



Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Inc.
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January 12, 2017

Via Email

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0A6

Dear Minister,

Re: Proposed Great Lakes Nuclear Dump in Kincardine Ontario

We are writing to you again in connection with the interests and concerns of the *millions* of people we have the privilege of representing in regard to this issue.

People continue to be very concerned.

In its December 2016 submission to the CEEA, OPG asserts that its proposed nuclear waste repository (DGR) is “not an area of concern among the general population” based on a small focused sampling of people and an internet search exercise to somehow conclude that Ontarians support its plan.

As we’re sure you’ve noticed, OPG failed to state or include as part of its “open and transparent” review the undeniable fact that there is widespread opposition to its plan among Great Lakes communities.

You will recall the One Hundred and Eighty-Six (186) formal resolutions passed by municipalities including very many Great Lakes cities together with our petition with 100,000 signatures, all opposing the burial of nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin. These communities and people care a lot. OPG just didn’t ask them.

In its December 2016 reply OPG is hoping to ignore the truth and perhaps hoping as well that your Ministry will ignore or forget the overwhelming opposition that exists. We have enclosed a copy of the map showing the communities in opposition. The truth is, on both sides of the border, there is very great opposition to this plan and notwithstanding the proponent’s self-serving report, independently there are thousands and thousands of people opposed to this.

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People are not interested in OPG's economic position. People are concerned about their health, their lives and about the environment. People are looking to you to recognize the difference and to act to protect them.

They are looking to you Madam Minister for leadership. They are looking to you to protect the environment and safeguard it from the unnecessary risk of burying nuclear waste beside the source of drinking water for millions.

Further, the proponent has confirmed that it won't look at actual alternate locations. It has provided merely a generic description of what two alternate geologic regions might be like with no actual site identification or testing done or considered. It didn't want to start over again.

As a result of this failure to conduct any meaningful alternate site studies, it is obviously impossible for anyone to objectively conclude on any basis that Kincardine should be the site for the burial of this nuclear waste.

Further, the current process of review followed so far contains no objective or conflict free information.

OPG's report basically says "we didn't really study any other actual sites" and confirms that it wants to bury its nuclear waste less than a mile from the Great Lakes because to do otherwise would take extra work, time and money.

Forget the risk to people and their drinking water. OPG is looking for a shorter term allegedly more economic fix to a very long-term, dangerous, and risky problem.

Putting a nuclear waste dump beside the Great Lakes is more than risky; it is a knowing disregard for the health of millions of people.

We request you to act to protect the millions of people who rely on your leadership and reject OPG's application for its DGR in Kincardine, Ontario.

It's really quite simple. Everyone gets it. No matter what process is followed, burying and abandoning nuclear waste beside a Great Lake will always be a bad idea.

Yours sincerely,

Beverly Fernandez
Spokesperson and Founding Member
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c.c.

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
The Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice
The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health
The Honourable Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources
The Honourable Kent Hehr, Minister of Veteran Affairs
The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science
The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: Map showing communities opposed to OPG DGR

Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump Inc. 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.

The Great Lakes were created by an ice age 12,000 years ago.

The Egyptian pyramids were created 4,500 years ago.

Some nuclear waste remains radioactive for 100,000 years.

The Great Lakes constitute 21% of the world's fresh water.

The Great Lakes are the water source supporting 40 million people in 2 countries.

An underground nuclear waste dump 1 km from the shore of Lake Huron defies common sense.

Exhibit 1

Map Showing Communities Opposed to OPG DGR

