

To the Members of the NRCAN Review Team:

We certainly appreciate the importance of updating Canada's Nuclear Waste Policies. The Government must work to ensure that this is done with openness and transparency, at arm's length from the industry. As Canadians, my husband and I were shocked to hear that our policies were not up to international standards. This task is so enormous and involves not just NRCAN, but also other Ministries such as Health, Environment, and Transportation to name a few. They must all have input and responsibilities in this policy review for the safety and protection of all Canadians.

Canada requires an independent agency to oversee radioactive waste management and decommissioning, one that is at arm's length from both the government and the nuclear industry. The present regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), whom Canadians depend on to protect our safety from the most deadly and toxic waste known to man appears to be too closely linked to the nuclear industry and Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO). They too, need to be more open and transparent.

Radioactive waste needs constant monitoring and surveillance. It can not just be abandoned and forgotten in a deep geological repository (DGR) after a number of years. That is a totally out of sight, out of mind, hide your head in the sand practice. Our government needs to protect all Canadians from this waste, which also includes no importing of radioactive waste from other countries and no plutonium extraction of radioactive fuel waste. Our future generations depend on this being done right.

As residents and landowners in South Bruce Ontario, where the NWMO are potentially considering building a DGR for all of Canada's spent nuclear fuel, we feel overpowered and overburdened by a giant, wealthy, powerful nuclear industry and the NWMO. We are so concerned about safety, health, environmental risks, and food and water security. This is a populated agricultural community in the Great Lakes Basin and NWMO is jeopardizing our community in so many ways. This DGR would be located beside and under the Teeswater River which flows into the Saugeen River which empties into Lake Huron. Forty million people are dependent on Lake Huron for their drinking water. South Bruce has one of the best water supplies possible as we are rich with aquifers and artesian

wells in this community. There is no buffer zone and the town of Teeswater and its residents, two schools and a dairy processing plant are approximately 3 KMs from the proposed sight.

NWMO pushes their agenda with a computerized DGR model that they say is perfectly safe, but it is indeed an experiment because no DGR for spent nuclear fuel exists in the world. Are we to be Canada's guinea pigs? NWMO lacks answers to very important questions, saying that will be answered when we get to that point in the process. I guess that is part of their Adaptive Phased Management. NWMO says we need to trust the Science and when questioned they call us "uneducated and fear mongers" who are the "not willing to listen group." Keep the waste at the reactor sites were it has to stay for approximately a 30 year cooling down period, continue to monitor it, reinforce the storage, and work on constantly improving the technology to eradicate its danger.

NWMO tells us that the DGR will not come to a community unless that community demonstrates a compelling willingness to host a DGR.. The people in the community want a referendum. Give the people a vote, sounds like a good process doesn't it. That is what should happen in a democratic country like Canada, but NO our municipal council has been manipulated by NWMO who are paying to have a consultant group meet with some of the South Bruce public to talk about willingness. Of course, there will also be on- line surveys, workbooks and little group meetings and then in November the consultants will give a report on whether we are willing or not. All this to try and avoid giving each constituent a voice. Not very inclusive, democratic or transparent and we have had to deal with this nightmare at the same time as coping with the Covid pandemic. Money flows from NWMO to the South Bruce community. Are they trying to buy willingness? What about the social impacts for this community?

We have always been proud Canadians where we thought people mattered. Please let that continue! Your review of Canada's radioactive nuclear policies and waste management are of utmost importance. Protection of our people, water, air, food security and the environment are crucial.

Stay safe and well



