



# Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

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## Cook County, Illinois Joins Call to Stop Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump beside the Great Lakes

*Cook County unanimously passes resolution to stop the construction of a proposed nuclear waste repository on the shores of Lake Huron*

TORONTO —A growing number of communities, organizations and citizens are opposing Ontario Power Generation's plan to **build an underground nuclear waste dump** (a Deep Geological Repository) **approximately 1km from the shore of Lake Huron**. Public hearings on the matter ended on September 18, 2014 and a Canadian Federal government decision is expected early in 2015.

On October 8, 2014 the Cook County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution opposing the construction of a nuclear waste repository in the Great Lakes Basin. Cook County, representing 5.2 million citizens including the City of Chicago, joins 135 communities in all Great Lakes States and in Ontario who have passed resolutions formally opposing OPG's plan.

*"Cook County has taken action to protect the drinking water of its citizens and the 40 million people living in the Great Lakes region. We strongly encourage the Province of Ontario to consider siting this nuclear waste repository outside of the Great Lakes Basin" said Commissioner Joan Murphy, an initiator of the resolution and a member of President Obama's National Ocean Council Governance Coordinating Committee with Great Lakes stewardship responsibilities. Commissioner Peter Silvestri, the joint initiator of the resolution commented "We are very proud to support the efforts of Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump in opposing this plan. Protecting the Great Lakes from the risk of radioactive contamination is vitally important to human health, the environment and to the Great Lakes economy."*

*"We are delighted that Cook County is showing leadership and taking action to protect this irreplaceable fresh water resource" said Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson of Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump, a non-profit citizens group that launched a campaign to raise awareness about OPG's plan and a petition that now has over 70,000 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, approximately 1 km from the drinking water of 40 million people in two countries," Fernandez said.*

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump is a non-profit organization comprised of concerned 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 this precious natural resource – the Great Lakes – our group believes that radioactive nuclear waste should not be buried anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin. We urge citizens to sign our online petition, and to contact their MP and MPP to send a message to the Canadian government 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: [www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html)

For more information, please contact:

Cook County Commissioner, Joan Patricia Murphy at [joan.murphy@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:joan.murphy@cookcountyl.gov)

Cook County Commissioner, Peter N. Silvestri at [cookcty9@aol.com](mailto:cookcty9@aol.com)

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