Introductory text: Join your fellow citizens in expressing your concerns and opposition to the Chalk River nuclear waste repository project. Here is a sample letter you can fill out and send to MPs below.

Sample Letter Regarding the Chalk River Nuclear Waste Dump Project

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Recipients:

Your federal MP (see list here : https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en/search)

M. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

M. Steven Guilbeault, minister of Environment Climate Change Canada
Steven.Guilbeault@parl.gc.ca

M. Jean-Yves Duclos, minister of Health
jean-yves.duclos@parl.gc.ca

Mme Rumina Velshi, president of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)
interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca.

M. Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the NDP
Jagmeet.Singh@parl.gc.ca.

Sophie Chatel, MP for Pontiac
sophie.chatel@parl.gc.ca

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Subject :

Vigorous Opposition to Chalk River Nuclear Waste Dump Project

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Text (Copy, past and modify) :

[Dear, Name of Parliamentarian,]

I am contacting you to express my serious concerns regarding the plan to allow the construction of a Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF) at the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories site.

I am [name], an informed and engaged citizen in my community and its well-being. However, what I learned and what I discovered, despite the lack of reliable information from the authorities supposed to protect us, worries me greatly. On the eve of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (CNSC) decision to approve the Chalk River license for a permanent nuclear waste dump, I would like to express my concerns and affirm my strong opposition to any proposed landfill of radioactive waste, even of low intensity, on the banks of a tributary as important as the Ottawa River.

The analysis carried out by the authorities and made public seems partial or biased. In fact, not only is it impossible to know the actual quantity of waste that will be stored on the Chalk River laboratory site in the long term, but the analysis is incomplete and is based on estimation models that the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) deems inaccurate or at least riddled with inaccuracies. A project of this magnitude, which involves the “definitive” storage of nuclear waste, will have implications for centuries to come. It is presumptuous and dangerous to believe that our current models allow us to really know the real medium and long-term impacts of such a project.

More worryingly still, the analysis seems to offer a short-sighted view leading one to believe that the next few centuries will be in all respects similar to the one that has just passed on the ecological, geographical or political levels. However, if only from an ecological point of view, it is undeniable that the Outaouais hydrographic network is likely to be very different in 100 years, just as the institutions and political structures of Canada are likely to be. How, without realistic projections, can we hope to take an honest look at the dangers that the Chalk River radioactive waste dump project could pose?

It is for these reasons that I strongly oppose this project and that I call for a moratorium on any new proposal for a nuclear waste dump until it is possible to carry out and make public serious investigations, taking into account all the risks associated with such facilities, for their entire lifespan and considering the environmental and political changes that can be anticipated. Canada should also have a comprehensive and rigorous nuclear waste management policy/strategy in place before moving forward with projects such as an NSDF, and ensure that this policy is fully compliant with international standards on all the plans. Implementing the best possible practices is the only way to

ensure that long-term risks to human health and the environment are absolutely minimized. At the moment, we have reasons to believe that the safety of neighboring populations and of the biosphere is in no way adequately protected.

We cannot play the sorcerer's apprentice with such dangerous waste, our communities and future generations deserve that we take care of them and that we provide them with quality information before committing their health to several generations.

Please accept my warmest regards,

[Signature and contact details]