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PRESS RELEASE

WHAT IS BEING COVERED AT THE GREAT LAKES PUBLIC FORUM?

When the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Canada's Ministry of Environment and Climate change convene the Great Lakes Public Forum on water quality this week in Toronto, what is not mentioned in their sixteen-page, three-day agenda (<https://binational.net/2016/10/03/glpfprog/>) will likely prove to be far more important than the agenda itself.

Last week the two governments released a joint report to update their monitoring activity of toxins officially listed as Chemicals of Mutual Concern in the Great Lakes. When radionuclides are far more toxic and deadly in minute amounts than any of the chemicals of mutual concern on that list, why are they not being monitored and how are they going to get on that list?

In the mid-90's two reports were prepared for the International Joint Commission by its Nuclear Task Force; Inventory of Radionuclides for the Great Lakes and Report on Bioaccumulation of Elements to Accompany the Inventory of Radionuclides in the Great Lakes Basin. Those reports were never acted upon. What happened to them and why are they being ignored?

Worse than ignoring the build up of nuclear waste in the Great Lakes, the Canadian government is seriously considering an application by Ontario Power Generation to bury 400,000 cubic meters of low and intermediate nuclear waste, on the shore of Lake Huron less than one kilometer (about 900 yards) from the water. Opposition groups correctly point out that, to date, every attempt at burying nuclear waste has failed to contain these deadly toxins.

SOS Great Lakes (www.sosgreatlakes.org) is a group of Canadian and American citizens who have been opposing OPG's plan to bury nuclear waste less than one kilometer from the shore of Lake Huron.

Members of SOS Great Lakes will be at the Great Lakes Public Forum and have answers to these and other critically important issues relating to the threat of nuclear waste in the Great Lakes.

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