

**REPORT** (MISC. #15154)

July 16, 2015

BY: General Government Committee, Christine Long, Chairperson

IN RE: **MR #15154 – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – OBJECTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE GREAT LAKES**

To the Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The General Government Committee, having reviewed the above referenced resolution on July 6, 2015, reports with the recommendation the resolution be adopted.

Chairperson, on behalf of the General Government Committee, I move the acceptance of the foregoing report.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christine Long", is written over a horizontal line.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

**MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTION # 15154**

BY: Commissioner Michael J. Gingell, District #1

**IN RE: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – OBJECTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE GREAT LAKES**

To the Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR), a underground long-term burial facility, at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station site in Kincardine, Ontario Canada; and

WHEREAS the purpose of this facility is to bury and abandon in the DGR all of Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste, some of which will remain highly radioactive and toxic for over 100,000 years; and

WHEREAS the site of this proposed nuclear waste repository is approximately one kilometer inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 meters below the lake level; and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes contain 21% of the world's surface fresh water by volume and are used to supply drinking water to tens of millions of people in bordering areas; and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes provide an irreplaceable, critical economic benefit to the entire region through the agricultural, fishing and the tourism/recreation industries; and

WHEREAS the regional economic impact of the Great Lakes is estimated in excess of \$4.7 trillion; and

WHEREAS Lake Huron and connecting waters are a source of drinking water for millions of people downstream in Canada and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS individuals, citizen, environmental groups, and municipalities and counties in both Canada and the United States have expressed concern and opposition to the location of the proposed nuclear waste repository; and

WHEREAS as of March 31, 2015, 146 resolutions in opposition to the proposed facility have been passed by communities in the States of Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana and in the Province of Ontario, representing 19.3 million citizens; and

WHEREAS under the 2012 Protocol Amending the Agreement between Canada and the United States of America on Great Lakes Water Quality, the governments of Canada and the United States acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes and share a responsibility and an obligation to protect the Great Lakes from contamination from various sources of pollution, including the leakage of nuclear waste from an underground nuclear waste repository; and

WHEREAS in the 1980's, the United States agreed not to pursue a proposed nuclear waste facility within the Great Lakes Basin at the request of the Canadian government; and

WHEREAS alternative sites that pose a much reduced risk to critical natural resources have not been investigated; and

WHEREAS placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised and places the health, safety and welfare of millions of people at unnecessary risk; and

WHEREAS the proposed facility places the health and safety of the citizens of Oakland County and the region who rely upon Lake Huron and it's basin as their primary drinking water source in serious jeopardy. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Oakland County urges the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to reject Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury and abandon radioactive nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Oakland County calls upon our representatives in federal and state government to take immediate action to formally object to the placement of this proposed facility to the Canadian government and take necessary steps to protect the welfare of millions of citizens in the region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the County of Oakland is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Prime Minister of Canada, Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, the President of the United States, the Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste, the United States Secretary of State, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the Governor of the State of Michigan, State Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, the State House Speaker and Minority Leader, members of the Oakland County delegation to the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Macomb County Executive, the Wayne County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Detroit.

Chairperson, I move the adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

GL

*Michael J. Gingell*  
Commissioner Michael J. Gingell  
District #

*John A. ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 5

*Stacey ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 12

*John ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 8

*John ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 15

*John ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 3

*Thomas F. ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 9

*Mary ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 17

*Laura ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 6

*Kelaine ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 18

*Steph ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 9

*Barry R. ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 20

*Paul ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 16

Commissioner  
District #

*John ...*  
Commissioner  
District #

Commissioner  
District #

*Paul ...*  
Commissioner  
District # 19

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Resolution #15154

May 21, 2015

The Vice-Chairperson referred the resolution to the General Government Committee. There were no objections.


Resolution #15154

July 16, 2015

Moved by Kowall supported by Bowman the resolutions (with fiscal notes attached) on the amended Consent Agenda be adopted (with accompanying reports being accepted).

AYES: Dwyer, Fleming, Gershenson, Gingell, Gosselin, Hoffman, Jackson, Kowall, Long, Matis, McGillivray, Middleton, Scott, Spisz, Taub, Weipert, Woodward, Bowman, Crawford. (19)  
NAYS: None. (0)

A sufficient majority having voted in favor, the resolutions (with fiscal notes attached) on the amended Consent Agenda were adopted (with accompanying reports being accepted).

 7/24/15  
**I HEREBY APPROVE THIS RESOLUTION**  
**CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE**  
**ACTING PURSUANT TO MCL 45.559A (7)**

STATE OF MICHIGAN)  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, Lisa Brown, Clerk of the County of Oakland, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners on July 16, 2015, with the original record thereof now remaining in my office.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Oakland at Pontiac, Michigan this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

  
Lisa Brown, Oakland County