



MiningWatch Canada Resolution: Opposition to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's Deep Geological Repository Project

WHEREAS MiningWatch Canada has taken the position since 2007 that uranium exploration and mining creates serious negative short and long term impacts on the environment and on individuals and local communities, that these impacts must be minimized and mitigated against, and therefore that there should be a total moratorium on uranium exploration and new uranium mines across Canada.

WHEREAS The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has been investigating potential sites for a deep geological repository (DGR) for high-level nuclear waste from all of Canada's nuclear power reactors since 2010; and

WHEREAS the NWMO DGR project involves the transportation, processing, burial and abandonment of an estimated 100,000 tonnes of highly radioactive waste; and

WHEREAS there are scientific and public concerns about the risks of radioactive exposures along the transportation route and in the region of and downstream from the repository site under both normal operating and accident conditions; and

WHEREAS the NWMO has repeatedly said it will not proceed without an "informed and willing host" but have excluded those living downstream and along the transportation route from its definition of "host" and determination of willingness; and

WHEREAS there is no other operating deep geological repository for high-level radioactive waste approved or operating anywhere in the world; and

WHEREAS despite decades of effort on the part of the nuclear industry, many scientific and technical uncertainties persist, including with respect to the NWMO's project which remains to be in a conceptual stage of development; and

WHEREAS the Treaty organizations across Northern Ontario – including Grand Council Treaty 3, Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Anishnabek Nation – and many individual First Nations have expressed opposition to the DGR project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT MiningWatch Canada urges the NWMO to establish secure storage solutions for nuclear waste in the vicinity of the reactor stations where the waste has been generated and is currently stored and to not pursue the transport, burial, and abandonment of these radioactive wastes.

AND THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MiningWatch Canada write the Minister of Natural Resources Canada to request that the current site selection process be put to an end.

Date: November 18, 2024

Approved by: MiningWatch Board of Directors