

Resolution # 02-2014

Village of Port Sanilac resolution supports state legislation to halt proposed
Canadian nuclear water facility

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. This site is approximately one kilometer inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 metres below the lake level;

WHEREAS water is the nation's and Canada's most important natural resource and should be protected and managed prudently;

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;

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are vital to the economic and agricultural well-being of 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 the United States of America, Canada and First Nation;

WHEREAS concern has been expressed over the proposed OPG DGR by individuals, citizens 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 the United States of America and Canada acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes;

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 pollutions, including the potential leakage of radioactivity from an underground nuclear water repository;

WHEREAS placing a permanent nuclear water 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 water underground so close to the shoreline;

WHEREAS Michigan has significant experience with the concerns for siting a radioactive waste disposal facility as the state went through an exhaustive siting process over twenty years ago and concluded there was no viable location for constructing such a facility.

WHEREAS the Michigan Senate has expressed serious concerns for the failure of the siting process in Ontario for the proposed OPG DGR for 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. SB948, SCR 16, SCR17, SR150 and SR 151 all have been passed unanimously by the Michigan Senate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Port Sanilac, Michigan, in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, urges that neither this proposed nuclear water repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station nor any other underground nuclear waste repository to constructed in the Great Lakes Basin in Canada, the United States, or any First Nation property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Port Sanilac, Michigan, 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. In addition, pursuant to SCR 16 and SR 151, the Village of Port Sanilac also urges President Obama to take all necessary steps to engage the International Joint Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to Canadian Prime Minister Stephan Harper, Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canadian Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq, the Great Lakes Commission, the International Joint Commission, Governors and legislative leaders of the eight Great Lakes states, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Representative Candice Miller, as well as the Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Law and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste (case reference # 17520) Co-Manager Ms. Debra Myles.

- Motion by S. Jacobs to adopt Resolution # 02-2014 supporting state legislation opposing the construction of a Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin, second by C. Taylor

Ayes 7 Nays None Absent None

Resolution 02-2014 was adopted

Tammy Massman
Deputy Clerk