

To: Natural Resources Canada - Policy Review Committee on Nuclear Waste
RE: Comments about SMNRs and Radioactive Waste in the New Federal Policy
Date: Monday, May 31st, 2021
From: [REDACTED]

To Whom it May concern at NR-CAN,

NO MANDATE for nuclear has been given by the Canadian public to the Canadian government for the continuance, let alone the expansion of the nuclear industry in Canada (SMNRs) The notion that nuclear energy can be part of the energy mix going forward is completely industry driven; it has not come from the electorate whatsoever.

The FACT that NRCAN, sponsor of these sessions, has refused to make them public, as in sharable, either by the department itself, or by permission granted to attendees to do so, says everything one would want to know. The department has a lot to hide. A tremendous amount of information came to light with the involvement by many highly educated experts who have followed this field their entire lives in these four sessions, hosted by the Dept. of Natural Resources and the Gov't. of Canada. The government does not want the information out.

WHAT IS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY is a halt to nuclear anything and a **nuclear moratorium**, only to be lifted until there is a credible, independent watchdog agency created by the Gov't. of Canada to oversee direction of waste management, decommissioning; **completely divorced from the nuclear industry** and to oversee a complete shutdown of nuclear generation. Stewardship of sites must be 'managed' in perpetuity for thousands of years...okay...hundreds of thousands of years.

TEN YEARS AGO IN 2011, nuclear energy provided the world's electricity generation with 17% of the total. Today, in 2021, that figure is down to 10% and in 10 year's time, 2031, it will be down to 5%.

UNITS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY produced cost \$3.70 compared to pennies, as in .23 and .27, for renewables., wind and solar. On **ANY** business case metric....nuclear doesn't cut it. Environmentally, nuclear has NEVER cut it.

SO, WHY IS IT THAT NEW BRUNSWICK is constantly pursuing the 'race to the bottom' to be the armpit of the country, nay, the continent? WHY exactly is that? Who wants plutonium that badly that we are, yet again in this province, yoked with a futuristic nuclear millstone that will never see the light of day? **SMNRs.**

It is extremely important, imperative and essential that the following key points are embedded in the new federal policy on radioactive waste.

- **Canada needs an independent agency, arms-length from government and industry, to oversee radioactive waste management and decommissioning**
- **No importing of radioactive waste from other countries**
- **No plutonium extraction (reprocessing or pyro-processing) of radioactive fuel waste**

- Radioactive waste should NOT be abandoned; policy should direct perpetual care and monitoring (As mentioned above.)
- Government and industry must be open and transparent in the management of radioactive waste and its transportation; Indigenous peoples and all Canadians have a right to access information, to engage in decision-making, and to know the risks

No further research into or development of SMNRs (Small Modular Nuclear Reactors)

I am in strong agreement with CRED-NB, Nuclear Waste Watch and the National Committee of Civil Society Groups.

These KEY POINTS MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW FEDERAL POLICY ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE.

Sincerely requested,

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