

May 5th letter to Walkerton Herald-Times

Letter to the editor

I am a resident of Teeswater and opposed to having the NWMO and the South Bruce Council make a decision on the hosting of a DGR in our community without a vote or referendum by the residents of the community. Despite having requested in numerous emails and letters to our Mayor and Council for a timeline on a vote or referendum, no commitment/comments have been received to date. At the heart of the decision is whether the residents want to change the fabric of our community and become a mining community or remain an agricultural community. The DGR is a major mining project employing 100's of construction workers, mainly from other communities, massive amount of heavy machinery and traffic, blasting and excavation of tons of earth and the normal dust and noise accompanying such a mining project. According to the NWMO published material, the construction period for the repository/mine will continue over the 40 year life of the project. In addition, the nuclear spent fuel waste from across Canada will be trucked to the DGR consisting of two truck loads per day for 40 years. The route chosen will mean these trucks will be passing through many neighbouring communities as they make their way to their final destination in South Bruce.

Since we all share the same air and water, any incident or failure of the DGR operation will have an impact well beyond the border of South Bruce. As the Minister of Environment for the state of Nevada quoted after two incidents occurred with the DGR in his state, "One incident is one too many."

If you think such a fundamental decision regarding changing our community environment should be made by a vote/referendum by the South Bruce residents, please contact the Mayor and the council members by email or letter to express your desires . If you are opposed to creating a predominant mining community, visit the web site www.protectsouthbruce-nodgr.org and request a copy of a petition against a DGR.

Yours truly,
Bill Noll
Resident of South Bruce