-dump/2014/09/30/42a77808-48bc-11e4-a4bf-794ab74e90f0\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/energy-environment/feds-to-unveil-cleanup-plan-for-nuke-waste-dump/2014/09/30/42a77808-48bc-11e4-a4bf-794ab74e90f0_story.html)

[http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local\\_news/emails-raise-questions-about-safety-of-wipp-workers-in-underground/article\\_0cb47b4d-5af1-51bc-8cf3-bcf150b3a65e.html](http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/emails-raise-questions-about-safety-of-wipp-workers-in-underground/article_0cb47b4d-5af1-51bc-8cf3-bcf150b3a65e.html)

**Q. I understand OPG says it is safe and there is no way the radioactivity can get into Lake Huron because the geology at the site provides a perfect barrier?**

A.

- We understand there are many geologists and scientists who do not agree with OPG's analysis, and who are expressing serious concerns.
  - The late Dr. William Fyfe, formerly a professor emeritus at the University of Western Ontario, one of the world's most eminent geo-chemists and an international expert on nuclear waste says "You do not put nuclear waste near things like the Great Lakes or the great rivers in case there's a leakage that you haven't expected." See <http://www2.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/story.html?id=f9ff8432-c3e9-41e2-877a-a9fc43a13aac&p=2>

Information about Dr. Fyfe's distinguished career and achievements can be found at [http://www.uwo.ca/earth/news/2013/william\\_s\\_fyfe\\_1927\\_2013.html](http://www.uwo.ca/earth/news/2013/william_s_fyfe_1927_2013.html)

- Dr. John Sass, a retired geoscientist with over 30 years of experience in earth-science issues related to the storage and containment of high-level nuclear waste had this to say in his submission to the Joint Review Panel. <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/100320E.pdf>

*"I am writing as a resident of the Great Lakes. I maintain homes in Port Huron, Michigan, and Grand Bend, Ontario and as a long retired (1999) earth scientist with considerable knowledge and experience in nuclear waste isolation. In both capacities, I am appalled by OPG's plan to bury low and intermediate level waste in Ordovician limestone 700 metres below the surface within a stone's throw (1 km) of Lake Huron.*

*Over the past few days, I have reviewed OPG's plans for a "Deep Geologic Repository" (DGR). They have obviously put a lot of time and effort into a detailed and meticulous*

*study of the proposed repository. Based on my experience at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, and the planning and supervision of drilling hundreds of test wells and core holes, I am very skeptical of OPG's claims of virtually zero permeability, and consequently, effectively no movement of water in the repository rocks. Laboratory measurements of permeability and downhole hydrologic testing are useful, but they do not define the permeability of rocks on a geologic scale (10s to 100s of metres). On these scales, the mechanical properties of carbonate rocks might allow them to act as fluid conduits under a hydraulic gradient. I expect that on a geological scale, there is ample potential for water movement.*

*I have reached the age where my daily activities do not include scientific studies, and I would be very reluctant to change my routine. I'll simply close with the observation that the Great Lakes constitute the largest reservoir of fresh water on the planet. As such, any activity or project that puts this unique and invaluable resource at risk should not be undertaken. The DGR may well pose a small risk to Lake Huron, but it is not a negligible risk, and other repository models, located well away from the Great Lakes Basin should be considered. ..."*

- The fact of the matter is that no scientist or geologist can guarantee that this DGR will not leak and contaminate the Great Lakes.
- What we do know is that burying nuclear waste in limestone is unprecedented and unproven anywhere in the world.
- This is an experiment.
- Sometimes the unthinkable can happen...this is exactly what has happened at Fukushima in Japan and at WIPP in New Mexico and at ASSE II in Germany.

**Q. They have to do something with the waste. Isn't it more responsible to bury it so future generations won't have to deal with the problem?**

A.

- Yes the waste must be dealt with...but this doesn't mean it must be buried right beside the Great Lakes.
- A major problem with this proposal is that OPG didn't consider any other sites for the location of this DGR.
- Under the Environmental Assessment requirements, OPG was supposed to look at other sites and they did not do so.
- The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and many others organizations, governments and members of the public are opposing OPG's plan. See <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/92802E.PDF>
- OPG might say it is safe. Many don't agree.

- Many are questioning why would we take ANY risk with the Great Lakes, the drinking water for 40 million people in two countries, when we do not need to do so?
- Some argue that the waste should be kept above ground where it can be monitored and that by burying and abandoning this waste deep underground you close your mind to the efforts under way and in the future to develop new technology to use or remediate such waste in the future.
- Even if it is determined that the best course of action to deal with this lethal material is to bury it, it would seem that the more responsible course of action would be to bury it far from people and far from this important drinking water source outside of the Great Lakes Basin.
- Regardless of what should be done with the waste, many agree that burying this nuclear waste beside our Great Lakes is not the answer.

**Q. We understand that OPG has undertaken extensive analysis and consulted experts worldwide. Surely this should give us comfort that this DGR will be safe?**

A.

- Dr. Duinker is a professor with 30 years of experience in environmental assessments and an independent consultant that was hired by the Joint Review Panel hired to review OPG's work .
- He was asked to assess OPG's work using the following criteria: Credibility, Defensibility, Clarity, Completeness, Reliability, Appropriateness
- His written findings are very alarming:
- **"The Environmental Assessment I examined from the perspective of determination of significance of residual adverse effects has significant flaws of approach and method. Against the criteria I was instructed to use, I find that the analysis embodied in the EIS and Consolidated Responses is: not credible, not defensible, unclear, not reliable, inappropriate"**
- **"The Cumulative Effects Assessment I examined has large flaws of approach and method. Against the criteria I was instructed to use, I find that the analysis embodied in the Environmental Impact Statement and Consolidated Responses is: not credible, not defensible, clear enough, reasonably complete, not reliable, inappropriate"** See <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/94202E.pdf>

In his oral testimony to the Joint Review Panel he said *"On both significance, determination and cumulative effects assessment, I think the environmental assessment is sufficiently flawed that the findings cannot be trusted"*. See <http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/94966E.pdf> page 58.

- In addition, Dr. Frank Greening (a retired scientist who previously worked at OPG and in the nuclear industry for over 30 years) has determined that OPG has severely underestimated the level of radioactivity of the nuclear waste to be buried in the Kincardine nuclear waste repository. Listen to radio interview with Dr. Greening at <http://michiganradio.org/post/scientist-sheds-new-light-proposed-nuclear-waste-site-lake->

huron and also see

[http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/02/28/bruce\\_waste\\_site\\_radiation\\_understated\\_says\\_former\\_opg\\_scientist.html](http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/02/28/bruce_waste_site_radiation_understated_says_former_opg_scientist.html)

- These conclusions from experts who are independent of OPG do not inspire confidence in OPG's work and indeed should raise serious doubt in the minds of the public about the soundness of OPG's plan.
- Given that this project has the potential to affect the drinking water of 40 million people, it goes without saying that OPG's environmental assessment work must meet the highest standards possible. Dr. Greening and Dr. Duinker's reviews clearly demonstrate that this has not happened.

**Q. Since the Municipality of Kincardine is prepared to take it, perhaps this is a good idea. After all, the waste is already sitting in Kincardine at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station site.**

A.

- Whatever we do, the focus needs to be on finding the safest place and safest technology possible for dealing with this waste.
- It simply is not sufficient that Kincardine has indicated they are willing to take this waste.
- Many are also concerned that the consent of the local communities has not been freely obtained given that OPG is paying Kincardine and 4 adjacent municipalities \$36 million dollars in exchange for these communities exercising their best efforts to support the construction and operation of the proposed DGR. See [http://www.nwmo.ca/uploads\\_managed/MediaFiles/537\\_HostingAgreement.pdf](http://www.nwmo.ca/uploads_managed/MediaFiles/537_HostingAgreement.pdf)
- **All** communities that rely on the Great Lakes for their drinking water should have been consulted since it is their drinking water that is being placed at risk, yet they have had no say in this matter. The 4,067 people in Kincardine who indicated they were in favour in a questionable telephone poll should not have the power to decide for 40 million.
- OPG needs to carefully consider other sites outside of the Great Lakes Basin.

**Q. The Municipality of Kincardine says they benefited from having the Bruce Nuclear site nearby and now they have to do the responsible thing and take care of this nuclear waste.**

A.

- Kincardine residents may have benefited by having the nuclear power plant located in their community by way of jobs and support to local businesses, however this does not mean it is Kincardine's responsibility to deal with the nuclear waste produced by all of Ontario's nuclear generating stations.



- All Ontarians use electricity produced by nuclear power plants and therefore all Ontarians should share the responsibility to deal with the resulting radioactive nuclear wastes produced. The amount of electricity used in the local community is miniscule in comparison to the electricity used in the Provinces as a whole.
- The Great Lakes are a shared resource between Canada and the US.
- A decision of this magnitude simply cannot be left to a small town such as Kincardine to decide.
- This decision affects 40 million people and all those affected need to be properly consulted. Should 4,067 people who voted yes in a very questionable telephone poll have the POWER to make this decision on behalf of 40 million people?
- This is why politicians in Ontario, and in every Great Lakes State are expressing serious concerns and opposition to OPG's plan. The population of communities that have passed resolutions opposing OPG's plan is now 18.6 million people as at March 12, 2015.

**Q. I read an article that mentioned that Jim Sygo, Deputy Director of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality, studied OPG's plan and he seems to think OPG's plan is ok.**

A.

- Jim Sygo's views are not shared by Michigan members of Congress, the Senate or the State Legislature, and communities, organizations and citizens and other elected officials all around the Great Lakes who are all opposing OPG's plan.
- Jim Sygo is not providing any guarantee that this waste won't leak into to the lake. Although he suggests the risks are "very minuscule", he is not formally endorsing the project.
- Whenever I hear, don't worry, the risk is very small, I think of the disaster unfolding at Fukushima. The Japanese power company, TEPCO, assured the Japanese people that their nuclear plant would be safe.
- They claimed that probability of occurrence of events that caused this catastrophe were miniscule...yet this so called low probability event occurred.
- The fact of the matter is that OPG and the Ontario government are rolling the dice with the drinking water of 40 million people when these risks need not be taken.

**Q. Did OPG consider any other sites for its proposed nuclear waste repository and if not, why not?**

A.

- OPG and the Ontario government did not consider any other sites, even though OPG was required to do so. OPG's comment on acceptability of an alternative site option: "*Unknown*". <http://www.nwmo.ca/uploads/DGR%20PDF/Environmental-Impact-Statement-%28Volume-1%29.pdf>, section 3.4.2 We note with interest that OPG's owner, the Government of Ontario,

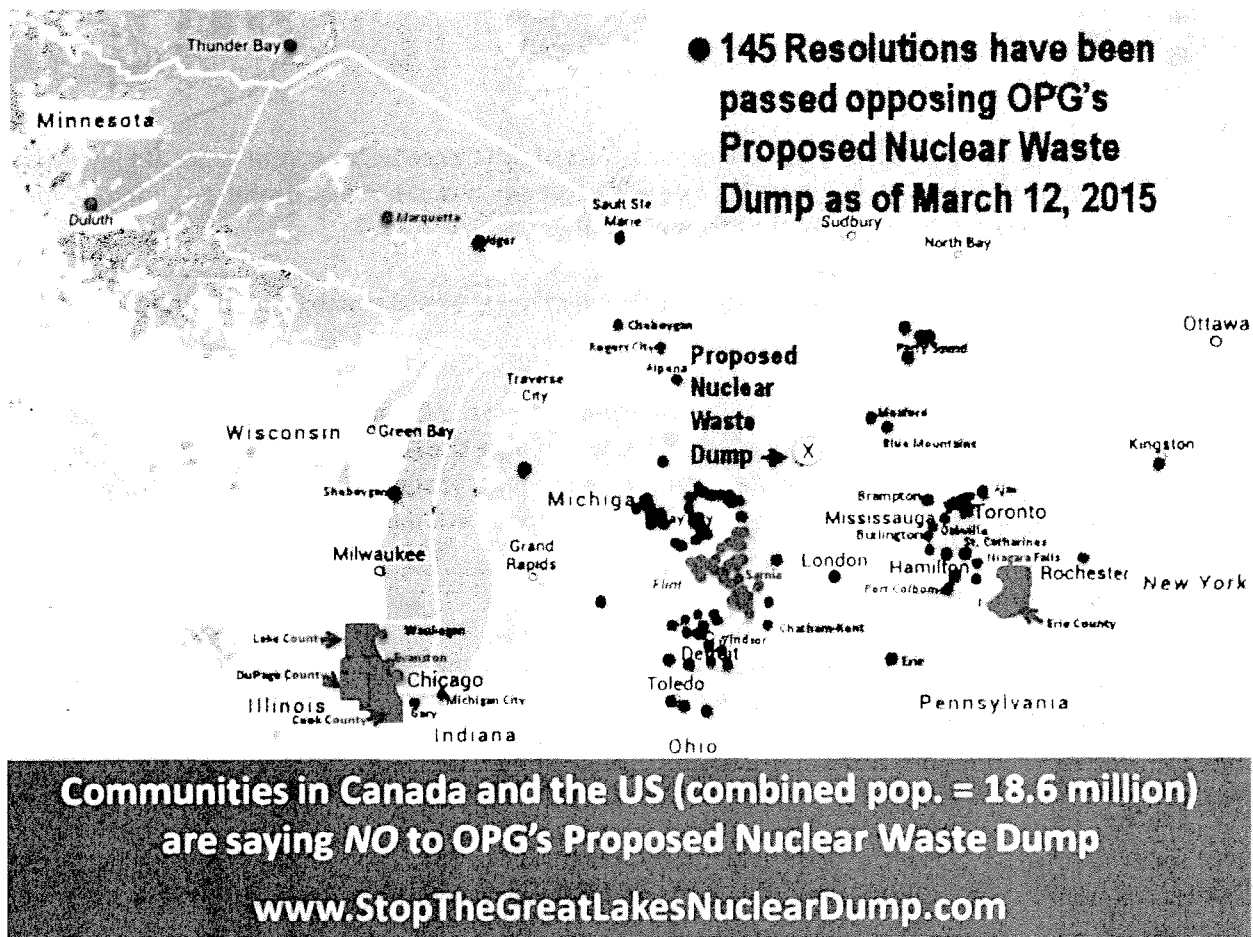
owns and controls 87% of Ontario's land mass, this being crown land, yet no other sites in Ontario were evaluated. In comparison, we note that the siting of a garbage dump in Ontario requires that several sites be identified, and the best site be chosen.

- OPG's justification for not considering any other sites is based on its claim that no community came forward to offer to be a host community and therefore no communities were interested. The fact of the matter is that OPG did not issue a solicitation for communities to express interest in being a site. Therefore OPG will never know if any other communities might have been interested.
- It would seem reasonable to conclude that other communities might have been interested given that 21 communities expressed interest in being considered a host site for a high level nuclear waste repository in response to a solicitation by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. If 21 communities were interested in hosting a high level nuclear waste repository, it seems reasonable to expect that some communities would have expressed interest in being a site for a low and intermediate nuclear waste repository (which is the type of repository being proposed in Kincardine Ontario by OPG), if they had been asked. We believe therefore that there is no merit in OPG's claims that no other communities were interested.
- Many, like the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, an organization of which the City of Milwaukee is a member, feel it is irresponsible to bury this waste right beside an important drinking water source, especially when OPG did not consider any other sites. See <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/92802E.PDF>
- The siting of a garbage dump in Ontario requires consideration of multiple sites, yet OPG did not consider any actual other sites.

**Q. Which communities are formally opposing the proposed nuclear waste dump?**

A.

- As at March 12, 2015, resolutions have been passed by 31 Ontario communities including Toronto, Canada's largest city, Niagara Falls, Mississauga, Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton, London, Windsor, among others. There have been 101 resolutions passed in Michigan, 5 in Illinois, 3 each in Ohio, 2 in Indiana and 1 each in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Pennsylvania. More resolutions are expected in the coming days. The combined population of communities that have passed resolutions is about 18.6 million. The vast majority of resolutions passed oppose any nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin.
- For a current listing and map showing locations of resolutions passed, please see: <http://stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com/resolutions.php>



Q. The Great Lakes are shared by Canada and the US. Are there any laws that come into play?

A.

The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) is a very important agreement that exists between Canada and the United States.

- Canada and the US share a responsibility to protect the Great Lakes under this agreement
- It was recently amended in September 2012
- Article 6 of the GLWQA acknowledges the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the Great Lakes and recognizes that a nuclear waste facility sited close to the Great Lakes shoreline could lead to a pollution incident or could have significant cumulative impact on the waters of the Great Lakes

The 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty (BWT) recognizes the immense importance of the Great Lakes as a shared resource between Canada and the United States.

- Under the BWT, the International Joint Commission (IJC) was established, composed of 3 members from the United States and 3 members from Canada, to act as an impartial watchdog over the boundary waters of the 2 countries.

- Under Article IX of the BWT, questions or matters of difference between the countries involving their rights, obligations, or interests along their common frontier may be referred to the IJC for examination and report, upon the request of either country.
- The IJC has frequently been asked to weigh in on major topics of concern to the Great Lakes region
- On May 20, 2014 Michigan Senator Pavlov introduced in the Michigan Senate (the House of Representatives concurring) a resolution that would urge the President of the United States, the Secretary of State of the United States to invoke the participation of the IJC under Article IX, Article X, or both, of the Boundary Waters Treaty to evaluate the Kincardine nuclear waste repository.

**Q. Does the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement require that the Canadian Government seek American government approval for this nuclear waste dump?**

A.

- Under this Agreement the Waters of the Great Lakes are supposed to be a source of **safe, high-quality drinking water**; and be **free from pollutants** that could be **harmful to human health**
- Both governments are supposed to **notify** each other of **planned activities that could** lead to a pollution incident or have a significant cumulative **impact on the Waters of the Great Lakes....the storage and transfer of nuclear waste** or radioactive materials is a specifically identified activity.
- Clearly providing notification is not enough
- Under this Agreement both governments are required to develop and implement pollution abatement, control, and prevention programs for sources of radioactive materials
- Unfortunately, there is no action happening under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the Canadian and US federal governments need to know that this is a serious concern for Canadians and Americans. We need to send them a message and this resolution is a good start.

**Q. Do you know if this is something that would require US Presidential approval or authorization?**

A.

- This is a Canadian project owned by Ontario Power Generation ( a crown corporation wholly owned by the Government of Ontario) that is proposed to be built in Kincardine, Ontario Canada
- Our understanding is it is subject only to Canadian government approval requirements (i.e. OPG was required to present their case in an Environmental Assessment Hearing before a 3 person Joint Review Panel (JRP). The JRP is responsible for making a recommendation to the Canadian Federal Minister of the Environment, Leona Aglukkaq. Minister Aglukkaq will in turn report back to the Canadian Federal Cabinet, who will render its decision)

- That said, both Canada and US are obligated to protect the integrity of the Waters of the Great Lakes under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement 2012.
- Canada/USA have an obligation to deal with the threat posed by the burial of nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement

**Q. Has the US government ever proposed any nuclear waste repository site that threatened the drinking water of Canadians and how did Canadians react?**

A.

- 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. At the time, there was significant outcry from citizens and environmental groups in Canada that the proposed locations were in shared water watersheds and threatened their drinking water.
- 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.
- In an official statement by Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark he indicates *"I and several of my Cabinet colleagues have made it clear to our US counterparts that this Government opposes any development that could present a transboundary threat to the welfare of Canadians or the integrity of the Canadian environment."* To review Joe Clark's 1986 official statement on the US nuclear waste repository program please see <http://tinyurl.com/lyjosvu>
- Today the roles are reversed; it is now a proposed Canadian nuclear waste repository on the shores of Lake Huron that is posing a threat to Americans and their environment. See letter from US Congressman Dan Kildee [D-MI] to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning this matter. <http://tinyurl.com/kxpbff4>
- See <http://senatorphilpavlov.com/pavlov-to-canada-follow-your-own-standard/> where Michigan State Senator Phil Pavlov [R-MI] , citing Canadian opposition to a similar U.S. plan in the 1980s, asked the Joint Review Panel reviewing OPG's plan to adhere to the standard their own government previously set for nuclear waste storage

**Q. Are U.S. elected officials at the State and Federal level taking action to oppose OPG's proposed DGR?**

A.

- Resolution SR 565 introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senators Levin [D-MI], Kirk [R-IL], Stabenow [D-MI] and Baldwin[D-WI] opposing any nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. See <http://tinyurl.com/m3nhgfg>

- Resolution HR 716 introduced in U.S. House of Representatives by U.S. Representative Kildee[D-MI] opposing any nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. See <http://tinyurl.com/m5uu9ga>
- Bill and Resolutions package (SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150 and SR 151) passed unanimously by the Michigan Senate demonstrating Michigan's bi-partisan opposition to the proposed nuclear waste repository. See <http://tinyurl.com/laj96yg>
- Letter from U.S. Senators Levin [D-MI] and Stabenow[D-MI] urging U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to intervene to stop the Kincardine nuclear waste repository. See <http://tinyurl.com/kdcxo5q>
- Press release and letter to Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs by U.S. Representative Kildee[D-MI]. See <http://tinyurl.com/mggtwvq> and <http://tinyurl.com/l7lmfkg>
- Oral testimony to the Joint Review Panel by Senator Hopgood[D-MI] expressing concern and opposition to OPG's plan. See <http://tinyurl.com/kjjo8l>
- Youtube video by Representative Roberts [D-MI] opposing OPG's plan and encouraging citizens to sign the Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump petition. See [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otMayg\\_4KXg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otMayg_4KXg)

Dear Commissioner Moustis,

I am a member of Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump, a non-profit citizens organization based in Ontario Canada, and we are deeply concerned about an issue that poses a threat to Lake Michigan and indeed the Great Lakes as whole: Ontario Power Generation (OPG), based in Ontario Canada, is proposing to construct a nuclear waste repository to bury and abandon radioactive nuclear waste right beside the Great Lakes, 21% of the world's fresh surface water. The Great Lakes are the source of drinking water for 40 million people in two countries, including **almost 7 million residents living in 11 northeastern Illinois counties, including Will County**. The Great Lakes are a precious shared international treasure. Environmental Assessment Public Hearings recently ended on September 19, 2014 and approval of this project could occur in early 2015.

Today, I am writing to encourage Will County to join other counties, cities, townships, villages and municipalities in the United States and Canada that are taking action to oppose this ill-conceived plan. It may interest you to know that 136 resolutions have already been passed by communities in Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Minnesota and Ontario opposing the proposed nuclear waste repository. Of particular interest are **resolutions already passed by Waukegan, IL Cook County, IL** and Canada's largest city, Toronto. **The combined population of communities that have passed resolutions opposing OPG's plan is 16.3 million people**. For a complete list of resolutions passed thus far see <http://stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com/resolutions.php>

A map showing resolutions passed to date is shown below:

**There are many reasons why Will County should be concerned about OPG's plan, namely:**

- Lake Michigan and Lake Huron are hydrologically connected as one continuous water body and any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could affect Lake Michigan's waters, **the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of 11 northeastern Illinois counties including Will County**.
- Despite the fact that OPG was required under the Environmental Impact Statement guidelines to consider alternative sites, **OPG did not consider or investigate any other sites for this nuclear waste repository**. We note with interest that OPG's owner, the Province of Ontario, owns and controls 87% of Ontario's land mass, this being crown land, and therefore other **actual sites within its ownership and control could and should have been investigated**.
- OPG's public consultation effort focused primarily on Bruce County, Ontario with some very limited outreach in Michigan; **OPG failed to inform or seek input from citizens living in many Great Lakes communities in Canada and the U.S. (including Illinois) or their elected officials**.
- This nuclear waste repository will need to safely house the most lethal waste ever created by humans - radioactive nuclear waste, some of which remains toxic for over 100,000 years.
- No scientist or geologist can provide a 100,000 year guarantee that this nuclear waste repository will not leak and contaminate the Great Lakes. The recent accident and indefinite suspension of operations at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), located in New Mexico, the only operating deep geologic repository operating in the world, which leaked after a mere 15 years of operation, underscores the concern with locating a nuclear waste repository right beside the drinking water of 40 million people. We note that OPG's safety case was based on the design and safety track record of WIPP. See [http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/03/07/us\\_radiation\\_leak\\_raises\\_ontario\\_questions.html](http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/03/07/us_radiation_leak_raises_ontario_questions.html)
- A nuclear waste repository in limestone is unprecedented and unproven anywhere in the world.

### You should know that opposition to OPG's plan is significant and growing daily.

Our organization launched a **petition** that to date has gathered over **71,000 signatures**, including signatories from all 50 US States, every Province and Territory in Canada and 96 countries of the world. Various environmental groups and organizations are actively opposing OPG's plan.

We believe that the residents of Will County deserve to know about this issue and have an opportunity to speak out for the protection of their drinking water.

I am writing in the hope you will agree to spearhead an effort to have the Will County Board of Commissioners formally express its opposition to OPG's plan. If Will County passed a resolution about this issue, this would send a clear message to Canada's Minister of the Environment, Leona Aglukkaq and to Ontario's Premier, Kathleen Wynne that Will County view the Great Lakes as an important shared natural resource that must be protected.

We sincerely hope that you will consider raising this matter with your fellow Commissioners so that they might consider passing a resolution against this proposed nuclear waste repository approximately 1 km from the shore of Lake Huron.

### Some further information which may assist you with your deliberations:

- Submission to the Joint Review Panel by the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI), a group of 112 Great Lakes Mayors representing 16 million people living in the Great Lakes region. Chicago and Waukegan are both members of GLSLCI. GLSLCI's Executive Director, David Ullrich, testified at the public hearings and formally expressed GLSLCI's concerns and opposition to OPG's plan. See <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/92802E.PDF>
- Submission to the Joint Review Panel by Dr. Duinker, an independent expert in environmental assessments engaged by the Joint Review Panel to review OPG's analysis. He states that OPG's analysis is **not credible, not defensible, unclear, not reliable, inappropriate**" See <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/94202E.pdf>
- Written submissions and oral testimony to the Joint Review Panel by Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump. See <http://tinyurl.com/obha8wk> , <http://tinyurl.com/nupwhz9> , <http://tinyurl.com/m49dev7> and <http://tinyurl.com/prcx53z>
- Resolution SR 565 introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senators Levin[D-MI], Kirk[R-IL], Stabenow[D-MI] and Baldwin[D-WI] opposing any nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. See <http://tinyurl.com/m3nhgfg>
- Resolution HR 716 introduced in U.S. House of Representatives by U.S. Representative Kildee[D-MI] opposing any nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. See <http://tinyurl.com/m5uu9ga>
- Bill and Resolutions package (SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150 and SR 151) passed unanimously by the Michigan Senate demonstrating Michigan's bi-partisan opposition to the proposed nuclear waste repository. See <http://tinyurl.com/laj96yg>
- Letter from U.S. Senators Levin[D-MI] and Stabenow[D-MI] urging U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to intervene to stop the Kincardine nuclear waste repository. See <http://tinyurl.com/kdcxo5g>
- Press release and letter to Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs by U.S. Representative Kildee[D-MI]. See <http://tinyurl.com/mggtwvg> and <http://tinyurl.com/l7lmfkg>



- Letter jointly signed by 8 Waterkeeper Alliance organizations urging intervention by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry <http://tinyurl.com/l7lmfkg>
- Oral testimony to the Joint Review Panel by Senator Hoggood[D-MI] expressing concern and opposition to OPG's plan. See <http://tinyurl.com/kjjol8l>
- Youtube video by Representative Roberts[D-MI] opposing OPG's plan and encouraging citizens to sign the Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump petition. See [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otMayg\\_4KXg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otMayg_4KXg)
- Link to extensive media coverage. See <http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com/media.php>
- **A draft resolution that Will County might consider passing along with resolutions already passed by Waukegan and Cook County. I am also forwarding a press release concerning the Cook County resolution. See attached.**

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this matter.

Most sincerely,

Frank Fernandez

To learn more please visit our website: [www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

To sign the online petition: <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html>

*Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Inc. is a non-profit organization comprised of concerned Canadians who believe that the **protection of the Great Lakes from buried radioactive nuclear waste is responsible stewardship**, and is of national and international importance.*

*The Great Lakes were created by an ice age 12,000 years ago.*

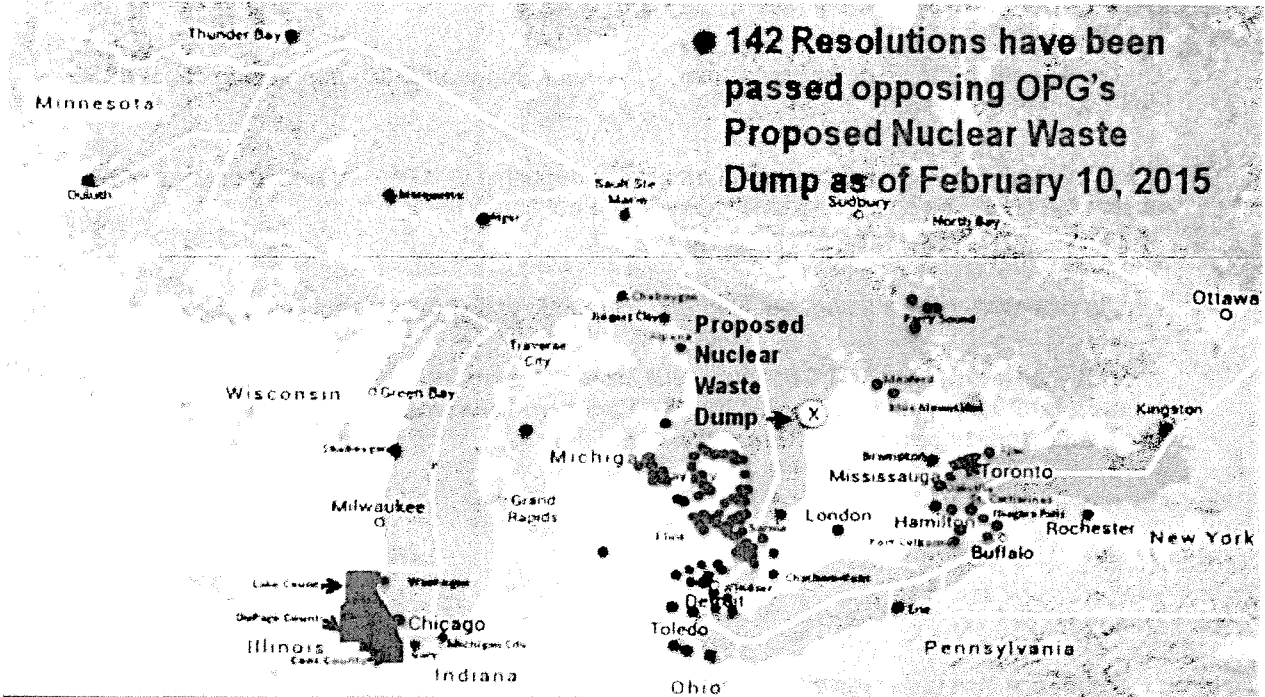
*The Egyptian pyramids were created 4,500 years ago.*

*Some nuclear waste remains radioactive for 100,000 years.*

*The Great Lakes constitute 21% of the world's fresh water.*

*The Great Lakes are the water source supporting 40 million people in 2 countries.*

*An underground nuclear waste dump 1 km from the shore of Lake Huron defies common sense*



**Communities in Canada and the US (combined pop. = 17.9 million) are saying NO to OPG's Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump**  
[www.StopTheGreatLakesNuclearDump.com](http://www.StopTheGreatLakesNuclearDump.com)



# Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

For Immediate Release:  
October 9, 2014

Contact: Beverly Fernandez  
info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com

## Cook County, Illinois Joins Call to Stop Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump beside the Great Lakes

*Cook County unanimously passes resolution to stop the construction of a proposed nuclear waste repository on the shores of Lake Huron*

TORONTO —A growing number of communities, organizations and citizens are opposing Ontario Power Generation's plan to **build an underground nuclear waste dump** (a Deep Geological Repository) **approximately 1km from the shore of Lake Huron**. Public hearings on the matter ended on September 18, 2014 and a Canadian Federal government decision is expected early in 2015.

On October 8, 2014 the Cook County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution opposing the construction of a nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. Cook County, representing 5.2 million citizens including the City of Chicago, joins 135 communities in all Great Lakes States and in Ontario who have passed resolutions formally opposing OPG's plan.

*"Cook County has taken action to protect the drinking water of its citizens and the 40 million people living in the Great Lakes region. We strongly encourage the Province of Ontario to consider siting this nuclear waste repository outside of the Great Lakes Basin" said Commissioner Joan Murphy, an initiator of the resolution and a member of President Obama's National Ocean Council Governance Coordinating Committee with Great Lakes stewardship responsibilities. Commissioner Peter Silvestri, the joint initiator of the resolution commented "We are very proud to support the efforts of Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump in opposing this plan. Protecting the Great Lakes from the risk of radioactive contamination is vitally important to human health, the environment and to the Great Lakes economy."*

*"We are delighted that Cook County is showing leadership and taking action to protect this irreplaceable fresh water resource" said Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson of Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump, a non-profit citizens group that launched a campaign to raise awareness about OPG's plan and a petition that now has over 70,000 signatures opposing OPG's proposal. "It absolutely defies common sense to bury the most toxic waste humans have ever produced, that remains lethal and dangerous for 100,000 years, approximately 1 km from the drinking water of 40 million people in two countries," Fernandez said.*

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump is a non-profit organization comprised of concerned Canadians who believe that the protection of the Great Lakes from buried radioactive nuclear waste is responsible stewardship, and is of national and international importance. In order to protect this precious natural resource – the Great Lakes – our group believes that radioactive nuclear waste should not be buried anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin. We urge citizens to sign our online petition, and to contact their MP and MPP to send a message to the Canadian government to stand up for the protection of the Great Lakes.

To learn more please visit: [www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

To sign the online petition: [www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html)

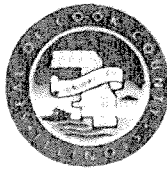
For more information, please contact:

Cook County Commissioner, Joan Patricia Murphy at [joan.murphy@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:joan.murphy@cookcountyil.gov)

Cook County Commissioner, Peter N. Silvestri at [cookcty9@aol.com](mailto:cookcty9@aol.com)

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Spokesperson, Beverly Fernandez  
[info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](mailto:info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

###



**A Resolution  
of the  
Board of Commissioners Cook County, Illinois**

**Sponsored by**

**THE HONORABLE JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY and PETER N. SILVESTRI, County Commissioners, and  
TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners**

**Co-Sponsored by**

**THE HONORABLE JERRY BUTLER, EARLEAN COLLINS, JOHN P. DALEY, JOHN A. FRITCEHY,  
BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, ELIZABETH "LIZ" DOODY GORMAN, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY  
MOORE, EDWIN REYES, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT B. STEELE, LARRY  
SUFFREDIN AND JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY  
IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN**

**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; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource, containing twenty one percent of the worlds, 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; and

**WHEREAS**, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron are hydrologically connected as one continuous water body and any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could affect Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of 11 northeastern Illinois counties (Boone, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will); and

**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; and

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, as of September 22, 2014, one hundred thirty three (133) resolutions have been passed by communities in the States of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana and in the Province of Ontario representing 11 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; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Senate has expressed serious concern for the failure of the siting process in Ontario to proposed OPG DGR to fully account for all potential impacts of the proposed facility by passing a legislative package urging intervention by the Great Lakes Commission, the International Joint Commission and a special legislatively created advisory board. SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150 and SR 151 all have been passed unanimously by the Michigan Senate; and

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; and

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; and

WHEREAS, in September 2014 resolutions HR 716 and SR 565 have been 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; 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, that in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County 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; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County 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; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of U.S. Congress representing Cook County, the Governor of the State of Illinois, the Attorney General of the State of Illinois, members of the Illinois House and Senate representing Cook County, northeastern Illinois county boards of Boone, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will, all Members of Ontario's Provincial Parliament and all Members of Canada's Parliament, and to the Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste Case Reference Number 17520, c/o Panel Co-Manager, Ms. Debra Myles.

Approved and adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

  
 JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY  
 Commissioner, 6<sup>th</sup> District

  
 PETER N. SILVESTRI  
 Commissioner, 9<sup>TH</sup> District

  
 TONI PRECKWINKLE, President  
 Cook County Board of Commissioners



## Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

For Immediate Release:  
February 10, 2015

Contact: Beverly Fernandez  
info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com

### DuPage County, Illinois Joins Call to Stop Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump beside the Great Lakes

TORONTO — DuPage County, Illinois representing over 900,000 citizens, joins a growing chorus of Illinois communities including Cook and Lake Counties and the cities of Chicago and Waukegan, in calling for a halt to Ontario Power Generation's plan to build an **underground nuclear waste dump** (a Deep Geological Repository or DGR) **less than 1 mile from the shore of Lake Huron**. With the unanimous passage today of EN-R-0031-15 (see attached) the population of communities in the U.S. and Canada opposing OPG's proposed nuclear waste repository has reached 17.9 million.

The DuPage resolution notes that any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could have a potential impact on Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of northeastern Illinois Counties, including DuPage. It further notes that DuPage County has a duty to protect its residents and businesses and their access to potable drinking water. EN-R-0031-15 urges intervention by the U.S. Congress.

*"DuPage County provides Lake Michigan water to our unincorporated residents. Ontario Power Generation can't guarantee the protection of Great Lakes water from radioactive contamination by this proposed site. We're asking OPG to be a good neighbor and look for another site" said Tony Michelassi, Commissioner District 5 and Environmental Committee Chair. Pete DiCianni, Commissioner District 2, former Environmental Committee Chair and proposer and champion of the County resolution noted "I am pleased to see that the DuPage County Board took leadership on this issue. Protecting the earth's largest fresh water supply is vital to the health and well being of the residents of our State and our County. Nuclear waste needs to be dealt with in a manner far away from people and in a manner that is far from any fresh water supply that can threaten the residents of DuPage County."*

With a Canadian federal Joint Review Panel report due in May 2015 to be followed by a Canadian federal government decision sometime in 2015, the growing opposition in Illinois is welcomed by Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson for Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump. *"We commend Commissioners Michelassi and DiCianni and the entire DuPage County Board for taking action to protect this irreplaceable fresh water resource" said Fernandez, whose Canadian non-profit organization launched a campaign to raise awareness and encourage communities to take action by passing resolutions opposing OPG's plan. Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump also launched a petition that is approaching 73,000 signatures opposing OPG's proposal. "It absolutely defies common sense to bury the most toxic waste humans have ever produced, that remains lethal and dangerous for 100,000 years, less than 1 mile from the drinking water of 40 million Americans and Canadians" Fernandez said.*

Cont'd

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump is a non-profit organization endorsed by thousands of people who believe that the protection of the Great Lakes from buried radioactive nuclear waste is responsible stewardship, and is of national and international importance. In order to protect this precious natural resource – the Great Lakes – our group believes that radioactive nuclear waste should not be buried anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin.

To learn more please visit: [www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

To sign the online petition: [www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html)

For more information, please contact:

DuPage County:

Anthony Michelassi, Chairman, Environmental Committee

Tel: (630) 788-8338

Email: [anthony.michelassi@dupageco.org](mailto:anthony.michelassi@dupageco.org)

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Spokesperson, Beverly Fernandez

[info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](mailto:info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

Attachment

###



Resolution

EN-R-0031-15

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR WASTE  
REPOSITORY IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2006 the DuPage County Board adopted an Environmental Policy for DuPage County ("Policy"); and,

WHEREAS, the Policy finds that the County will continue to make best efforts to manage runoff, preserve natural areas, floodplains and wetlands and improve the quality of the water not only within the County borders but the water that runs downstream to other communities; and,

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR), which is an underground long-term burial facility for Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste at a location less than a mile from Lake Huron and approximately 1,300 feet below the lake level; and

WHEREAS, OPG has reported that the majority of the radioactive waste will decay in 300 years and the remaining waste radioactive in more than 100,000 years; and

WHEREAS, members of the U.S. Congress, the Michigan Legislature and multiple local governments including Cook County and the City of Waukegan in Illinois are questioning the siting of this repository; and,

WHEREAS, any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could have a potential impact on Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of northeastern Illinois Counties including DuPage; and

WHEREAS, DuPage County has a duty to protect its residents and businesses and their access to potable drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Committee of DuPage County has reviewed and recommends approval of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DuPage County Board opposes the construction of any deep geologic nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. and urges the U.S. Congress to use its authority to review the OPG application and to provide a recommendation on behalf of the United States of America; and

Resolution

EN-R-0031-15

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the members of U.S. Congress representing DuPage County.

Enacted and approved this 10th day of February, 2015 at Wheaton, Illinois.



DANIEL J. CRONIN, CHAIRMAN  
DU PAGE COUNTY BOARD

Attest:



PAUL HINDS, COUNTY CLERK

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karyn Romano, Vice Chair
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Kevin Wiley, District 6
<b>AYES:</b>	Michelassi, Krajewski, Noonan, Wiley, Romano
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Sam Tornatore

Ayes: 18



## Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

For Immediate Release:  
February 11, 2015

Contact: Beverly Fernandez  
info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com

### Lake County, Illinois Joins Call to Stop Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump beside the Great Lakes

TORONTO — Lake County, Illinois representing over 700,000 citizens, and the third largest county in Illinois joins Cook and DuPage Counties, the cities of Chicago and Waukegan and other communities in the U.S. and Canada totaling 17.9 million people, calling for a halt to Ontario Power Generation's plan to build an **underground nuclear waste dump** (a Deep Geological Repository or DGR) **less than 1 mile from the shore of Lake Huron**. Yesterday the Lake County Board of Commissioners passed Resolution 15-0095 opposing the construction of OPG's proposed nuclear waste repository or any nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin (see attached).

Noting that fresh water is the nation's most important resource and should be protected and managed prudently, the Lake County resolution notes that Ontario Power Generation did not consider or evaluate any other actual sites for the location of the proposed DGR. Resolution 15-0095 echoes concerns by Cook County that any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could have a potential impact on Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of northeastern Illinois Counties.

*"All elected officials in the Great Lakes watershed need to stand up and speak out for the protection of our most important resource" said Steven Mandel, Lake County Board member and sponsor of the resolution. "This resolution is an important step in standing with local governments throughout the Great Lakes region to oppose the storage of nuclear waste near the largest source of drinking water in North America," said Lake County Board Chairman Aaron Lawlor. "As one of two Illinois counties that border Lake Michigan, we stand ready to do whatever it takes to support a permanent storage facility for nuclear waste that is safe, permanent and far away from the Great Lakes region."*

With a Canadian federal Joint Review Panel report due in May 2015 to be followed by a Canadian federal government decision sometime in 2015, the growing opposition in Illinois is timely and welcomed by Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson for Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump. *"We commend County Board member Steven Mandel and the Lake County Board for recognizing the importance of this issue and for calling upon all elected officials in Great Lakes watershed to stand up for the protection of this irreplaceable fresh water resource"* said Fernandez, whose Canadian non-profit organization launched a campaign to raise awareness and encourage communities to take action by passing resolutions opposing OPG's plan. Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump also launched a petition that is approaching 73,000 signatures opposing OPG's proposal. *"It absolutely defies common sense to bury the most toxic waste humans have ever produced, that remains lethal and dangerous for 100,000 years, approximately 1 km from the drinking water of 40 million Americans and Canadians"* Fernandez said.

Cont'd

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump is a non-profit organization endorsed by thousands of people who believe that the protection of the Great Lakes from buried radioactive nuclear waste is responsible stewardship, and is of national and international importance. In order to protect this precious natural resource – the Great Lakes – our group believes that radioactive nuclear waste should not be buried anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin.

To learn more please visit: [www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

To sign the online petition: [www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html)

For more information, please contact:

Steven Mandel, Lake County Board Member

Office Phone: 847.456.6933

Email: [SMandel@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:SMandel@lakecountyil.gov)

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Spokesperson, Beverly Fernandez

[info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](mailto:info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

Attachment

###



**RESOLUTION OPPOSITNG THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF A NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY IN  
THE GREAT LAKES BASIN**

**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 kilometer inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 meters below the lake level; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource, containing twenty one percent of the worlds, 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; and

**WHEREAS**, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron are hydrologically connected as one continuous water body and any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could affect Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of 11 northeastern Illinois counties (Boone, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will); and

**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 (Aboriginal people in Canada); and

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, Lake County, Illinois of the United States of America has approximately 703,000 residents whom a large majority are sustained by the fresh water of the Great Lakes; and

**WHEREAS**, as of October 9, 2014, 136 resolutions have been passed by communities in the States of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana and in the Province of Ontario representing 16 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Senate has expressed serious concern for the failure of the siting process in Ontario for the proposed OPG DGR to fully account for all potential impacts of the proposed facility by passing a legislative package urging intervention by the Great Lakes Commission, the International Joint Commission and a special legislatively created advisory board. SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150 and SR 151 all have been passed unanimously by the Michigan Senate; and

**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; and

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2014 resolutions HR 716 and SR 565 have been 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; 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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Lake County Board of Lake County, that:

1. In order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, the Lake County Board of Lake County 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 Lake County Board of Lake County 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 Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of U.S. Congress representing Lake County, the Governor of the State of Illinois, the Attorney General of the State of Illinois, members of the Illinois House and Senate representing Lake County, all Members of Ontario's Provincial Parliament and all Members of Canada's Parliament, and to the Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste Case Reference Number 17520, c/o Panel Co-Manager, Ms. Debra Myles.

**DATED** at Waukegan, Illinois, on February 10, 2015.



*Aaron Lawlor*  
 Aaron Lawlor, Chairman  
 Lake County Board, District 18

14-R-10

## Resolution Opposing the Construction of the Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation is proposing to construct an underground long-term burial facility for all of Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, some of which is highly radioactive and will remain toxic for over 100,000 years. This site is approximately one kilometre inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 metres below the lake level;

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

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource, containing 21% of the world's, and 95% of North America's, fresh water vital to human and environmental health;

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are vital to the economic and agricultural well-being to both Canada and the United States of America;

WHEREAS Lake Huron and the 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 concern has been expressed by individuals, citizen and environmental groups and municipalities and counties in both Canada and the United States;

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 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, that the city of Waukegan, Illinois, in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, urges that neither this proposed nuclear waste repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station nor any other underground nuclear waste repository be constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, the United States, or any First Nation property.

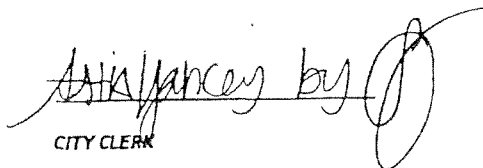
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the city of Waukegan, Illinois urges the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to reject (and seek alternatives to) Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury radioactive nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.

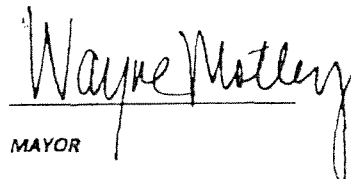
BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq as well as Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste Case Reference Number 17520, Panel Co-Manager, Ms. Debra Myles, all Members of Ontario's Provincial Parliament and all Members of Canada's Parliament.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable embossed copy of this Resolution signed by the Mayor and City Clerk be presented

DATED THIS 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2014

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK

  
MAYOR





To learn more please visit: [www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

To sign the online petition: [www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html)

For more information, please contact:

Mayor's Press Office  
312.744.3334  
[press@cityofchicago.org](mailto:press@cityofchicago.org)

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Spokesperson, Beverly Fernandez  
[info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](mailto:info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

Attachment

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**SUBSTITUTE  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), a corporation wholly owned by the Province of Ontario, is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR) and bury and abandon in the DGR all of Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste, some of which will remain highly radioactive and toxic for over 100,000 years. The proposed site is located at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, less than one mile from the eastern shore of Lake Huron; and

**WHEREAS**, OPG did not consider or evaluate any other actual sites for the location of the proposed DGR; and

**WHEREAS**, The creation of a permanent nuclear waste storage facility so close to one of the Great Lakes is a matter of vital concern to the region's states and provinces. Millions of United States and Canadian citizens rely on the lakes as a source of drinking water, tourism, recreation, and as a key industrial asset; and

**WHEREAS**, A leak of radioactive waste would almost certainly have a cataclysmic effect on the delicate ecological balance of the world's largest group of interconnected freshwater bodies of water; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mayor and City Council of the City of Chicago have a deep obligation to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Chicagoans by working diligently to preserve our precious natural resources; and

**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 and 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; and

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

**WHEREAS**, In September 2014, resolutions HR 716 and SR 565 were introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. 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; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That, to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, we, the Mayor and Members of the Chicago City Council, urge 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, in the United States, or in any First Nation property.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That we 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.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Premier of Ontario, the Prime Minister of Canada, Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Illinois congressional delegation, the governors or premiers and the legislative majority leaders, in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ontario, and Quebec, the Board of Directors of the Great Lakes Commission, all Members of Ontario's Provincial Parliament and all Members of Canada's Parliament, and to the Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste Case Reference Number 17520, c/o Panel Co-Manager, Ms. Debra Myles.