



President

Président

JUN 20 2013

Ms. Carol Morey Viventi, J.D.
Secretary of the Senate
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan
USA 48909-7536

Dear Ms. Morey Viventi:

Thank you for your letter dated May 31, 2013 (enclosed), advising us of the adoption by the Michigan Senate of Resolution No. 58, urging careful review of the underground nuclear waste repository, known as Deep Geological Repository (DGR), for low and intermediate nuclear waste proposed by the Ontario Power Generation (OPG) to be located at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, Ontario, Canada.

In April 2011, OPG submitted to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) a licence application for site preparation and construction of the DGR facility and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that examines potential environmental effects associated with all phases of the DGR project. In January 2012, a Joint Review Panel was established by the President of the CNSC jointly with the Minister responsible for the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency for the DGR project. This independent body will examine potential environmental effects of the DGR project.

The Joint Review Panel will determine, based on scientific data and analyses, whether the geology of the proposed location is suitable for the safe long-term storage of radioactive waste. It will also ensure that the project meets all applicable regulatory requirements and respects any international agreements between the United States and Canada that may apply to the project.

Furthermore, the Joint Review Panel announced on June 18, 2013, that it has scheduled the public hearing for the project. The public hearing will begin on September 16, 2013, in Kincardine. More information on the precise venue and dates of the hearing sessions, as well as a schedule for intervenors, will be available in advance of the hearing. Participants have until July 5, 2013 to submit their request to participate.

Further details about the DGR Joint Review Panel as well as OPG's EIS and licence application can be found on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Registry (<http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/details-eng.cfm?evaluation=17520>).

The public has the opportunity to participate and be heard throughout the Panel process. Therefore, I encourage you to submit your concerns to the DGR Joint Review Panel through one of the following options:

Mail: Deep Geologic Repository Project
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Debra Myles, Panel Co-Manager
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor
Place Bell Canada
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3
Telephone: 613-957-0700 or 1-866-582-1884
Fax: 613-957-0941
Email: DGR.Review@ceaa-acee.gc.ca

I wish to reassure you that the Government of Canada will never approve and the CNSC will never issue a licence unless it was safe to do so.

Yours sincerely,

<original signed by>

Michael Binder

Encl: (1)

cc: The Honourable Stephen Harper, M.P., Prime Minister of Canada
Ms. Kathleen Wynn, M.P.P., Premier of Ontario
Dr. Allison Macfarlane, Chairman, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States Senate
The Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives
Dr. Stella Swanson, Chair of the Deep Geologic Repository for Low and Intermediate Level
Radioactive Waste Joint Review Panel

CAROL MOREY VIVENTI, J.D.
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
ADAM W. REAMES
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE SENATE



ADMINISTRATION

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Michigan Senate

May 31, 2013



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The Honorable Michael Binder
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street
PO Box 1046
Station B
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Dear Dr. Binder:

On May 22, 2013, the Michigan Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 58, urging careful review of the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, and memorialize the United States Congress to do all it can to see that Michigan's concerns are fully addressed.

In compliance with the provisions contained therein, I am forwarding to you a copy of the above resolution.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Carol Morey Viventi, J.D.
Secretary of the Senate

CMV/jks

Enclosure

SCANNED

JUN 05 2013



STATE OF MICHIGAN



MICHIGAN SENATE

Senate Resolution No. 58

Offered by Senators Hopgood, Anderson, Bieda, Booher, Casperson, Colbeck, Emmons, Green, Gregory, Hansen, Hildenbrand, Hunter, Johnson, Jones, Kahn, Kowall, Marleau, Moolenaar, Nofs, Pappageorge, Pavlov, Proos, Rocca, Schuitmaker, Walker, Warren and Young

A RESOLUTION TO URGE CAREFUL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY IN ONTARIO, CANADA, AND MEMORIALIZE THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO DO ALL IT CAN TO SEE THAT MICHIGAN'S CONCERNS ARE FULLY ADDRESSED

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation is proposing to construct an underground, long-term burial facility for all of Ontario's low- and intermediate-level radioactive waste at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, some of which is long-lived intermediate waste. This site, less than a mile inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 440 yards below the lake level, is approximately 120 miles upstream from the main drinking water intakes for Southeast Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Lake Huron and the other Great Lakes are critically-important resources 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 important to fishing, boating, recreation, tourism, and agriculture in Michigan and throughout the region. Agriculture, commercial and sport fisheries, shipping, recreation, and tourism are important components of the Great Lakes economy. This proposal to place a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes raises serious concerns; and

WHEREAS, As part of an effort to protect water quality, Michigan's siting criteria for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste prohibits any site located within ten miles of Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, the Saint Mary's River, the Detroit River, the St. Clair River, or Lake St. Clair. It also excludes sites located within a 500-year floodplain, located over a sole source aquifer, or located where the hydrogeology beneath the site discharges groundwater to the land surface within 3,000 feet of the boundaries of the site. We encourage Canada to consider similar siting criteria; and

WHEREAS, International agreements between the United States and Canada state that radiological contamination should be reduced and emphasize the concept of prevention. We encourage Canada, as part of its public review process, to make known the steps that have been or will be taken to fulfill the requirements of these agreements; and

WHEREAS, Siting an underground nuclear waste repository in limestone, as proposed by Ontario Power Generation, is the first of its kind. The environmental impact statement for this proposed nuclear waste burial facility noted that the acceptability of an alternative site was "unknown." We encourage the use of sound scientific principles and analyses in determining whether this geologic formation is appropriate for the safe long-term storage of radioactive waste and that before making any further approvals of this proposed facility, this scientific data, along with information regarding the alternative sites that were considered, be made available; and

WHEREAS, Given the proximity and potential impact to many Michigan residents, we urge Canadian and Ontario officials, along with all relevant governmental agencies, to ensure open communication and information sharing with Michigan citizens about this proposal and to possibly consider extending the public comment period; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That we urge Canadian officials to thoroughly review the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, including the issues raised herein, and we memorialize the United States Congress to do all it can to see that Michigan's concerns are fully addressed; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the President of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, the Chairman of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

Adopted by the Senate, May 22, 2013.



<signature removed>

Secretary of the Senate