

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4569

**OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY
IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN AT THE BRUCE NUCLEAR GENERATING
STATION IN ONTARIO, CANADA**

FILED

APR 07 2014

GALE A. NEULIEB
CITY CLERK
MICHIGAN CITY

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct an underground long-term burial facility at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station for all of Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste, some of which is highly radioactive and will remain toxic for over 100,000 years; and

WHEREAS, this site is only about one kilometer inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 meters below the lake level; and

WHEREAS, water is the earth's most important resource and should be protected and managed prudently; and

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

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Basin is home to 25 million people in the United States and 8.5 million in Canada; and

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

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes sustain both \$100 million commercial and \$350 million fishing industries; and

WHEREAS, Lakes Michigan and Huron are interconnected and considered a single lake from a hydrology perspective, and any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could also affect Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for the residents of Michigan City; and

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

WHEREAS, great concern regarding this project has been expressed by individuals, citizen and environmental groups, and municipalities and counties in both the United States and Canada; 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 the United States and Canada acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing, and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, OPG was required under the applicable Environmental Impact Statement guidelines to consider alternative sites, but it did not consider or investigate any other sites for this nuclear waste repository; and

WHEREAS, the Governments of the United States and Canada 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 such a facility may set a precedent for possible future expansion of Deep Geological Repositories (DGR) for high level nuclear waste, without full engagement and consultation with Great Lakes Basin municipalities; and

WHEREAS, placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility in limestone, so close to the Great Lakes, is ill-advised and 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 the proposed site; and

WHEREAS, 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 of Lake Huron.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, United States of America that the City of Michigan City, in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, urges that neither this proposed nuclear waste repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station at Kincardine, Ontario, nor any other underground nuclear waste repository be constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in the United States, in Canada, or on any First Nations property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Michigan City 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.

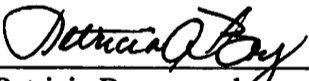
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk shall provide copies of this resolution to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, and Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment, Leona Aglukkaq, at the addresses listed below.

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

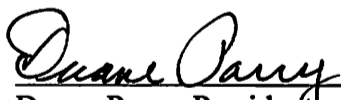
The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

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


This Resolution shall be in full force and effect after passage by the Michigan City Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

Introduced by: 
Patricia Boy, member
Michigan City Common Council

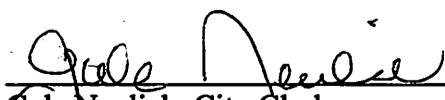
Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana by a vote of 8-0 this 15th day of April, 2014.


Duane Parry, President
Michigan City Common Council

Approved by me, this 15th day of April, 2014.


Ron Meer, Mayor
City of Michigan City, Indiana

ATTEST:


Gale Neulieb, City Clerk
City of Michigan City, Indiana