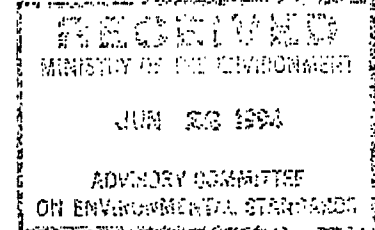


Durham Nuclear Awareness

Box 2143, Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 7V4 (416) 725-1565

June 21, 1994

Hon. Bud Wildman
Minister of Environment and Energy
135 St. Clair Ave. West
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5



Dear Mr. Wildman,

I would like to take this opportunity to urge you to adopt and implement the recommendations of your Advisory Committee on Environmental Standards with respect to a standard for tritium in drinking water. Durham Nuclear Awareness (DNA) is very pleased with the scope and content of the ACES report. The ACES tritium workgroup carried out the review of this issue with great care and integrity. It is a landmark report in that it exposes the double standard that is applied to radioactive pollution. At the same time, the ACES recommendations are quite reasonable. The 100 Bq/l standard, with a shift to 20 Bq/l in five years, provides a reasonable opportunity for Ontario Hydro and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited to address radioactive pollution problems.

Adopting and implementing these recommendations will really contribute to a reduction in the discharge of tritium - a persistent and toxic substance. During 1992, the nuclear facilities located in Ontario released to the air and water more than eight times the amount of tritium that is produced naturally each year on the whole planet. There is broad support for "zero discharge" of these hazardous materials, and the International Joint Commission is urging all governments in the Great Lakes basin to enforce pollution reduction measures, including measures to reduce radioactive pollution. I look forward to hearing from you on this very important matter.

Yours sincerely,

Irene Kock

Cc/c. M. Goldberg, Chair, ACES