

RESOLUTION 14-38

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

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR) which is 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. The site is less than a mile inland from the shores of Lake Huron and about 440 yards below the lake level;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource containing twenty percent of the world's and ninety-five percent of the United States' fresh water, vital to human and environmental health. They are essential to the economic and agricultural well-being of both Canada and the United States;

WHEREAS, Lake Huron and the connecting waters, including Lake St. Clair, are a source of drinking water for millions of people throughout the region. Concern has been expressed over the proposed OPG DGR by individuals, citizen and environmental groups, 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 the US and Canada acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes. Both governments share a responsibility and an obligation to protect the Great Lakes from contamination from various sources of pollution, including the potential leakage of radioactivity from an underground nuclear waste repository;

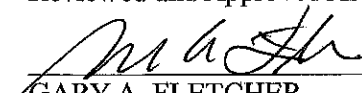
WHEREAS, placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised. The potential damage to the Great Lakes from any leak or breach of radioactivity far outweighs any suggested economic benefit that might be derived from burying radioactive nuclear waste at this site. 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;

WHEREAS the Michigan Senate has expressed serious concerns 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.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners, 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.

Dated: August 7, 2014

Reviewed and Approved As To Form By:



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