

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO NWMO PROJECT

December 2024

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

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

WHEREAS many scientific and technical uncertainties persist with respect to the NWMO's, project which remains in a conceptual stage of development; and

WHEREAS the NWMO emphasized for over a decade that it would not proceed without an "informed and willing host", but has excluded those living downstream and along the transportation route from its definition of "host" and determination of willingness; and

WHEREAS the NWMO announced on November 28, 2024 that it had selected the Revell site between Ignace and Dryden in northwestern Ontario despite Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation's having expressed "willingness" only for site characterization, and having specified that this does not signify approval of the project; and

Whereas the NWMO's site selection is not the final decision for their proposed deep geological repository which will be subject to federal regulatory review and impact assessment and a decision by the federal government; 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 strong opposition to the NWMO's project,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre urges the federal government to direct the owners of high-level nuclear waste (Ontario Power Generation, Hydro Quebec and New Brunswick Power) to establish secure storage solutions for nuclear waste in the vicinity of their reactor stations where the waste has been generated and is currently stored; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the federal government direct the NWMO to no longer pursue the transport, burial and abandonment of these radioactive wastes.

Date February 18, 2025

Organization Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre

Signed by Sven O'Neil