

Jennifer Granholm, Attorney General
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June 24, 2002

Dear Attorney General Granholm:

Recently, I learned of the existence of the Bruce Nuclear Complex, the world's largest such facility and located on the Canadian shore of Lake Huron near Kincardine, Ontario, 140 air miles northeast of the Detroit metropolitan area. The complex is described as having "...nine nuclear reactors, two dedicated radioactive waste storage sites (which are both leaking contaminants into groundwater) and is Canada's only production facility that burns radioactive waste." For more information, do an internet search for <normand de la chevrotiere>.

Few are aware of the Bruce Complex. Not only does it threaten the purity of much of the world's fresh water supply, if ever "nuked" by terrorist act or in an act of war, the resulting fallout could blanket the heaviest-populated areas of both the U.S. and Canada. I'm shocked our Canadian neighbors sited the complex on a Great Lake and distressed by plans for a massive above-ground storage facility for high-level nuclear waste there also. Diplomatic steps need to be taken toward finding and implementing a solution to this situation.

The rhetoric from leaders of both countries suggests protection of the Great Lakes is of highest priority, but what is being allowed refutes that. Above-ground storage of high-level nuclear waste is unwise and it is irresponsible and reckless to stockpile it at any sensitive or vulnerable location.

Nuclear power plants are here to stay but their waste must be moved far from populated areas and the Great Lakes, then buried deep underground until proven safe alternatives are in practice. The U.S. is going to do that, but what about Canada? They now have 23 nuclear reactors of which 21 are on lakes Huron and Ontario. I hope they and their waste -as well as our country's reactors and waste- are all secure from terrorist attack, or soon will be.

Can Michigan influence Canada with regard to the worsening situation at the Bruce Nuclear Complex?

Sincerely,

William D. Lewis
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