

SAUGEEN OJIBWAY NATION

Deep Geologic Repository Community Update



MAY 2015 - Commitment from Ontario Power Generation and the Release of the Joint Review Panel Report

On May 6, 2015 the Joint Panel Review (JRP) will release its report respecting Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) proposed deep geological repository for the management and permanent storage of low and intermediate level nuclear waste from nuclear operating facilities at Pickering, Darlington and Bruce Power.

The JRP accepted submissions from interveners and held hearings in Kincardine and Port Elgin in the fall of 2013 and again in Kincardine in September 2014.

SON representatives made exhaustive submissions regarding both the technical and social aspects of the project. More importantly, we strenuously advocated for the protection and sustainability of our rights, interests and way of life and our relationship to our territory.

As you know, OPG has committed that the deep geological repository will NOT proceed without our communities' support. This also includes a commitment to address the long-standing list of concerns and fears our people have had concerning the nuclear industry's operations within our territory. We have referred to these concerns and fears as "legacy issues".

Securing these commitments was a tremendous accomplishment and puts the authority for the resolution of these matters back into the hands of our people. It also means that, as stewards, our people, communities and Nation have a tremendous amount of work ahead of us. We are confident that we are equal to the task.

It is important to note that the JRP's report does not mean that a decision on OPG's proposed deep geological repository is final. The final decision rests with us.

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UPCOMING: OPG President and CEO, Tom Mitchell, will be visiting our territory and will personally reaffirm the commitments OPG has made to the SON. Planning for this day is in progress and more information will be provided soon on this historic event.