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**From:** Lionel Cloutier <email address removed>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 4, 2026 3:55 PM  
**To:** Nuclear Waste / Déchets Nucléaires (IAAC/AEIC)  
**Subject:** Deep Geological Repository (DGR)

We are at a “Déjà vu” moment in our small community of Ignace. It happened in 2006 and hitting us hard once again. Our sawmill has announced a closure due to trade policies with the U.S.A.

In local politics it is more important now than ever for our community to forgive and forget all the political or personal differences we may have and focus on what we have to work with.

We should be grateful for the Mayors and Councillors and volunteer committee members through the years since 2008 that have worked to see the DGR project move forward.

It was good news to hear that property was purchased for the Centre of Excellence. A media report was disappointing that a very low percentage of professionals would consider living here. Ignace residents have supported the town leadership for making it better for the community. We trust that NWMO will assist in making that happen. My suggestion is for the NWMO or the contractors to advance down payments only for employees who will reside in Ignace for a set period. I'm not sure exactly how it works but some mining companies do that to retain their people.

It is not only the NWMO that needs to recognize the needs of our community to thrive. Our Federal and Provincial governments have a role to play and we need their assistance to grow. We need people period. Entrepreneurs are afraid to invest. Developing the trailer court (mobile homes) may be the answer for the initial construction workers that wish to have their families with them.

We have an Elementary School, High School and French Catholic School that are presently underused. It's a great place for family. .. hockey arena, skateboard park, beaches, snowmobiling, golf course, skiing trails, hunting, fishing and so much more that city life does not offer.

Our governments could be very instrumental in assuring that our community is not forgotten when it comes to safety and regulatory oversight. I researched and here are some government agencies—both Canadian and international—that could potentially establish offices or have a relevant presence in Ignace due to the Deep Geological Repository (DGR) for the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO):

### Canadian Agencies:

1. **Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)**  
- Responsible for regulating nuclear safety and waste management in Canada.
2. **National Energy Board (NEB)** (now part of the Canada Energy Regulator)  
- Oversees energy projects, including those related to nuclear energy and infrastructure.
3. **Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)**  
- Focuses on natural resource management, including nuclear energy and geological research.
4. **Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)**  
- Ensures environmental regulations are met by projects like the DGR.
5. **Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)**  
- Manages provincial environmental oversight and concerns related to nuclear waste.
6. **Ontario Power Generation (OPG)**  
- A key player in nuclear energy in Ontario, involved in nuclear waste management projects.

### International Agencies:

1. **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**  
- Provides guidance, standards, and regulatory support for nuclear safety and waste disposal worldwide.
2. **Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)** of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)  
- Promotes cooperation among countries on nuclear safety and radioactive waste management.
3. **World Nuclear Association (WNA)**

- Facilitates international dialogue on nuclear power and waste issues.

### Additional Considerations:

- Local or regional offices from these agencies could be established to oversee, regulate, or coordinate the DGR project.
- International agencies like IAEA often collaborate with local agencies, providing technical support and standards compliance.

This list isn't exhaustive but highlights the key agencies.

I was involved with the application for Ignace to learn about the Adaptive Phased Management and despite my initial negative reaction am glad to say that I observed and reasoned the need for Canada to be a leader.

Lionel Cloutier

Sent from my iPhone