

Hello Mr. Longpre: I am informed that "The Committee" is currently holding hearings on nuclear waste governance in Canada & that they will conclude the first week of March. To that end I am trying to ensure that I get comments in before March 3 so they can be entered into the record.

Critically and most important is the idea that Parliament must begin to play a more important role in oversight to ensure good governance in matters of nuclear power and radioactive waste. Historically, almost all decisions related to nuclear have been made by the government without parliamentary oversight or debate, hence without any parliamentary awareness of important issues that frequently arise. This is complicated by the mostly complete "Corporate Capture" of the regulatory and oversight bodies by the Nuclear Industry. This must be addressed and rectified.

I find myself in strong agreement with the recommendations made by Dr. Gordon Edwards on behalf of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility:

- 1. We need a nuclear waste management and decommissioning agency that is independent of industry, and of agencies that promote the industry, such as NRCan. That was a unanimous recommendation of the [Seaborn Panel](#) after a ten year Environmental Assessment process. And that waste agency should report directly to parliament on a regular basis, not just to the minister..*
- 2. CNSC, the nuclear regulator, should not be under the Minister of Natural Resources but under Environment Canada. This will help remedy the predicament that CNSC has been captured by the industry it is regulating. CNSC should also report directly to parliament, on a regular basis.*
- 3. Amnesia is bad policy. [Heritage Canada](#) should be archiving complete records of the radioactive legacies we are leaving to future generations, starting now. This necessity has been stressed by the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency for over a decades, but here in Canada it is not done.*
- 4. [Reprocessing](#) used nuclear fuel to extract plutonium should be banned. It complicates the waste management issues and is a dangerous step towards enabling the proliferation of nuclear weapons.*
- 5. [Rolling Stewardship](#) as an alternative to abandonment, should be seriously considered. Abandonment is irresponsible. Three "final repositories" for nuclear waste have experienced failures so far.*
- 6. The [current legacy of uranium mining](#) in Canada is 218 million tons of radioactive sand that must be kept out of the environment for one million years. Parliamentary action is needed to keep these uranium wastes on the political agenda and ensure they are monitored and maintained safely.*

With Thanks

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