RESOLUTION OPPOSED TO PROPOSALS TO BURY RADIOACTIVE WASTES NEAR SHORES OF GREAT LAKES

Whereas Canada’s Nuclear Waste Management Organization is assisting Ontario Power Generation in seeking regulatory approval for construction of a proposed Deep Geologic Repository [DGR] for the long-term management of low and intermediate level waste (L&ILW) from OPG -owned or operated reactors. The DGR is planned adjacent to OPG’s Western Waste Management Facility (WWMF) at the Bruce nuclear site in the Municipality of Kincardine, near the shores of Lake Huron;

Whereas, the Government of Canada selected the plan for the long-term management of Canadian irradiated nuclear fuel (high-level nuclear waste) in June 2007. The approach, called Adaptive Phased Management, will lead to the siting of a deep geological repository in a so-called “informed and willing host community”. The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is federally mandated to implement this project and is beginning the multi-year process for selecting a community to host this national facility;

Whereas, as of this date, 16 of the 21 communities that have expressed interest in being the location for the deep geological repository for highly radioactive nuclear fuel waste are near the shores of the Great Lakes;

Whereas, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement as amended in 2012 lists “the storage and transfer of nuclear waste or radioactive materials” as activities “that could have a significant cumulative impact on the Waters of the Great Lakes”; and

Whereas, Great Lakes United has previously expressed concern about storage of nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin as evidenced in resolutions dated 5/19/85 and reaffirmed in 5/7/89.

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United stands in opposition to the siting of ANY nuclear waste deep geological repository near the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River and anywhere in the Great Lakes Basin, and will inform the general public, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, Ontario Power Generation, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, the U.S. and Canadian federal governments, other appropriate governing bodies, and the International Joint Commission of the risks associated with potential contamination of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River by deep burial of radioactive waste in this area.
I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a resolution adopted at the thirtieth annual meeting of Great Lakes United on November 9, 2012.

Linda Smith, Secretary