



ISKATEWIZAAGEGAN NO.39 INDEPENDENT FIRST NATION

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PO BOX 1, Kejick, Ontario, P0X 1E0

February 3, 2026

Board of Directors
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Via email: contactus@nwmo.ca

Amy Sen

Acting Director, Ontario Region

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

55 York Street, Suite 600

Toronto, ON

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Via email: ontarioregion-regiondontario@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Re: Deep Geological Repository-Treaty #3

Dear Board of Directors and Ms. Sen,

I write on behalf of the Iskatewizaagegan No. 39 Independent Nation (Nation) which is located on the Ontario and Manitoba border. The Nation entered into a treaty relationship with the Crown in 1873 now known as Treaty # 3. As you are aware, there are plans and studies underway to develop a repository for nuclear waste within the Treaty #3 territory.

The Nation's vision for Treaty # 3 was to ensure that the Nation's peoples, the Anishinaabeg of the Nation, would continue to be actively involved, as we were promised during treaty negotiations, in the use of Treaty #3 lands in a manner that would ensure unimpeded access and cultural continuity throughout our territory consistent with the ways of our ancestors.

However, over time our vision of being a part of the new Canada has been lost and more often in recent times, our existence as first peoples of this land is undeniably under threat of extinguishment. The taking up of Treaty #3 land has been unregulated and at such a pace that no standard or threshold is set by the Crown that will ensure our inherent rights, both domestic rights protected by s. 35 of the Constitution and international rights recognized by international jurisprudence and adopted into Canadian law, are safeguarded by the Crown as part of its legal obligation to the Nation and other Indigenous peoples; the honour of the Crown ensures such legal obligations are fulfilled.

With all that being said, with this letter our Nation is declaring that it cannot and will not support any planned development that supports a nuclear repository in Treaty #3, despite support from other Treaty #3 First Nations. Given the nature and extent of the nuclear repository project, our

Nation's position is that in keeping with the promises made at the time of Treaty #3 by the Crown, that all Treaty #3 First Nations must be adequately consulted and free, prior and informed consent provided. The potential harm from the nuclear repository project will reverberate beyond the Wabigoon Lake and Ignace area, and in the spirit of the promises made that the Anishinaabe will be actively involved in the use of Treaty #3 lands, such consultation and free, prior and informed consent is imperative; our future generations health and well-being demand no less.

Respectfully,

Iskatewizaagegan No. 39 Independent First Nation

<Signature removed>

Chief Leon Mandamin
On behalf of Council

cc Minister Greg Rickford, Indigenous Affairs via email: greg.rickford@pc.ola.org
Minister Julia Aviva Dabrusin, Environment, Climate Change and Nature
via email: julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca