



**Written submission from
Diana Gillam**

**Mémoire de
Diana Gillam**

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

From: Diana Gillam
Sent: March 14, 2022 1:23 PM
To: Interventions / Interventions (CNSC/CCSN)
Subject: May 31 Public Commission Hearing - Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Near Surface Facility

I would be most grateful if this written statement is presented to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commissioners.

Although I now live in the United Kingdom I have spent virtually every summer of my life on the Ottawa River. This proposal to build a one million cubic meter nuclear dump adjacent to the drinking water of millions of Canadians bewilders me. How can a country with a reputation for environmental awareness even consider such a solution to its historic waste? Instead of even bothering to consider in depth sites at a safer distance from the river authorities seem to prefer to spend taxpayers' money in perpetuity expensively safeguarding this precarious dump.

How can a committee with any conscience rubberstamp this proposal when neither the volumes nor indeed the wastes themselves have been specified? To choose a flow path over a fractured rock zone should have been ruled out from the start.

My extended family occupies several islands immediately below the confluence of the Ottawa and Chalk rivers. Three years ago several turn of the century cottages built on stilts were seriously flooded. It is clear with global warming that this degree of rainfall is becoming more frequent. (Think Australia!) Obviously the site cannot contain the inevitable overflows of nuclear contaminants.

My friends in the United Kingdom are shocked and astonished that Canadians are proposing this lazy solution. To me it smacks of indifference or even ignorance. It is time to stop defending the indefensible and bite the bullet of a rethink for the sake of our descendants.

Lady Diana Gillam
United Kingdom

Seasonal resident, The Town of Petawawa, Ontario