



# *Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek*

GRASSY NARROWS, ONTARIO P0X 1B0 • PHONE: (807) 925-2201 • FAX: (807) 925-2649

February 26, 2024

**SENT VIA EMAIL:** lswami@nwmo.ca

Attention: Laurie Swami (President and CEO)  
Nuclear Waste Management Organization  
22 St. Clair Avenue East, Fourth Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M4T 2S3

Dear President and CEO Laurie Swami,

**RE: ANA says 'no' to Nuclear waste storage in our watershed**

I am writing to inform you, again, that Grassy Narrows says 'no' to nuclear waste in our Territory, in our region, and anywhere upstream or upwind of our Territory. This is a final decision, and it will not change.

We have learned that you are thinking of setting up a nuclear waste storage site near Ignace, Ontario. This site is upstream of our Territory in the Wabigoon River watershed. The water from that site flows past our reserve and into the waters where we fish, drink, and swim. The material that you want to store there will be dangerous for longer than Canada has existed, longer than Europeans have been on Turtle Island, and longer than anything that human beings have ever built has lasted. How can you reliably claim that this extremely dangerous waste will safely be contained for hundreds of thousands of years? Our watershed and our people have already suffered too many impacts. We cannot accept this further risk to the health of our river and our people.

Although you have never contacted us, our First Nation learned of your plans and wrote to you on July 2, 2020, on February 7, 2022, and on October 7, 2022 to express our concerns. We have never received a response.

I am also informing you that Grassy Narrows is the collective rights holder on our Territory. The Grand Council of Treaty 3 has an important role, which we respect. However, only Grassy Narrows can speak for our people, our land, and our water. You cannot talk to and correspond with anyone else in place of Grassy Narrows. No one else can give

consent in our place to activities, like nuclear waste storage, that risk grave harm to our people and our environment.

Grassy Narrows says 'no' to the proposed nuclear waste storage site near Ignace. I call on you to respect the decision of Grassy Narrows First Nation.

Please copy the Grassy Narrows Land Protection Team on all communications related to this matter.

Awsa,



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Chief Rudy Turtle

Enc.

cc:

**Grassy Narrows Lands Protection Team**

Joseph Fobister, Lead Negotiator (jbfobister@gmail.com)

Mike Fobister, Lands Team Coordinator (mike.fobister@googlemail.com)

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Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Gary Anandasangaree (gary.anandasangaree@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)

Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks Andrea Khanjin (minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

Minister of Indigenous Affairs Greg Rickford (minister.indigenousaffairs@ontario.ca)

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault (steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca)

President of Impact Assessment Agency of Canada Terence Hubbard (terence.hubbard@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)

Grand Council Treaty 3 Chief Francis Kavanaugh (by fax: 807-548-4776)

Grand Council Treaty 3 Environmental Manager Chris Herc (by fax: 807-548-4776)