## Submitted by Councillor Layton

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MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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November 8, 2013

Councillor Adam Vaughan 100 Queen Street West, Suite C50 Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Vaughan,

It has come to our attention that the Toronto City Council will be considering a resolution urging the Parliament of Canada to oppose Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) proposed Deep Geologic Repository (DGR). We respectfully request your support of this resolution.

As you may be aware, this proposed DGR is a long-term facility for low- and intermediate-level radioactive wastes, some of which can remain radioactive for over 100,000 years. The repository would be located at the Bruce Nuclear site in Kincardine, Ontario and would be approximately one kilometer from Lake Huron.

The Great Lakes are a critically important resource 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 industries including agriculture, commercial and sport fisheries, shipping, boating, recreation, and tourism. Placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to Lake Huron is ill-advised. If a radioactive leak were to occur, it could be devastating to our economies and to our valuable drinking water sources.

We are also concerned about the scope of this DGR. Although it is proposed for low- and intermediate-level nuclear waste, OPG has repeatedly admitted it ultimately plans to include decommissioned waste at this site -- a move that would require the capacity of the facility to double. The possibility of highly radioactive waste being included is a concern as well. Despite claims that this facility will not accept such waste, there is nothing to ensure that will not occur in the future.

In Michigan opposition to the proposed DGR continues to grow. The City of Wyandotte, Greenwood Township, the Village of Lexington, Lynn Township, the City of St. Clair Shores, the Wayne County Commission, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, and the former Macomb County Water Quality Board have all passed resolutions opposing this nuclear repository. In addition, our U.S. Senators Levin and Stabenow have written a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry expressing their concerns about the DGR and encouraging "the Canadian government to reconsider placing a nuclear waste dump near the shores of Lake Huron." Most recently, four of our U.S. Congressmen sent a letter to the Joint Review Panel urging them to conduct an environmental assessment on the proposed location with "great caution and deliberation" and

asking them to work with all levels of government, in both countries to "guarantee" the protection of the Great Lakes."

Again, we strongly encourage you to help us protect the Great Lakes by passing this resolution. We also recommend that OPG find an alternate location for this repository that is outside of the Great Lakes basin.

Sincerely,

State Representative Sarah Roberts

District 18

State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood

District 8



## Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

November 8, 2013

Councillor Adam Vaughan 100 Queen Street West, Suite C50 Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Vaughan,

I am the spokesperson for Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump, a non-profit citizens organization deeply concerned about an important National issue: Ontario Power Generation (OPG) plans to build a nuclear waste repository to bury radioactive nuclear waste right beside the Great Lakes, 21% of the world's fresh surface water and the source of drinking water for 40 million people in two countries. The Great Lakes are a precious National treasure.

I am writing to you today to respectfully request your support of Councillor Mike Layton's motion MM41.21 that resolves to protect the Great Lakes from a proposed nuclear waste repository in Kincardine Ontario.

## There are many reasons why you and your constituents should be concerned about OPG's plan, namely:

- The City of Toronto draws its drinking water from the Lake Ontario, downstream of the proposed nuclear waste repository.
- This nuclear waste repository will need to safely house the most lethal waste ever created by humans radioactive nuclear waste, some of which remains toxic for 100,000 years.
- No scientist or geologist can provide a 100,000 year guarantee that this nuclear waste will not leak
  and contaminate the Great Lakes.
- A nuclear waste repository in limestone is unprecedented and unproven anywhere in the world.
- **OPG did not consider or investigate any other sites** for this nuclear waste repository despite the fact that 87% or Ontario's land mass is owned by the crown, sole owner of OPG.
- OPG's public consultation focused primarily on Bruce County with some very limited outreach in Michigan; OPG failed to inform or seek input from citizens living in many Great Lakes communities in Canada and the US, or their elected officials.

## You should know that opposition to OPG's plan is growing daily.

Our organization launched a petition that to date has gathered more than 41,000 signatures, including signatories from every Province and Territory in Canada, all 50 US States, and 96 countries of the world. See <a href="http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html">http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html</a>

Many prominent Canadians and Americans have signed our petition including:

- Dr. David Suzuki, award-winning scientist, environmentalist, and Companion of the Order of
- Farley Mowat, Canadian author and Officer of the Order of Canada

- Robert Bateman, Canadian painter and Officer of the Order of Canada
- The Very Reverend The Honourable Lois Wilson, former member of the Seaborn Panel and Companion of the Order of Canada
- Rod McLeod QC, former Chief Crown Prosecutor (Ontario) and former Deputy Minister of the Environment (Ontario)
- Michigan State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood
- Michigan State Representative Sarah Roberts
- Chief Stan Beardy, Ontario Regional Chief of the Chiefs of Ontario
- Over 720 doctors, some of our most learned and highly respected members of society

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, a group of 106 mayors representing 16 million people and a group of which the City of Toronto is a member, has testified at the public hearings and expressed its formal opposition to this plan.

Concerned communities in Canada and the US, including Mississauga, London, Hamilton, Oakville and many more, have passed resolutions formally opposing this nuclear waste repository. See <a href="http://stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com/resolutions.php">http://stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com/resolutions.php</a>

US Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow have written to US Secretary of State John Kerry to express their serious concerns about this project, and to request that he intervene to prevent this project from moving forward. US Congressmen Dan Kildee, Sander Levin, Gary Peters and John Dingell have written to the Joint Review panel requesting that other sites be investigated, including sites outside of the Great Lakes Basin.

We sincerely hope that you will support Councillor Layton's initiative on behalf of your constituents and on behalf of the 40 million people who rely on the Great Lakes for their drinking water.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this matter.

Most sincerely,

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Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump

To learn more please visit: www.stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.com

To sign the online petition: <a href="http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html">http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/stopthegreatlakesnucleardump.html</a>

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