

PMD 13-P1.43

File / dossier : 8.01.07
Date: 2013-08-06
Edocs: 4181882

**Written Submission from
Gord Thompson**

In the Matter of

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Proposed Environmental Impact Statement
for OPG's Deep Geological Repository
(DGR) Project for Low and Intermediate
Level Waste

Joint Review Panel

September 16 to October 12, 2013

**Mémoire de
Gord Thompson**

À l'égard de

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Étude proposée pour l'énoncé des incidences
environnementales pour l'Installation de
stockage de déchets radioactifs à faible et
moyenne activité dans des couches géologiques
profondes

Commission d'examen conjoint

16 septembre au 12 octobre 2013

Gord Thompson - 721 Andrew Malcolm Dr., Kincardine, Ontario

August 6, 2013

Joint Review Panel Secretariat – DGR
c/o Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
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To whom it may concern,

Re: DGR Joint Review Panel Hearing Written-Only Submission

Thank you for accepting my request to make a written submission to the aforementioned proceedings.

For the record, I support the establishment of a deep geological facility (DGR) for the storage of low and intermediate level nuclear waste at the Bruce nuclear site in Kincardine, Ontario.

I have been in business in Kincardine as a realtor for over 30 years. Since the mid 1980s I have also served as a Trustee and Chair of the Bruce County Board of Education; Deputy-Reeve of the last municipal council of the former Town of Kincardine and Deputy Mayor of the first municipal council of the Municipality of Kincardine.

In year 2000, I served as Mayor of The Municipality of Kincardine and as a member of Bruce County Council for a few months after the sudden death of the new municipality's first Mayor, Gordon Jarrell. During those years and since I have been active on many boards and committees of the municipality and area volunteer organizations.

I was born in the Kincardine Hospital in 1954 and raised on a farm near Tiverton. As such my entire lifespan has pretty much been in the same timeline as the development of the nuclear industry in Bruce County - first at Douglas Point, then at the two Bruce sites and the Heavy Water Plant at Inverhuron. As a small boy I remember standing at our farm gate watching Bruce Rd. 15, the road between Glammis and Tiverton / Inverhuron, get paved for the first time. This was the first impact the nuclear industry had on my life. It was far from the last.

This is the point I wish to speak to in this submission. The development of the nuclear power generation industry around Tiverton, Kincardine and Port Elgin has had a profound impact on our communities.

The residents here have taken the enormous impact of the nuclear power business in stride. The rural flavour of our communities remains but has been tempered by the employment opportunities at the Bruce site. Likewise the light manufacturing that was the mainstay in the small towns surrounding "The Bruce" could not compete with the new employer at the lake. By and large, that sector disappeared from the lakeside towns here, long before global factors prompted the broader decline in those sectors in the rest of Ontario.

So the impacts have been mixed from both an economic and cultural standpoint. A project with the scope of the DGR offers the prospect of continued economic stability at "The Bruce." This is stability the area's economy has come to rely upon.

The local population understands better than any the need for this facility. Every household in the host communities would have a connection with someone who wears or works with the items in need of the safe disposal which is the subject of this review.

This project has been under discussion since the early 2000s. I was under the impression the approval process was near an end about four years ago. In my opinion, the discussions and early consultations in connection with the DGR proposed for spent nuclear fuel have confused the general public. As a result, I believe public support for a DGR for low and intermediate level nuclear waste has been seriously undermined.

I feel if the proposal fails as a result of this confusion it will be an epic wasted opportunity, both for the nuclear power industry in Ontario and for the communities surrounding the Bruce site. From the evidence I have seen, it is proven we have the geology; the available skill sets in our labour pool; as well as the community acceptance and understanding needed to safely and competently host this facility.

A great deal of the subject material is created here and it needs to be stored safely. The Bruce DGR for low and intermediate level nuclear waste is necessary and should now move forward.

Thank you once again for allowing me to participate in this process.

Respectfully submitted,



Gord Thompson
Kincardine, Ontario