#### NORTH AMERICAN YOUNG GENERATION IN **NUCLEAR- Canadian Affairs Director**

#### MÉMOIRE CONCERNANT LE PROJET:

"MODIFICATION DES AIRES DE STOCKAGE DES DECHETS RADIOACTIFS ET RÉFECTION DE LA CENTRALE NUCLÉAIRE DE GENTILLY-2"

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Soumit par: North American Young Generation in Nuclear-Directeur des Affaires Canadiennes

Mark McIntyre, P. Eng. PO Box 1268 Frédéricton, NB E3B 3C8 (506)659-7636

couriel: canada@na-ygn.org



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Mon nom est Mark McIntyre. J'habite au village de Grand Bay-Westfield au Nouveau Brunswick. Je suis le directeur des affaires canadiennes pour le North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NA-YGN). Cette organisation représente des jeunes de 35 ans et moins qui croient que les sciences nucléaires:

- -améliorent la société et
- -permettent de produire de l'énergie avec un impact minimal sur l'environnement

NA-YGN est dedié à améliorer la base scientifique dans les discussions concernant les sciences nucléaires. Trop fréquemment les discussions manque de comparaison avec les autres centrales de production d'électricité. Les membres de NA-YGN croit fidèlement que le plan de réfection de la centrale nucléaire de Gentilly-2 et le plan de modification des aires de stockage des déchets radioactifs ont un fondement scientifique et économique. G2 est une source de l'électricité qui a un impact minimal sur l'environnement.

Nuclear energy facilities manage their waste by keeping their used nuclear fuel contained and retrievable. We do not have to look very far to other industries who cannot manage their waste and simply release it into the atmosphere. Conventional industries simply cannot control the large volume of pollution. By contrast all of the used nuclear fuel G2 will ever use can be stored on a small pocket of the G2 property. The NA-YGN supports the use of nuclear energy BECAUSE of the small and manageable environmental footprint.

When deciding the future of G2 please recognize that the radiation emitted from the used fuel bundles is decreasing as a function of time. The issue of radiation fields emitted from the bundles is easily managed. Radiation is easy to measure and exposure is easy control: by the use of concrete shielding. In the future, our ability to re-use the bundles will increase as scientists and engineers develop even more efficient nuclear reactors. The NA-YGN does not consider the bundles a burden on future generations. We believe future generations will be thankful for handing over an environment with clean air.



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Using nuclear energy preserves fossil fuels and other natural resources for future generations. The number one natural resource is air and nuclear is the clean air energy. Other natural resources like water, soil, forests and oil should be used as carefully as possible so that their availability is sustained for the world's future generations. The expansion of the G2 radioactive waste management facility will extend the clean air history of the first half of G2's life. Avoiding Carbon Dioxide and other greenhouse gases is completely in line with the national commitments to reduce air pollution under the Kyoto Protocol.

Electricity is the lifeblood of a developed economy. Nuclear energy provides a sensible solution for a healthy, energy driven economy. And here is the important part: if you are looking for a common thread amongst the developed economies of the World...it is access to clean affordable energy. We need access to all types of non-carbon-emitting energy. As a society we cannot rely on fossil fuels forever. I urge you to continue using nuclear energy as part of the electricity mix in Quebec.

Nuclear energy is an example of a high technology industry that uses all Canadian designers and Quebec trained people to run the plant. The most important investment a nuclear plant will ever make is in it's people. Skilled workers are needed to safely operate a nuclear energy facility. The public cares about where their electricity comes from and they understand that safety is the first priority at G2. That is not just talk...that is an unblemished safety record that G2 will carry into the second half of its life after refurbishment.

It is a fact that the general public are interested in what happens at G2. Hydro Quebec meets those expectations by communicating with the public about G2's operations.

The benefits of nuclear energy are clear. The NAYGN openly and proudly supports the expansion of the waste management facility and the refurbishment of the Gentilly-2 generating station. I ask the BAPE and the Quebec public to endorse the rigorous environmental management strategies applied at G2.



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Quebecers deserve the clean air, the jobs and the commitment to safety that G2 provides. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McIntyre, P. Eng. Canadian Affairs Director North American Young Generation in Nuclear PO Box 1268 Fredericton,NB E3B 5C8