



**Written submission from the
Municipality of Bristol**

**Mémoire de la
Municipalité de Bristol**

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



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The Municipality of Bristol is one of 18 municipalities located within the MRC Pontiac. Our residents enjoy a rich history of settlement along the banks of the Ottawa River. Approximately 17 km of our municipality touch the shoreline of the Ottawa River. In addition to the myriad of activities which involve the majestic Ottawa, all municipalities downstream use the Ottawa River as their primary drinking water source. The three cities of Ottawa, Gatineau and Montreal take their drinking water from the Ottawa River. This letter is being written to oppose this location of the disposal site for radioactive materials by CNL, the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories, largely now a consortium of multinational companies including SNC Lavalin and Texas based Fluor. It is alarming that the Warden of the MRC Pontiac, the Mayors of the Municipalities and the Assembly of First Nations have not been consulted or engaged about the location of this potentially damaging disposal site.

Experts in the field including Dr. Ole Hendrickson, scientist and a resident in the County of Renfrew, condemn the proposed project. Dr. Hendrickson has stated that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (hereafter referred to as CNSC) has failed to assess the project in an objective and scientifically credible manner. The intention of this project is to essentially abandon 1,000,000 cubic meters of radioactive waste beside the Ottawa River. Neither an impact study on the river and aquatic species at risk nor an impact study on the wetlands surrounding the location have been conducted. The disposal site is on the side of a hill and surrounded on three sides by wetlands that directly drain into the Ottawa River. Evidence shows that the water table is mere inches below the surface and the bedrock is highly fractured. The proposed containment site would be on unceded Algonquin Territory.

The type of containment being proposed for this hazardous waste which could remain radioactive for 100,000 years is a landfill type technology never intended to be used for any radioactive waste. To complicate matters further, a mound which would stand 60 meters above ground could be impacted further by the radioactive materials being disturbed by environmental factors such as wind, snow and erosion. Even plutonium which can remain radioactive for 100,000 years would be collected and stored in this landfill. Such a landfill should never be located near a water source as is the proposal for this containment and, according to Charbonneau, a physicist working with Ralliement Contre la pollution Radioactive, this proposal "is simply a senseless proposal which is not in line with intended standards at all".

Low level cobalt 6, tritium, carbon-14, dioxins, PCB's, asbestos, mercury, arsenic, lead and up to 80 tonnes of uranium would be disposed of in this dump. Add to this 4 types of plutonium, one of the most dangerous materials to humans if ingested or inhaled and the potential for birth defects, genetic damage and cancers are inflated exponentially.

As a society, we are all aware of the tragedies of faulty collection of hazardous materials and the ramifications of allowing business consortiums to profit at the expense of the health of human beings and the environments we are caretakers of. This is the situation we find ourselves in.

The Municipality of Bristol fully supports the resolution of concern shared by the MRC Pontiac and the Assembly of First Nations.

The Municipality of Bristol unanimously adopted a resolution to urge the Federal Government to move the proposed NSDF site well away from the Ottawa River as experts have suggested.