

July 24, 2013

Neal Burnham
Deputy Director
U.S. Transboundary Affairs Division
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
125 Sussex Dr.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G2

**Subject: Participation of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
in the Deep Geologic Repository Public Hearing Process**

Dear Mr. Burnham:

As you know, the Deep Geologic Repository (DGR) Joint Review Panel has announced that it has sufficient information to proceed to a public hearing for the project. The hearing will commence on September 16, 2013 in Kincardine, Ontario. Please see the hearing announcement [News Release](#) for further details. Additional information related to the hearing will be made available as our planning proceeds. As the Federal Government expert on international matters, the Panel requires Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (Foreign Affairs) to attend the public hearing and speak to matters in relation to its mandate and areas of expertise.

The Panel acknowledges your email of June 14, 2013 and the Foreign Affairs assessment of the Michigan State Senate resolution concerning the proposed DGR project. Please be advised that the Panel has received requests from two elected officials – one from the Michigan Senate and one from the Michigan House of Representatives – to participate in the DGR hearing. The Panel requires a representative from Foreign Affairs to be present at the hearing to answer any questions that arise when these two elected representatives participate.

Further, the Panel has received additional requests to participate in the hearing from individuals and organizations based in the United States. A full list of hearing participants will be released in the near future. The Panel requires Foreign Affairs to be present at the hearing to act as a resource during any presentation where matters of international interest are expected to be raised. For the duration of the hearing, please ensure that a representative of Foreign Affairs is available by phone or otherwise.

Should you have any questions regarding the project, the review, or the public hearing, do not hesitate to contact one of the Panel Co-Managers, Kelly McGee at 613-947-3710 or Debra Myles at 613-957-0626.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Stella Swanson
Chair, Deep Geologic Repository Joint Review Panel

c.c.: James F. Archibald, Joint Review Panel Member
Gunter Muecke, Joint Review Panel Member

Sing-En Tam, Senior Policy Officer, Foreign Affairs and International
Trade Canada