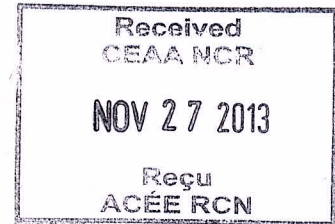




November 19, 2013

Debra Myles, Co-Manager Joint Review Panel  
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3  
Canada  
Email: [DGR.Review@ceaa-acee.gc.ca](mailto:DGR.Review@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)



**RE: Deep Geologic Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste**

Dear Ms. Myles,

The City of Rochester, located on the south shore of Lake Ontario in New York State, has a clear interest in the health of the Great Lakes. We have actively participated for many years in bi-national collaborations to restore, preserve, and protect the fresh water in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region, and yet our community received no formal outreach regarding the proposed site for radioactive nuclear waste. We have only recently become aware of this issue, and as such, we ask that you consider our comments at this time even though your established public comment period has expired.

Ontario Power Generation has proposed the construction of a permanent nuclear waste repository, the first of its kind in North America, within one mile of Lake Huron. This is an important decision, and given our hydrological connection to the Lakes, the proximity of the waste to the water, and based on our own research, **we cannot support the plan**. The potential risks far outweigh any benefits.

Storing nuclear waste in limestone, a water-soluble rock, is by itself a major concern. There is no previous experience with limestone, and therefore no evidence that it is capable of providing stable, permanent, and safe containment. To couple that with siting the storage within one mile of a water supply system that provides drinking water to millions of people within the Basin exacerbates our concern.

We strongly urge further study and consideration of alternate rock formations and sites.

We very much appreciate your consideration of our comments and would be happy to provide any additional information you might need. We look forward to the Panel's report on this crucial decision.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Thomas S. Richards  
Mayor

cc: Sen. Charles Schumer  
Sen. Kristin Gillibrand  
Rep. Louise Slaughter  
Governor Andrew Cuomo

