
From: Allison Skirtschak <email address removed>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 5:53 PM
To: Nuclear Waste / Déchets Nucléaires (IAAC/AEIC)
Subject: Opposing nuclear waste project

Hello,

I have been a resident of Thunder Bay and surrounding communities since I arrived here in 2004 to go to Lakehead University. I'm an avid sea kayaker and I spend my summers guiding recreational trips on Lake Superior. I'm also the founder of a business called Boreal Body, where I make skin care products from wild plants that I harvest from the boreal forest region of Northwestern Ontario. I'm proud to call Northwestern Ontario my home. I remember reading a quote from David Suzuki years back in a book he wrote titled "A Sacred Balance: Rediscovering Our Place in Nature." In it, I remember him writing that one of the most powerful acts we can do as humans is to say "yes" to a place. When we say "yes, I belong here, this is my home", we are also saying yes to protecting and taking care of that place. When we feel like we belong to a place, we want to protect the water, the land, the people, and all our relations.

I am writing to express my deep concern about the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's proposed deep geological repository for nuclear fuel waste which the NWMO is proposing to construct and operate between Ignace and Dryden in northwestern Ontario.

While I have many concerns about the project itself and the NWMO's method of selecting the site and their site selection, my comments are on the Impact Assessment review process which began on January 5th and the NWMO's "initial project description".

The 30-day comment period is far too short. Many people who are concerned about this project, including the transportation of the radioactive waste to the site, will not have even heard about the comment period and for those of us who were alerted to the comment period it is a very short period of time to comment on the initial project description. This is an important project that will have impacts far, far into the future. The review process must be thorough and allow public participation, and a 30-day comment period works against that.

The project description is poorly done and leaves out important information about the project. For one, the NWMO is trying to persuade the Impact Assessment Agency that transportation can be left out of the review after describing transportation as part of their project for more than twenty years.

LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORTATION MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE IN THE PROJECT REVIEW.

The risks of transporting nuclear waste on the route you have proposed is extremely concerning and the consequences of a spill would have devastating consequences that would be irreversible, not to mention the risks of storing the nuclear waste in the ground near waterways and communities. The risks of this plan have not been adequately considered. Please, I beg of you, do not go ahead with this project. It

could have devastating consequences on the health and wellbeing of the land, waterways, the people who live here and all our relations for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Allison Skirtschak

<personal information removed>