## **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-04**

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

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation is proposing to construct 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 less than a mile inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 440 yards below the lake level, is approximately 120 miles upstream from the main drinking water intakes for Southeast Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Milan recognizes water as our most important resource that is to be protected and managed prudently; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are critically-important resources to both the United States and Canada. The Great Lakes contain 95 percent of North America's surface fresh water and provide drinking water to tens of millions of people. Pristine water is vital to our health. It is also important to fishing, boating, recreation, tourism, and agriculture in Michigan and throughout the region. Agriculture, commercial and sport fisheries, shipping, recreation, and tourism are important components of the Great Lakes economy. This proposal to place a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes raises serious concerns; and

WHEREAS, As part of an effort to protect water quality, Michigan's siting criteria for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste prohibits any site located within ten miles of Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, the Saint Mary's River, the Detroit River, the St. Clair River, or Lake St. Clair. It also excludes sites located within a SOD-year floodplain, located over a sole source aquifer, or located where the hydrogeology beneath the site discharges groundwater to the land surface within 3,000 feet of the boundaries of the site. We encourage Canada to consider similar siting criteria; and

WHEREAS, International agreements between the United States and Canada state that radiological contamination should be reduced and emphasize the concept of prevention. We encourage Canada, as part of its public review process, to make known the steps that have been or will be taken to fulfill the requirements of these agreements; and

WHEREAS, sitting an underground nuclear waste repository in limestone, as proposed by Ontario Power Generation, is the first of its kind. The environmental impact statement for this proposed nuclear waste burial facility noted that the acceptability of an alternative site was "unknown." We encourage the use of sound scientific principles and analyses in determining whether this geologic formation is appropriate for the safe long-term storage of radioactive waste and that before making any further approvals of this proposed facility, this scientific data, along with information regarding the alternative sites that were considered, be made available; and

WHEREAS, placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is illadvised. 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;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Milan, urges Canadian officials to thoroughly review the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, including the issues raised herein, and we memorialize the United States Congress, and the State of Michigan to do all it can to see that Michigan's concerns are fully addressed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be provided to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the President of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, the Chairman of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the Governor of the State of Michigan and our State and US Representatives.

Motion by Moyer, supported by Williams to adopt Resolution No. 2014-04, which opposes the construction of the nuclear waste repository in the great lakes basin.

Michael P. Armitage, Mayor

I, Sherry L. Steinwedel, Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Milan, a Michigan Municipal Corporation, do hereby certify that the above-captioned Resolution 2014-04 was adopted by the City Council of the City of Milan at a regular meeting thereof on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2014. I further certify that Michael P. Armitage is the duly elected Mayor and Sherry L. Steinwedel is the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Milan.

Sherry L. Seinwedel, CMC, CPFA, CPFIM

Clerk/Treasurer