

September 12, 2013

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq  
Minister of the Environment  
House of Commons  
458 Confederation Building  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

**Re: Ontario Power Generation's Plans to Build a Nuclear Waste Repository beside the Great Lakes**

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on September 11, 2013 endorsed the following resolution:

**5.5 Correspondence from Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson for Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump, respecting Ontario Power Generation's Plans to Build a Nuclear Waste Repository beside the Great Lakes**

Recommendation: That the Resolution Opposing the Construction of the Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin be supported and copies be forwarded to the Hamilton Conservation Authority, Conservation Halton, the Grand River Conservation Authority, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

Yours truly,

R. Bratina  
Mayor

Attachment

File C13-016  
(5.5)

c.c. Hamilton Conservation Authority  
Conservation Halton  
Grand River Conservation Authority  
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

# 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,**

- (a) That the City of Hamilton, 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.

- (b) That the City of Hamilton 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.
- (c) That copies of this resolution be provided to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq.