Dear [elected official],

I am writing today to express my deep concern regarding the potential Deep Geological Repository (DGR) in the municipality of South Bruce which will contain all of Canada’s highly radioactive nuclear waste, as proposed by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO).

I stand in direct opposition to this plan. The place I call home has always been a quiet rural community with small villages and people who know one another by name. Sadly, this community is quickly becoming divided and there is mistrust among neighbours. One has only to drive down the roads to see a landscape now dotted with bright yellow signs protesting the nuclear waste dump.

The NWMO has stated that they will only proceed with a site if it is an “informed and willing host,” however they have not provided a definition for this statement. Land has already been optioned without any proof of South Bruce being a willing host and drilling is underway, prior to any sort of measurement of community acceptance. This feels backwards and is causing much stress for residents.

The backbone of this municipality is agriculture and the prime land we have been blessed with. That sector stands to be hit the hardest should this project be approved. Products grown and manufactured in proximity to a nuclear dump may not even be marketable; Chapman’s has already spoken publicly to the perception issue this would cause for them as a purchaser of Gay Lea’s product from Teeswater. The ripple effect will be felt throughout the community, including local dairy farmers and the employees of Gay Lea. Not to mention the many other farmers and related industries in the area.

The broader affected area includes over 40 million people who rely on the Great Lakes as their source of drinking water. The Teeswater River is a tributary of Lake Huron and there is no guarantee that the water will not be contaminated in the future.

Please do not allow a nuclear waste dump to be your legacy.

Not a Willing Host,

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