

# STOP THE GREAT LAKES NUCLEAR DUMP

*Canadian citizens oppose Ontario Power Generation's plan to bury radioactive nuclear waste approximately 400 metres from Lake Huron*

TORONTO, ONTARIO January 7, 2013—A group of concerned citizens has launched an online petition and a digital Billboard on the Gardiner Expressway in Canada's largest city to sound the alarm about Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) site selection process and plan to construct an underground nuclear waste dump on the shore of Lake Huron, in the municipality of Kincardine, Ontario.

A growing number of citizens are opposed to OPG's plan to **build an underground nuclear waste dump** (a Deep Geological Repository) **approximately 1km from shore and extending underground to approximately 400 metres from the lake**. Some of the nuclear waste remains toxic and radioactive for over 100,000 years. Federal government approval is anticipated within 9 months.

*"This dump puts at risk the fresh water of the Great Lakes, 21% of the world's surface fresh water relied upon by 40 million people in two countries,"* said Beverly Fernandez, member of Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Inc., one of several groups that have formed to raise awareness about OPG's proposal. *"We are bringing this issue to the public's attention because we believe that Canadians and Americans deserve the opportunity to learn more and voice their opinion on an issue that will affect generations to come."*

To date, **OPG has paid out \$10.5 million** to the municipality of Kincardine and four adjacent municipalities in an effort to secure local support **before approval to construct the dump has even been received**. If OPG can secure federal government approval for its plan, they will pay the five municipalities in excess of \$35.7 million over a 30 year period. The catch: the municipalities must not waiver from consistently "exercising best efforts to support the construction and operation" of the dump.

University professors, physicians and individuals intimately familiar with government processes are speaking out.

Former Deputy Minister, Environment (Ontario), Rod McLeod: *"I think the OPG proposal is very unwise."*

William Fyfe, retired professor emeritus in Geochemistry at the University of Western Ontario, and international consultant on nuclear waste: *"You do not put nuclear waste near things like the Great Lakes or the great rivers in case there's a leakage that you haven't expected"*.

East Lansing Michigan family physician, Suzanne Sorkin: *"I worry about the safety of the Great Lakes water supply for my current and future patients. A leak from these dangerous wastes could contaminate Great Lakes drinking water and fisheries far into the future."*

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Inc. is a non-profit organization comprised of ordinary Canadians who believe that the protection of the Great Lakes from buried radioactive nuclear waste is responsible stewardship, and is of national and international importance. In order to protect our precious natural resource – the Great Lakes – our group believes that radioactive nuclear waste should not be buried anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin. We are urging citizens to sign our online petition to send a message to the Minister of the Environment to stand up for the protection of the Great Lakes.

To learn more please visit: [www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com](http://www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com)

To sign the online petition: <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html>

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