

Open Letter to Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change opposing Ontario Power Generation's proposed Deep Geologic Repository (DGR) - Signed by [] Great Lakes Mayors

<Date>

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0A6

Dear Minister,

We are writing to you in connection with the interests and concerns of our constituents, millions of people living in cities, towns, municipalities, villages and counties surrounding the Great Lakes.

We are deeply concerned that Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proposing to bury nuclear waste in close proximity to the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes are critically important resources to both Canada and the United States and supply drinking water to forty million people including to the citizens we represent. The Great Lakes support fishing, boating, recreation, tourism, and agriculture and are the life-blood of a six trillion dollar Great Lakes region economy.

We find it irresponsible and deeply troubling that OPG failed and continues to refuse to investigate any other actual sites for its proposed nuclear waste repository (DGR) despite being required to do so under regulatory guidelines and further as required by you in your February 18, 2016 request.

We are completely mystified by OPG claims that its proposed DGR is “not an area of concern among the general population” in the face of 187 resolutions having been passed by local, county and state governments representing over 23 million people opposing the construction of a DGR anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin. It is plain to see that OPG's claims do not square with the facts.

Signatories to this letter, all duly elected officials of Great Lakes communities that have passed resolutions, remain deeply opposed and united in opposition to the permanent burial of nuclear waste anywhere in the Great Lakes basin and we fully support Stop The Great Lakes Nuclear Dump in their work to protect the fresh water of the Great Lakes from the threat posed by OPG's proposed DGR.

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Madame Minister, we the undersigned request that you act to protect North America's most precious resource and the health and safety of the millions of people who rely on your leadership by rejecting OPG's application for its DGR in Kincardine, Ontario.

Sincerely,

Mayor Keith Hobbs
City of Thunder Bay, Ontario

Mayor Mike Bradley
City of Sarnia, Ontario

Warden Bill Weber
Lambton County, Ontario

Mayor Denis Doyle
Township of Frontenac Islands, Ontario

Mayor Gil Brocanier
Town of Cobourg, Ontario

Mayor Al MacNevin
Town of Northeastern Manitoulin
and the Islands, Ontario

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