

*The Town of*  
***NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN***  
*and the ISLANDS*

Municipal Office  
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**June 15, 2015**

**Please note the following resolution was passed by the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands at its most recent Council meeting:**

**Resolution No. 137-06-15**

Moved by: M. Erskine

Seconded by: D. Orr

**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;

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

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

**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;

**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;

**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;

**WHEREAS** as of May 4, 2015, one hundred fifty four (154) resolutions have been passed by communities in the Province of Ontario, the States of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana representing 21 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;

**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;

**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** in April 2015 resolutions HR 194 and SR134 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;

**WHEREAS** placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised. The potential damage to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River System 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 and St. Lawrence River System, 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 the Great Lakes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands, that:

1. In order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, the Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands 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 Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands 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, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq, Ontario Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Glenn Murray, Member of Parliament, Carol Hughes and Ontario Member of Provincial Parliament, Michael Mantha.

Carried