



446 – 10th Street, Hanover, Ontario N4N 1P9

Phone: 519-364-3050

E-mail: bruce@ofa.on.ca

Website: www.brucefederation.ca

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RE: Science-based Research into the Deep Geological Repository for Nuclear Waste

The Bruce County Federation of Agriculture (BCFA) represents over 1500 farms and farm families in Bruce County. We are a farmer-led organization working to represent and champion the interests of farmers and farm communities.

For the past few years, Canada has conducted research to design and develop a repository for nuclear waste produced during nuclear facility electricity production.

As you know, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization was charged by the Federal government to find a site for this waste. They have settled on a multi-decade project to develop a Deep Geological Repository to hold Canada's nuclear waste. The survey of locations has narrowed to a site in Bruce County and a site in Ignace in northwestern Ontario.

While municipal and federal governments have not yet settled on a process to establish how a community decides whether to be a willing host, BCFA feels it is very important for the residents of our county have access to unbiased research into the impacts of having such a facility in Bruce County. Although nuclear waste is federally regulated, many regions will be impacted by the waste transportation to a chosen site, our residents need to make an informed decision over the next couple of years.

We have engaged consultants to research potential impacts of a repository in the county. While we cannot sway regulators about the specific safety precautions Canada undertakes, there will be economic, social, and environmental outcomes that must be considered. The research we are proposing will be conducted by experts, and steered by a committee of scientists from AIRM Consulting Ltd.

While we are pleased to provide support and input into the data collection as well as assistance in developing the Project Findings Report and supporting a communication plan to inform our membership, we need to secure more funding to make this available to the residents of Bruce County when the time comes to decide whether the County will be a willing host.

We are reaching out to you to find a time when we can meet with your Board of Directors to discuss your financial support for this unbiased research, and further discuss this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Chris Cossitt
President BCFA

IN UNITY THERE'S STRENGTH