



**November 19, 2016**

# The Inverhuron Committee

## **Dear Inverhuron Residents:**

The Inverhuron Committee continues to follow the status of Ontario Power Generation's proposal to build a deep geologic repository for low and intermediate-level waste at the site of the Bruce Generating Station.

On May 6, 2016, the Joint Review Panel approved this project but listed over 100 conditions that were required to be completed before a license to construct the repository could be granted by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). The CNSC would be the responsible party to review and approve the completion of the follow-up work.

The Joint Review Panel Report was submitted to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, and The Honorable Catherine McKenna responded by sending a letter to the proponent asking Ontario Power Generation to complete further studies. The request made was to study actual alternate locations, as well as to look at the cumulative effects of a repository on the site where there was already nuclear activity and to take into account the fact that a second repository for high-level waste was possible in the immediate vicinity (Huron-Kinloss, South Bruce and Central Huron). All studies were to be completed and submitted by December 31, 2016.

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) replied in September that they would study two unnamed alternate locations; one in sedimentary rock and one in crystalline (granite rock). OPG indicated that it would study two geographic locations.

As a response, The Honorable Catherine McKenna wrote to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency asking that this organization take over the evaluation of the studies to be provided by OPG. She also wrote to The Joint Review Panel thanking them for the work that they had done to date and indicating that she did not require further involvement on their part. As well, a commitment was made by The Minister to open a public comment period for the public to react to the studies to be submitted by OPG. There has been no indication to date as to how that public participation would take place.

On Friday, November 11, 2016, Ontario Power Generation invited a few stakeholders, including The Inverhuron Committee, to receive information relative to the studies which have been done and to

preview the content of the Report which they will submit in December 2016.

The Chair of The Inverhuron Committee, Marti McFadzean, attended the meeting and gleaned the following information:

- 1) Two alternate unnamed geographic areas were studied
- 2) Both alternate sites which were studied were in the Great Lakes Basin
- 3) The Kincardine site remained the preferred location
- 4) The location in Kincardine remained the preferred site due to a focus on transportation of waste
- 5) Crystalline rock would require additional mitigation measures due to fracturing in granite
- 6) Approximately 140 pages of Commitments on the part of OPG will be submitted as part of their follow-up.

As stated, this was a preview and an opportunity to receive information. We will have a chance to see the Report when it is submitted to the Minister. It appears that we will also have time to submit comments to the Report.

The members of The Inverhuron Committee would appreciate any comments that our community may have relative to the information which OPG has shared.

One of our initial reactions to this information is that transportation, to this point, has never been an issue to OPG as they already have transported the low and intermediate-level waste from Pickering and Darlington to the Bruce Western Waste Management Facility for many years. OPG has always indicated that this has been done without incident. As well, the proposed sites for the high-level fuel repository will require transport through Ontario since the proposed sites for this repository are well out of the Toronto area.

The Inverhuron Committee members will continue to meet and to look at all aspects of the OPG submission to The Minister of the Environment and Climate Change.

## **The Inverhuron Committee Inc.**

Marti McFadzean, Chair of the Board of Directors

Dale Palin, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Directors

Sharon Cross, Director of the Board

Eugene Bourgeois, Member of the Working Group

Doug Hunter, Member of the Working Group

Jeanne Quayle, Member of the Working Group

Donald Stewart, Member of the Working Group

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