

TESTIMONY FOR OPG DEEP GEOLOGIC REPOSITORY HEARING

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Greetings to the people listening in Canada and the United States:

My name is Linda Lewison and I am speaking to you today as a member of the Core Team of Sierra Club's Nuclear Free Campaign and as a member of Nuclear Energy Information Service, a watchdog on the nuclear industry for the past 32 years.

I am speaking from Chicago.

Why would someone as far away as Chicago want to give testimony here?

While Chicago may seem far away to some, it is not beyond the reach of your provincial police who called me to make sure I "knew what I was getting into" all the way from here.

I speak now because I am concerned about these "late Great Lakes" - these magnificent bodies of water from which millions of us ALL AROUND THE SHORES OF THE GREAT LAKES get our drinking water. This is ONE FIFTH of the fresh water supply in the world.

And, as you are aware, water is a closed system. There is only so much of it in supply no matter what the increase in demand. It evaporates up. It rains and snows and comes down. If any of it is contaminated - and we are talking about radioactive contamination which will last for thousands of years, effectively INTO ETERNITY, it will never be recaptured for our use.

At this time we support the recommendations of Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility and Northwatch and advocate for:

- on site storage
- improved at or near surface storage
- enhanced protection of onsite and near site storage

We do not support the Deep Geologic Repository, the Deep Underground dump.

The site being considered in this proposal is unsuitable simply because it is near the Great Lakes.

The transportation risks and the climatological risks are unthinkable.

Regardless of the probability of something going wrong, we should not subject the Great Lakes to that possibility.

Basic statistical theory posits that: if the probability of an event happening is above zero, at some point that event will happen.

We cannot allow that to happen to the Great Lakes.

The Great Lakes is not a garbage dump. It is an irreplaceable resource comprising 20% of the fresh water supply on earth.

Millions of people depend on it for drinking water.
If Fukushima fuel pools create a global catastrophe, the Great Lakes will be that much more important as a water source.

For these reasons we do not support the Deep Geologic Repository proposal for a Deep Underground Dump.
We need to "dump the Dump" and protect the Great Lakes.

Thank you.

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