



The Council of Three Fires

December 21, 2011

Peter Kent
Minister of Environment Canada
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3
Canada

Via Fax : 819-953-0279

Dear Mr. Kent:

Re: Detroit Edison New Nuclear Reactor

It has come to our attention that Detroit Edison is pursuing an approval process for a new nuclear reactor on the shore of the westernmost part of Lake Erie in Newport, Michigan. This location is very close to the U.S.-Canada border, and adjacent to Lake Erie, so we expect that you have been or will be asked for your views by the proponent or by a U.S. regulatory agency.

This location is also within the traditional territory of our First Nation, is close to areas where our members exercise traditional harvesting, and is about 80km from our reserve. As you may know, our First Nation has a long history of concern for the environment, has well developed environmental knowledge and expertise, and has often been involved in environmental approval processes.

It is therefore our view that given the proximity to us of this proposed new nuclear reactor, Canada is required to consult and accommodate our First Nation, in accordance with the *Haida Nation* principle, regarding whatever position Canada takes concerning this project.

Please contact me to discuss how to initiate such a consultation.

Yours truly,

Joseph B. Gilbert, Chief
Walpole Island First Nation