



Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

For Immediate Release:
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Contact: Beverly Fernandez
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DuPage County, Illinois Joins Call to Stop Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump beside the Great Lakes

TORONTO — DuPage County, Illinois representing over 900,000 citizens, joins a growing chorus of Illinois communities including Cook and Lake Counties and the cities of Chicago and Waukegan, in calling for a halt to Ontario Power Generation's plan to build an **underground nuclear waste dump** (a Deep Geological Repository or DGR) **less than 1 mile from the shore of Lake Huron**. With the unanimous passage today of EN-R-0031-15 (see attached) the population of communities in the U.S. and Canada opposing OPG's proposed nuclear waste repository has reached 17.9 million.

The DuPage resolution notes that any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could have a potential impact on Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of northeastern Illinois Counties, including DuPage. It further notes that DuPage County has a duty to protect its residents and businesses and their access to potable drinking water. EN-R-0031-15 urges intervention by the U.S. Congress.

"DuPage County provides Lake Michigan water to our unincorporated residents. Ontario Power Generation can't guarantee the protection of Great Lakes water from radioactive contamination by this proposed site. We're asking OPG to be a good neighbor and look for another site" said Tony Michelassi, Commissioner District 5 and Environmental Committee Chair. Pete DiCianni, Commissioner District 2, former Environmental Committee Chair and proposer and champion of the County resolution noted "I am pleased to see that the DuPage County Board took leadership on this issue. Protecting the earth's largest fresh water supply is vital to the health and well being of the residents of our State and our County. Nuclear waste needs to be dealt with in a manner far away from people and in a manner that is far from any fresh water supply that can threaten the residents of DuPage County."

With a Canadian federal Joint Review Panel report due in May 2015 to be followed by a Canadian federal government decision sometime in 2015, the growing opposition in Illinois is welcomed by Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson for Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump. *"We commend Commissioners Michelassi and DiCianni and the entire DuPage County Board for taking action to protect this irreplaceable fresh water resource"* said Fernandez, whose Canadian non-profit organization launched a campaign to raise awareness and encourage communities to take action by passing resolutions opposing OPG's plan. Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump also launched a petition that is approaching 73,000 signatures opposing OPG's proposal. *"It absolutely defies common sense to bury the most toxic waste humans have ever produced, that remains lethal and dangerous for 100,000 years, less than 1 mile from the drinking water of 40 million Americans and Canadians"* Fernandez said.

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Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump is a non-profit organization endorsed by thousands of people 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 this precious natural resource – the Great Lakes – our group believes that radioactive nuclear waste should not be buried anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin.

To learn more please visit: www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com

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

For more information, please contact:

DuPage County:

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Email Joan.Olson@dupageco.org.

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Spokesperson, Beverly Fernandez

info@stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com

Attachment

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Resolution

EN-R-0031-15

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR WASTE
REPOSITORY IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2006 the DuPage County Board adopted an Environmental Policy for DuPage County ("Policy"); and,

WHEREAS, the Policy finds that the County will continue to make best efforts to manage runoff, preserve natural areas, floodplains and wetlands and improve the quality of the water not only within the County borders but the water that runs downstream to other communities; and,

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR), which is an underground long-term burial facility for Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste at a location less than a mile from Lake Huron and approximately 1,300 feet below the lake level; and

WHEREAS, OPG has reported that the majority of the radioactive waste will decay in 300 years and the remaining waste radioactive in more than 100,000 years; and

WHEREAS, members of the U.S. Congress, the Michigan Legislature and multiple local governments including Cook County and the City of Waukegan in Illinois are questioning the siting of this repository; and,

WHEREAS, any contamination resulting from a leaking nuclear waste repository located on Lake Huron could have a potential impact on Lake Michigan's waters, the source of drinking water for almost 7 million residents of northeastern Illinois Counties including DuPage; and

WHEREAS, DuPage County has a duty to protect its residents and businesses and their access to potable drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Committee of DuPage County has reviewed and recommends approval of this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DuPage County Board opposes the construction of any deep geologic nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin, and urges the U.S. Congress to use its authority to review the OPG application and to provide a recommendation on behalf of the United States of America; and

Resolution

EN-R-0031-15

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the members of U.S. Congress representing DuPage County.

Enacted and approved this 10th day of February, 2015 at Wheaton, Illinois.



DANIEL J. CRONIN, CHAIRMAN
DU PAGE COUNTY BOARD

Attest:



PAUL HINDS, COUNTY CLERK

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Karyn Romano, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Kevin Wiley, District 6
AYES:	Michelassi, Krajewski, Noonan, Wiley, Romano
ABSENT:	Sam Tornatore

Ayes: 18