

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 30, 2013

Joint Review Panel Secretariat – DGR
c/o Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
280 Slater Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Dear Joint Review Panel:

We are writing to express significant concern about a proposal to store 52 million gallons of low and intermediate level nuclear waste near the U.S.-Canadian border and less than a mile away from Lake Huron.

Millions of people – both in the U.S. and Canada – depend on fresh water from the Great Lakes for drinking, fishing, and tourism. Every year, the Great Lakes pump billions of dollars into the economy and support thousands of good-paying jobs. Lake Huron, which together with Lakes Superior, Erie, Michigan and Ontario constitute the largest group of freshwater lakes on earth, comprise 21 percent of the world's surface freshwater. If the Great Lakes were to be contaminated with nuclear waste, it would cause significant damage to this vital natural resource.


This nuclear storage facility is anticipated to remain radioactive for centuries; as a result, it will impact the people of both countries for perpetuity. For this reason, an environmental assessment focused on the location of this facility should be made with great caution and deliberation. Neither the U.S. nor Canada can afford the risk of polluting the Great Lakes with toxic nuclear waste.

Finally, we ask that you continue to work with federal, state, provincial and local governments on both sides of the border as you evaluate this decision to help guarantee the protection of the Great Lakes. Although we recognize Canada's right to decide its own energy future, this storage facility could jeopardize water resources shared by both countries. Thus, we ask that you continue to explore all other locations for this site, including constructing it outside of the Great Lakes basin.

Sincerely,



Dan Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Sander Levin
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



John Dingell
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Gary Peters
MEMBER OF CONGRESS