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**Written Submission from
Terry Squire**

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
Terry Squire**

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

DGR Joint Review Panel Hearing Written-only Submission

Debra Myles, Co-Manager Joint Review Panel, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Kelly McGee, Co-Manager Joint Review Panel, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to provide input on the DGR project at this stage of the regulatory approval process.

My name is Terry Squire and I was a resident of Bruce County for nearly thirty years and worked at the Bruce Nuclear Site for over twenty years. After being involved in the lease of the majority of the site to British Energy, I transferred to OPG's Head Office in the year 2000. I eventually became the Director of Public Affairs for the Nuclear Waste Management Division. I have been retired for almost five years, but have remained keenly interested in the progress of the Project.

I was personally involved in the discussions with the Municipality of Kincardine, First Nations, Bruce County, the surrounding communities, the media and the public (opponents and supporters) during the genesis of the DGR proposal.

I strongly believe in the safety case of the DGR, but I will leave others more qualified than I to comment on that aspect of the Project. I would like to talk about the community and social aspects of the Project and share my experience and thoughts with you.

Having been in OPG's low/intermediate level nuclear waste facilities many times, and seeing with my own eyes, I am comfortable that these wastes are being safely managed today. But, we the generation who have benefited from the operation of the nuclear plants must ensure a long-term solution for these wastes so that future generations are not burdened and their safety is assured. This was one of the guiding principles of the Municipality of Kincardine when they approached Ontario Power Generation to discuss a long-term solution for the wastes in their community. This was a very forward thinking action by Kincardine and took courage to initiate the discussions to host the wastes not just for the short-term, but for the long-term.

Kincardine believed that if they were to host to Ontario's nuclear plants low/intermediate level wastes for the long-term that their residents and those of the surrounding communities should somehow benefit for hosting these facilities. This was the genesis of the hosting agreement. The key to the hosting agreement was finding a balance between rewarding the community for their contribution to managing Ontario's nuclear waste while making sure the rewards were not too great that residents could not reject it when they were polled to see if they wanted to continue with the proposal. While there will always be controversy of any hosting agreement of this type, I believe after many months of sometimes difficult, but respectful, negotiations that the right balance was achieved.

Having lived with the nuclear industry for over forty years the Municipality of Kincardine believed that their residents had the knowledge and were as well positioned as any community in Canada or abroad to make an informed decision about whether they wanted to proceed with the proposal. Kincardine Council researched various options and visited underground facilities in the United States and Sweden before choosing the Deep Geologic Repository as their preferred method of long-term management of the wastes. OPG concurred with the chosen option. A Steering Committee of OPG officials and community leaders guided an information program that provided project specific information about the proposal to the community. Subsequently, a poll commissioned by the Municipality concluded that the community would like to see the proposal proceed to the regulatory stage. Throughout this process I would regularly ask community leaders if the DGR proposal was an issue in their community and if we were providing enough assistance in helping to inform their residents about the proposed project. Each time I was told the majority of residents that they heard from supported the proposal and that it was not a significant concern at all, in fact they had much bigger issues to deal with. They also thought we were doing a good job of providing information and keeping their communities informed about the DGR proposal. Polling of community leaders eventually confirmed this to be true.

In conclusion, I hope you will consider my comments and approve this project so that it can proceed to eventual construction. This facility is needed to provide safe long-term isolation of these low/intermediate level wastes and to ensure the protection of the natural environment and the public for generations to come. This is an enormous opportunity provided by communities who have developed a mutual trust with the nuclear industry through decades of working together, are knowledgeable about the nuclear industry and well informed about the project. They have shown tremendous courage and foresight, in the face of criticism that they knew would come and has as predicted mostly come from outside the geographical area. Let us reward their courage and perseverance and get the DGR built.

Terry Squire