



December 16, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada

The Honourable Julie Dabrusin
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

The Honourable Tim Hodgson
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

Dear Ministers:

Re. Nuclear Waste Management Organization's Transportation and Burial Project

We write today to urge you to exercise oversight of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's "Adaptive Phased Management Project" to transport, process, bury and eventually abandon all of Canada's nuclear fuel waste at the NWMO's selected site in the heart of Treaty 3 Territory in northwestern Ontario and its upcoming impact assessment process.

An overarching concern is the lack of federal oversight of this project since its inception in 2002. This concern about the lack of oversight of the nuclear industry more generally was expressed to your predecessor government several times during the 2021-2023 Radioactive Waste Policy Review by hundreds of civil society organizations and thousands of Canadians, but we have seen no efforts to remedy the situation. In fact, our concerns have deepened in the intervening years.

In November 2024, after a 15-year siting process, the NWMO announced their selection of the Revell site between Ignace and Dryden for their proposed "deep geological repository". The site selection was made without the NWMO having presented a mature description of their project or having obtained the consent of an "informed and willing host" - the measure of success they themselves had set.

Just weeks before NWMO announced their selected site, the Chiefs in Assembly of Treaty 3 had unanimously passed a resolution expressing opposition to the project and to NWMO's activities in their Territory. Nishnawbi Aski Nation, Anishnabek Nation and the Chiefs of Ontario have also passed resolutions expressing their opposition, as have a growing list of First Nations, municipalities and civil society organizations across Ontario and into Manitoba, including national organizations.

Just weeks later, in December 2024, Eagle Lake First Nation launched legal action against the site selection on the basis of their nation having been excluded from the siting decision, which violated their treaty rights and disregarded their relationship to the selected site.

More recently, the NWMO has made it known that they are seeking to have transportation of the radioactive wastes excluded from the project's impact assessment process. But for 20 years the NWMO has been describing transportation as part of their project, and the Impact Assessment Act requires activities that are integral to - or, in the language of the Act "incidental" to - the project be included in the assessment.

The NWMO estimates that transportation of the current waste inventory will require 2-3 trucks per day for more than 50 years. There is substantial public concern with nuclear waste transportation because of the ongoing risk from the low levels of radiation that will be emitted from each shipment, and because of the risk of higher releases under accident conditions. The public rightfully expects this major component of the project to be part of the public assessment process.

We respectfully request that the federal government now provide oversight and direction:

- Direct that the impact assessment and nuclear licensing processes do not commence until after Eagle Lake First Nation's legal case has been heard and a decision rendered by the Court
- Direct that, when and if an impact assessment process is undertaken, that process proceeds only after the NWMO has provided a full description of their project including the transportation of the radioactive wastes, the processing of the wastes in the "used fuel packaging plant", the emplacement containers and the emplacement of the wastes, the monitoring and retrievability of the wastes, and the long-term safety of the repository
- Direct that, when and if an impact assessment process is undertaken, the assessment process includes a thorough review of the transportation activities, including design of the transportation containers, the long-distance transportation of the wastes, and an examination of the alternative means of transporting only wastes that have been transferred into a "final" container prior to transport
- Direct that the public and Indigenous people have a full opportunity to engage in the assessment process, beginning with and importantly during the planning phase, and that the Agency exercise the flexibility provided to it to support public participation in the process, including by considerate timing of engagement opportunities and comment deadlines.

The 73 undersigned groups represent a broad segment of Canadian society: we are national science-focused institutions, environmental non-governmental organizations, faith groups, Indigenous People's organizations and more. Many of us have been directly involved in the NWMO's siting process. We look forward to receiving a detailed response from you on these concerns and these requests.

Return correspondence can be directed to contact@nuclearwastewatch.ca on behalf of the undersigned. Your response will be provided to all signators, listed below.

Action-environnement Basses-Laurentides (AEBL)	QC
Camp Morningstar	MB
Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility (CCNR)	QC
Canadian Environmental Law Association	ON
Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation	NS
Canadian Voice Of Women	QC
Citizen Action to Protect the Environment	NS
Citizens Against Radioactive Neighbourhoods (CARN)	ON
Citizens' Network on Waste Management	ON
Citizens United for a Sustainable Planet (CUSP)	ON
Clean North	ON
Climate Action Muskoka	ON
Coalition for a Clean Green Saskatchewan	SK
Coalition for a Liveable Sudbury	ON
Coalition for Responsible Energy Development - New Brunswick (CRED-NB)	NB
Concerned Citizens of Manitoba	MB
Council of Canadians Avalon Chapter	NL
Council of Canadians Fredericton Chapter	NB
Council of Canadians' Kitchissippi-Ottawa Valley Chapter	ON
Council of Canadians Ottawa Chapter	ON
Doctors for Planetary Health - West Coast	BC
Durham Nuclear Awareness	ON
Eau Secours	QC
Ecological Justice Working Group (Region east) United Church of Canada	Eastern Canada
Edmonton Small Press Association	AB
Environment Haliburton, Planet Haliburton, Green Burial Society	ON
Environment North	ON
Grandmothers Act to Save the Planet (GASP)	ON
Green Coalition Verte	QC

Greenspace Alliance	ON
Indigene Community	QC
Inter-Church Uranium Committee Educational Co-operative	SK
International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada	BC
Invisible Hand Productions Inc.	BC
Journiac Travel & Tours	ON
Keep Nuclear Waste out of NWO	AB
Mères aux front de l'Outaouais	QC
Montreal for a World BEYOND War	QC
National Council of Women of Canada	ON
Native Calgarian Podcast	AB
Natural Rights	ON
No Nuclear Waste in Northwest Ontario	ON
No Nukes Manitoba	MB
North Bay Peace Alliance	ON
Northwatch	ON
Nova Scotia Voice of Women	NS
Nuclear Waste watch	ON
Old Fort William Cottagers' Association	ON
Ottawa Raging Grannies	ON
Oxford Coalition for Social Justice	ON
Perth County Sustainability Hub	ON
Peterborough Pollinators	ON
Pontiac Environment Protection	QC
Port Hope Community Health Concerns Committee	ON
Poverty Free Thunder Bay	ON
Prevent Cancer Now	ON
Protect our Waterways - No Nuclear Waste	ON
qathet Chapter, Council of Canadians	BC
Qu'Appelle Valley Environmental Association Inc.	SK

Raging Grannies Fredericton	NB
Rejuvenation Clinic	ON
Religions for Peace Canada	National
Religions pour la Paix - Québec	QC
Seniors for Climate Action Now! - Ottawa Chapter	ON
Seniors for Climate Action Now! SCAN!	AB
Seniors for Climate Action Now! SCAN!	ON
Sunset Country Spirit Alliance	ON
Sustainable Energy Group	NB
The Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie	ON
The Society of High Prairie Regional Environmental Action Committee	AB
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	ON
We the Nuclear Free North	ON