



COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CLERK'S DIVISION

March 12, 2014

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Resolution Opposing the Construction of the Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin

Please be advised that, at its meeting of March 10, 2014, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

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 kilometer 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 worlds, 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;

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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, that The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne, 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne 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 IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq, Malcolm Allen, MP, Cindy Forster, MPP, all municipalities of Ontario through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, the Region of Niagara, and Local Area Municipalities for support.

Your favourable consideration of the above resolution is requested.

Sincerely,



Ashley Grigg
City Clerk

cc. The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Federal Minister of the Environment
Malcolm Allen, MP Welland Riding
Cindy Forster, MPP Welland Riding
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Regional Municipality of Niagara
Local Area Municipalities
Frank Fernandez, Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump (fjf@stopthenucleardump.com)
Port Colborne Environmental Advisory Committee, c/o Janice Peyton, Staff Representative