

RESOLUTION 6 - 2017
OPPOSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY
IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

Charter Township of East China
County of St. Clair, Michigan

Minutes of a regular meeting of the East China Township Board, County of St. Clair, Michigan, held in the Township Hall on the 1st day of May 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Blackstock, Blair, Towne, Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis and Horn.

ABSENT: None.

The following Resolution was offered by Member Simons and supported by Member Blackstock.

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to construct a deep geologic repository (DGR) which is 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 approximately one kilometer inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 meters below the lake level, and

WHEREAS water is the United States of America's and Canada's most important natural resource and should be protected and managed prudently, and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource, containing twenty percent of the world's and ninety-five percent of the United States' fresh water vital to human and environmental health, and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are vital to the economic and agricultural well-being of both Canada and the United States of America, and

WHEREAS Lake Huron and the connecting waters, including Lake St. Clair, are a source of drinking water for millions of people downstream in the United States of America, Canada, and First Nations, and

WHEREAS concern has been expressed over the proposed OPG DGR by individuals, citizen and environmental groups, and municipalities and counties in both Canada and the United States, 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 the United States and Canada acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes, and

WHEREAS the Governments of Canada and of the United States share a responsibility and an obligation to protect the Great Lakes from contamination from various sources of pollution, including the potential leakage of radioactivity from an underground nuclear waste repository, and

WHEREAS placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised. 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, and

WHEREAS Michigan has significant experience with the the concerns for siting a radioactive waste disposal facility as the state went through an exhaustive siting process over twenty years ago and concluded there was no viable location for constructing such a facility, and

WHEREAS the Michigan Senate has expressed serious concerns for the failure of the siting process in Ontario for the proposed OPG DGR to fully account for all potential impacts of the proposed facility by passing a legislative package urging intervention by the Great Lakes Commission, the International Joint Commission and a special legislatively created advisory Board, and

WHEREAS, On December 28, 2016, OPG submitted a report outlining generic information about two alternative geologic regions, but failed to provide any information on specific sites or consider any areas located outside of the Great Lakes basin, and

WHEREAS, as of September 12, 2016, entities representing over 23 million citizens have passed 187 resolutions in the states of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio and in the province of Ontario opposing the proposed nuclear waste repository, with the vast majority of the resolutions opposing any permanent underground nuclear waste repository anywhere in the Great Lakes basin.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that East China Township, Michigan, in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, urges that neither this proposed nuclear waste repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station nor any other underground nuclear waste repository be constructed in the Great Lakes Basin in Canada, the United States, or any First Nation property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that East China Township, Michigan, urges the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to reject and seek alternatives to Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury radioactive nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin. In addition, pursuant to SCR 16 of 2014 and SR 151 of 2014, East China Township also urges President Trump to take all necessary steps to engage the International Joint Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canadian Federal Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna, the Great Lakes Commission, the International Joint Commission, Governors and legislative leaders of the eight Great Lakes states, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, U.S. Representative Paul Mitchell, Senator Phil Pavlov, and State Representative Dan Lauwers, as well as the Joint Review Panel Deep Geological Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste (case reference #17520) Co-Manager Ms. Debra Myles.

All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

AYES: Blackstock, Blair, Towne, Simons, Beaudua, Patsalis and Horn.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

<Original signed by>

Greg Towne, Clerk
East China Township

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of East China, County of St. Clair, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on **May 1, 2017**, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

<Original signed by>

Greg Towne, Clerk
East China Township