



**CANADIAN  
NUCLEAR**  
WORKERS' COUNCIL

**Canadian Nuclear Workers' Council  
Presentation  
To**

**The Joint Review Panel Public Hearing  
For  
Ontario Power Generation's  
Deep Geological Repository (DGR) Project &  
Application for a License to Prepare the Site**

**AUGUST 13, 2013.**

## MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

The Canadian Nuclear Workers Council (CNWC) was founded in 1993 as an umbrella organization of Unions that represent workers in all sectors of the Canadian Nuclear Industry. A list of the member Unions and the purpose and objectives of the council are attached as Appendix A & B.

We have reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) information submitted by Ontario Power Generation (OPG) for the environmental assessment for this proposed project. We must say upfront that from our analysis the CNWC agree and supports the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's conclusions **THAT THIS PROJECT WILL NOT LIKELY SIGNICANTLY ADVERSLY AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT.**

CNWC member Unions are all very familiar with low and medium level radiological waste and have safely handled and stored these materials for over 40 years.

The CNWC has been kept informed of this project since its inception many years ago. Representatives of CNWC have toured the proposed DGR Site on several occasions.

CNWC affiliate, Grey-Bruce Labour Council, which represents Unions in the Grey-Bruce Area had a tour and were briefed on the DGR in late 2012. Since the tour they have been kept updated on the progress of the project.(letter attached)

We submit that all industries and households create waste. Big strides have been made in eliminating, reducing, and controlling waste in all areas. Radiological waste has been and continues to be strictly regulated. OPG and other producers of radiological waste have come a long way in reducing the amount of this type of waste over the years. Technology has improved over the years in creating means to reduce the amount of radiological waste.

The OPG Western Waste Management Facility (WWMF) has been safely operated since it started operation. Radiological waste has been stored at this site for many years. We see the DGR as the next logical step in the storage process. Simply put the waste which is being safely stored above ground will be moved underground if the DGR project is approved.

OPG has operated an ongoing public information project for the DGR. Concerned citizens have been able to get answers to their concerns and questions. Many nuclear workers live in the vicinity of the DGR project and are supportive. The only negative view heard on this issue from our affiliates was that confusion has been created with the DGR-OPG and the Nuclear Waste Management Organizations (NWMO) both having active programs operating in the area at the same time. It is understandably difficult for people to keep the issues separate.

As a trade Union organization the CNWC is understanding of organizations that provide negative views' on this project. Their views are important in a democratic society. The CNWC suggests that once the public has been provided the correct information and have answers to their questions they are supportive of the DGR. We encourage the panel to weigh the views of the silent majority with the views of the vocal minority in this regard.

During our oral presentation the Panel will hear from two CNWC representatives who will provide you with a grass roots citizen's perspective of this project. First of all you will hear from Mr. Howard Phorson, local resident, farmer, Nuclear Operator at Bruce Power etc. Our second representative will be Mr. Kevin Mackay, retiree, local resident, Vice President Grey-Bruce Labour Council.

We are fully supportive of OPG receiving a License to prepare the site and proceed with construction of the DGR. Our CNWC on site member Union, The Power Workers Union (PWU), will operate the facility and will be on site during construction. The PWU will be following the progress of the facilities and will be able to provide additional "eyes and ears" in respect of worker safety and environmental issues.

In conclusion the CNWC is of the opinion that the DGR is not likely to significantly affect the environment and encourages the Panel to accept the EIS and to proceed to granting OPG a license to prepare the site and proceed to construction of the DGR.

Respectfully submitted

David Shier  
President - CNWC

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Objectives of the Canadian Nuclear Workers' Council**

- to ensure that the interests and perspective of nuclear workers are heard by decision-makers;
- to strengthen the collective role of nuclear workers as a partner in their industry;
- to enhance public knowledge and understanding of nuclear issues by providing factual information; and
- to build support for the nuclear industry and its future potential.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Canadian Nuclear Workers' Council Member Unions**

**Canadian Union of Public Employees  
Locals 1500, 2200, & 267**

**Communication, Energy & Paper Workers Union  
Local 599-O & Local 48 – S**

**Canadian Auto Workers Union**

**International Association of Firefighters**

**International Association of Machinist & Aerospace Workers  
Local 608**

**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**

**Power Workers Union**

**Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPS)  
CRPEG & WRPEG**

**Public Service Alliance of Canada**

**United Steel Workers  
Locals 8914, 7806, 14193, 13713**

**Chalk River Technicians and Technologist Union**

**Society of Professional Engineers & Associates (Candu Inc)**

**Hydro Quebec Professional Engineers Union**

**Grey Bruce Labour Council**

**Durham Region Labour Council**

**Northumberland Labour Council**



## **GREY-BRUCE LABOUR COUNCIL**

*Representing the Needs of Working People Since 1956  
(Chartered to the Canadian Labour Congress in 1956)*

*August 12, 2013*

*Mr. D. Shier  
President – CNWC  
244 Eglinton Ave, East  
Toronto, ON  
M4P 1K2*

*Mr. Shier:*

*RE: CNWC Submission to the Joint Review Panel(JRP) Public Hearing For OPG's Deep Geological Repository (DGR) Project & Application for a License to Prepare the SITE*

*The Grey Bruce Labour Council is the community voice of labour in Bruce and Grey Counties and has been for over fifty years. The Labour Council is diverse and inclusive and all sectors from private to public, to education, healthcare, energy and manufacturing are well represented at the table. Often present at the labour council table are community groups, and retiree chapters and representatives making up a vibrant facet of the labour council. Our Labour Council is also an affiliate of the Canadian Nuclear Workers Council. The Grey Bruce Labour Council is the host labour council for the Bruce Nuclear site.*

*Due to a demonstrated commitment to worker safety and the well-being of the surrounding communities the Grey Bruce Labour Council has been supportive of the nuclear licensees (Bruce Power Inc & Ontario Power generation) in our catchment area.*

*The Power Workers' Union (PWU) (CNWC Affiliate), the union that represents the Workers at the site of Bruce Power and OPG's Western Waste Management Facility is an active member of our Labour Council. The PWU representatives keep our executive and the membership informed of issues regarding the current nuclear facilities and including the DGR Project. Representatives of our Labour Council had the opportunity to tour the proposed DGR site and received a briefing in the fall of 2012.*

*The Canadian Nuclear Worker's Council (CNWC) submissions in support of the DGR Project has been presented and discussed by the Grey Bruce Labour Council.*

*The evidence is clear that OPG remains committed to do all that is possible to sustain the safety of workers and nearby communities, and the Grey Bruce Labour Council is pleased to continue its support for the operations and improvements that are undertaken by all licensees in our catchment area.*

*In solidarity,*



*Hazel Pratt-Paige, President  
Grey Bruce Labour Council*