



November 15 2012

An Open Letter to Communities Under Investigation for Nuclear Waste Burial

Dear Community members:

An alliance of 31 community, health, environmental, faith and public interest organizations has come together over concerns about the proposal to bury nuclear waste – twenty-one communities are under investigation as a possible burial site – and to offer friendship and support to communities such as yours who are being investigated by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization as potential recipients of all of Canada's nuclear fuel waste, for either burial or reprocessing.

We share key concerns about the long term safety of placing the nuclear waste in caverns deep underground, and about the nearer term risks and hazards that would come with transporting radioactive wastes long distances and through communities along the way.

This week, Nuclear Waste Watch wrote to the federal minister in charge of nuclear safety, and asked him to direct the NWMO to act in a more open and transparent manner, in keeping with their stated commitments. We also asked the Minister to create an independent agency to provide technical reviews of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization studies, and to ensure that Canadians have access to sound information from a variety of sources rather than having to rely on the NWMO, which is a consortium of the nuclear companies that produce the waste. We further asked him to commence a review of the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act, as it has now been ten years since it was passed into law and a legislative review at this point would be timely.

Nuclear Waste Watch has launched a new web site at www.NuclearWasteWatch.net and you can read the list of participating organizations and our letter to the Minister, along with other material on our web site. Nuclear Waste Watch can also suggest speakers and other resource people you can contact for help in learning more about nuclear waste and the risks, hazards and alternative to the nuclear industry's burial proposal. Please visit our web site, or email us at info@NuclearWasteWatch.net.

In friendship,

Nuclear Waste Watch

(31 organizations – see listing at www.NuclearWasteWatch.net)