



Oral presentation

Exposé oral

**Written submission from
Christian Renault**

**Mémoire de
Christian Renault**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard des

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL)

Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens (LNC)

Application from the CNL to amend its Chalk River Laboratories site licence to authorize the construction of a near surface disposal facility

Demande des LNC visant à modifier le permis du site des Laboratoires de Chalk River pour autoriser la construction d'une installation de gestion des déchets près de la surface

**Commission Public Hearing
Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission
Partie 2**

May and June 2022

Mai et juin 2022

Intervention concerning the proposed amendments of CNL's license to include a NSDF.

Date of application: April 11, 2022

Date of intervention: May 31, 2022

Participant: Christian Renault (retired science teacher)

Subject: environmental concerns especially about species at risk, and biodiversity (concerning biodiversity (birds, bats, reptiles) and protection of species at risk, environmental impact of such a dump, and a few points that should publicly be made concerning the leachate.). As a concerned citizen, I would like the Commission to have firm answers before it allows CNL to amend its license as proposed. In reference to CMD 22-H7, there are some concerns deriving from this report.

The proposed NSDF site is prime habitat for turtles, especially Blanding's, protected by COSSARO and COSEWIC. What will be done to compensate the lost habitat? Same problem for the Eastern Milksnake, which is increasingly rare.

The proposed site is prime habitat for a few bat species protected, and home to maternity roosts for 4 endangered species: Eastern Small-footed Myotis, Little Brown Myotis, Tri-colored Bat, Northern Myotis. What will be done to protect them?

A few wood bird species find their home in the mature forest that might be destroyed by the NSDF; some of these species are of special concern (Ontario): Wood Thrush, Canada Warbler, Eastern whip-por-will, Evening Grosbeak, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher. The NSDF can exist farther away where there is less threat, old mines for example, in the Canadian Shield.

What will happen to the thousands of mature trees that are cut, in these 30 hectares, which have been growing with radioactive soil? Burnt and spreading radioactivity in the air? Rotting in big piles and leaching in the ground and the Ottawa River? Sold as lumber or cabinet makers? How contaminated are these trees? Are the lumbermen going to be exposed to radioactivity? Are the excavators (workers and machines) going to be exposed to radioactivity? What will happen to the few spots of the proposed NSDF that are closed in because of radioactive contamination?

The bedrock is fissured in many places, where will the leachate go? In the Ottawa River? When it rains, all the garbage in the dump will get wet, water will collect at the bottom, dissolve minerals and radionuclides. Where will these accumulate?

All the construction lumber from buildings and furniture will rot, and spread spores, some of which are quite toxic. Do we want that?