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**Written Submission from
Don't Waste Michigan**

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
Don't Waste Michigan**

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

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Re: Response to the proposal for a Deep Geologic Repository for the long-term storage of nuclear waste in the Bruce Peninsula, Ontario, Canada.

I have some serious concerns about the proposal. I will list them briefly here.

1. The proposed location is next to Lake Huron, in fact, it is less than a mile from the lake. Although it is an underground cavern, it is still right next to the lake. Lake Huron's waters flow past Detroit and other populated areas, into Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and down the St. Lawrence River into the ocean. There are many provinces /Canada and states/United States that are affected, and dependent on the water for drinking and for agricultural and industrial use. These communities, including First Nations people and communities such as Walpole Island etc. would be adversely affected by spills, leaks, releases and accidents from such a repository. The leakage could also go into the deep aquifers under Canada and Michigan and contaminate water resources beyond the flow of the Great Lakes. These aquifers are also used for drinking water, bathing, and in food production such as irrigation etc. The water from the Great Lakes is even bottled and sold. They are a fresh water resource that must be preserved and protected.
2. Water is a precious, endangered resource that is essential to life. The proposed project would put that resource and the lives of all of the people that depend on that resource at risk.
3. The Great Lakes are also used by fishermen for their livelihood, for transportation of cargo to inland ports, by passenger boats, and for pleasure such as swimming and watersports. It is illegal to impede these uses. The OPG has done testing to determine if cold levels of water, or adding chemicals to water will help contain radioactive releases to the lower levels of Lake Huron should a spill or release occur. This is evidence that the OPG is anticipating the possibility. This is also an indication that the OPG is anticipating breaking the protective laws that attempt to preserve and protect the Great Lakes, whether by intention, design flaw, human error, accident, or some other unknown variable, the fact that the OPG did testing proves the OPG knows there is a possibility of a radioactive release into the Great Lakes with this project. It is like premeditated murder.

4. The history of human life on earth is a millisecond compared to the toxic life of the wastes intended with this proposal for burial by the OPG. Recent earthquakes in the region and continental shifting increase the possibility of fracture in the proposed underground cavern. Who can guarantee that an earthquake will not open the proposed cavern, break the storage containments open and spill highly toxic waste into the Great Lakes? Who can guarantee that the future will be politically stable or that the people of the future will have the resources to deal with such a catastrophe?
5. In Japan, the nuclear industry thought it had safety systems in place should an earthquake etc. occur. As usual, the nuclear industry tried to pull the wool over the eyes of the public, always assuring people the nuclear power plants, not far from Tokyo, were 'safe.' Everyone knows the recent history of the tsunami that hit Fukushima. The scientists at Fukushima were prepared for many problems but were overwhelmed by the force of Mother Nature. Fukushima is still melting down and spilling radioactive waste into the Pacific Ocean. The arrogant pride of the nuclear industry/OPG in thinking they can build a repository, seal it up, and that it will be safe forever ~ is misguided and ignorant, and worse, it is deadly dangerous. This project should never have been started. The whole project is a waste of resources.
6. There should be a list made of everyone promoting the DGR so that history can note the people that forfeited the Great Lakes when the DGR breaks apart in the future.
7. Nuclear waste storage has the potential of creating great heat. Does the DGR proposal include fans or heat release data analysis about the heating up of buried waste? Does it include relying on electrical power to run some cooling elements? What happens if the grid shuts down? What happens if the rock strata crack open and the cavern floods with water? If the OPG pumps the water out, where will it go? How can they stop the force of the Great Lakes water from filling the cavern if such a break should occur? Couldn't a break occur from over heating as well as an earthquake? Isn't this whole project based on risk-taking?
8. I believe the proposed project is the blueprint for the genocide of future generations and must not be allowed. Remember the Nuremberg Principles <http://deoxy.org/wc/wc-nurem.htm>. Those people and entities planning this "burial" are liable for the ultimate harm that this project may do. Do not allow the proposal to continue. Nuclear waste should not be buried near the Great Lakes. It should not be "buried" anywhere. It is not something that can be buried and forgotten.