

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 565

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Canadian Government does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. BALDWIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Canadian Government does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.

Whereas the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin are precious public natural resources, shared by the Great Lakes States and the Canadian Provinces;

Whereas since 1909, the United States and Canada have worked to maintain and improve the water quality of the Great Lakes through water quality agreements;

Whereas more than 40,000,000 people in Canada and the United States depend on the fresh water from the Great Lakes for drinking water;

Whereas Ontario Power Generation is proposing to build a permanent geological repository for nuclear waste less than one mile from Lake Huron in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada;

Whereas nuclear waste is highly toxic and can take tens of thousands of years to decompose to safe levels;

Whereas during the 1980s when the Department of Energy, in accordance with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.), was studying potential sites for a permanent nuclear waste repository in the United States, the Canadian Government expressed concern with locating a permanent nuclear waste repository within the shared water basins of the 2 countries; and

Whereas a spill of nuclear waste into the Great Lakes could have lasting and severely adverse environmental, health, and economic impacts on the Great Lakes and the people that depend on them for their livelihood: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate—

2 (1) the Canadian Government should not allow
3 a permanent nuclear waste repository to be built
4 within the Great Lakes Basin;

5 (2) the President and the Secretary of State
6 should take appropriate action to work with the Ca-
7 nadian Government to prevent a permanent nuclear
8 waste repository from being built within the Great
9 Lakes Basin; and

10 (3) the President and the Secretary of State
11 should work together with their Canadian Govern-

- 1 ment counterparts on a safe and responsible solution
- 2 for the long-term storage of nuclear waste.

