



Bruce County Executive Council considering a motion indicating that *“Deep Geological Repositories are a matter of settled science”*

A proposed motion being brought forward for a vote on November 5th, 2020 to Bruce County Council asks for councillors to support the concept of a deep geological repository (DGR) as a matter of settled science. The proposed motion raises several concerns.

Nothing could be more antithetical to the fundamental philosophy behind science than attaching the word “settled” to an untested and theoretical project. The science behind a DGR concept is not settled and it is why the NWMO refers to their own process as “Adaptive”. Many international experts do not agree that a DGR approach is the best solution for the storing of highly radioactive spent fuel.

It is premature for the County of Bruce to consider a vote on this motion when Mayor Buckle, who represents the lower tier Municipality of South Bruce at county council, has stated on numerous occasions that “ no decision has been made by the South Bruce council to proceed with the project at this time.”

Mayor Buckle, the NWMO Sales team, and the South Bruce council all request that South Bruce residents need to be “willing to listen” and “learn more”, in order to make a truly informed decision about the storage of highly radioactive spent fuel in the community.

The CNSC representatives at a recent Bruce County Executive Council meeting provided some excellent information but also informed the members that the CNSC has not performed their evaluation regarding the safety and suitability of a DGR in the South Bruce community.

1600 residents of South Bruce signed a petition in early 2020 opposing the DGR constituting the strongest statement of community opinion to date on the proposed DGR. “ We hope Mayor Buckle acknowledges this fact and provides the Bruce County Executive Council with the same recommendation that he has requested of the residents of South Bruce which is “to become

more informed before they make a decision” said Michelle Stein, President of Protect Our Waterways - No Nuclear Waste.

“I question who is behind bringing this motion to the Bruce County Executive Council at this time” said Bill Noll, Vice President of Protect Our Waterways - No Nuclear Waste “when the NWMO states two communities – South Bruce and Ignace – are still being considered for the DGR and a final siting decision will not be made until 2023”, further Noll stated “this premature vote may only serve to make the process more divisive in South Bruce and county wide”.

Protect Our Waterways No Nuclear Waste recommends that the Bruce County Executive Council postpone this motion until more definitive information is available and after the residents of South Bruce decide by means of a vote whether they are willing to become a host community for a DGR.

Take Action Now!

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