Commission d'examen conjoint du projet de stockage dans des couches géologiques profondes

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Written Submission from Mémoire de

Peter Boone Peter Boone

In the Matter of À l'égard de

**Ontario Power Generation Inc.** 

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

Joint Review Panel Commission d'examen conjoint

September 16 to October 12, 2013 16 septembre au 12 octobre 2013



To whom it may concern,

As a nuclear worker on the Bruce Nuclear site and a local resident of Kincardine, I believe there is no other choice than to take action with regards to the low and intermediate level waste (which I will be referring to as by-product for the remainder of this letter) produced from nuclear power generation and build this underground facility for its long term storage. I want to ensure it doesn't get passed to my children or grandchildren to make decisions on what to do with the low and intermediate level by-products that were generated from providing low cost/low carbon electricity for the good people of Ontario. One thing we can't forget is that just because the industry calls it waste (or byproduct); it doesn't mean it hasn't served a great purpose for Ontarians. It is the by-product of many decades of generating electricity from our home grown CANDU reactors; so in my humble opinion, we need to honor our nuclear legacy by dealing with its by-products in a responsible manner. These radioactive byproducts will not just disappear (well, not in our lifetime); we need an action plan now. If we keep the by-products above ground where it is now, we will have to continue building more storage facilities for interim management instead of putting it in a safer place at 680 metres beneath the surface. Also, this means the rate payers of Ontario will continue to hold the financial burden for the legacy byproducts and any future by-products. If we build the Deep Geological Repository (DGR), we use the money we already have, and dramatically decrease potential exposure to workers and the environment.

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has been putting funds aside for decades to deal with its by-products. Let's allow them to use the money that Ontarians have already put aside, and build the DGR. The clear benefits that nuclear power has provided for the people of Ontario and its economy; now and into the future, far outweighs any negative aspects of its by-product disposal. We have to think logically and deal with the by-products in the safest manner possible; which I believe, is to store it underground.

The science doesn't lie. The by-products will be stored in one of the most stable rock formations found on earth and it happens to be in our backyard! Let's take advantage of this earthly blessing and store it in the safest manner and provide further high value employment for Ontarians.

Also, having experience with the safety culture on the Bruce site, I can tell you it's second to none. I believe OPG's and Bruce Powers' safety record are proof enough that they have, and will continue to, safely manage our nuclear legacy in a responsible manner.

Ontarians, lets allow OPG to do its job and build this facility with the money we have already saved, to the benefit of everyone and the environment.

Regards,

Peter Boone