



## NEWS RELEASE

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**CONTACT:** Brian Namey, [bnamey@naco.org](mailto:bnamey@naco.org), 202.942.4220

### **NACo concerned about nuclear waste near Great Lakes**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The National Association of Counties ([NACo](http://www.naco.org)) is encouraging President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry to oppose Ontario Power Generation’s (OPG) proposal to build a nuclear waste repository on the shore of Lake Huron in the Great Lakes Basin, calling it an unsuitable site.

The group passed a [resolution](#) (page 62) requesting the executive-level opposition at its Annual Conference last month.

NACo Board Member and Cook County, Ill. Board President Toni Preckwinkle said, “I am very pleased that NACo has adopted a policy position that calls for action by our federal officials to prevent OPG’s planned nuclear waste repository from being built in the Great Lakes Basin. Many counties oppose this proposal, and that opposition has elevated the issue to our national association. NACo is an important voice in protecting this vital natural resource.”

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy, who sponsored the NACo resolution, added, “The availability of an adequate supply of clean water is vital to our nation; citizens, businesses, environmental organizations and all levels of government must do everything possible to protect it. We intend to continue our opposition to OPG’s plan and will urge the President and Secretary of State to press the Canadian Government to find another location for this toxic radioactive waste far away from our Great Lakes.”

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*The [National Association of Counties](http://www.naco.org) (NACo) unites America’s 3,069 county governments. Founded in 1935, NACo brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public’s understanding of county government and exercise exemplary leadership in public service. More information at: [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).*



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

**Issue:** The Canadian government is currently reviewing (and has until December 2, 2015 to authorize construction of) the Ontario Power Generation's proposal to build a permanent geologic repository to bury and abandon 7 million cubic feet of low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste less than half a mile from the shore of Lake Huron in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada.

**Adopted Policy:** NACo encourages the president and the Secretary of State to oppose Ontario Power Generation's proposal to build a nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin, which is not a suitable site.

**Approved | July 13, 2015**