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CITIZENS ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE OF SOUTHWEST ONTARIO
DON'T WASTE MICHIGAN * SIERRA CLUB MICHIGAN CHAPTER

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Legal Challenges Mount For Proposed Fermi 3 Reactor

Monroe, MI... Last night filing deadline to comment on the proposed Fermi 3 Reactor did not pass without a flurry of complex legal challenges being launched. Several dozen Interventions were filed as both comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and more formalized legal contentions were filed with the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB). The DEIS comments fall under the jurisdiction of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the more legal contentions filed with the ASLB fall under the jurisdiction of the Atomic Energy Act.*

The legal contentions ran the gamut including challenges on the actual need for a Fermi 3 reactor and the economics; wetlands decimation; water intakes at risk; health impacts; First Nation treaty rights; fisheries in jeopardy; thermal pollution of Lake Erie; dangerous fuel enrichment. The comments addressed areas that were clearly overlooked and omitted from the Environmental Review process, and areas which were poorly evaluated. Once again these comments were robust and comprehensive. Please find attached* just a small sample of the comments made. The legal contentions before the ASLB are attached as 'Intrvnrs Comment letter Complete'. The legal Interveners will be posting several dozen comments to the Beyond Nuclear webpage in the next few days.

*The Atomic Energy Act is the law which the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is governed by The ASLB acts as the Administrative Law Judges for all things nuclear, including proceedings with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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* There are several attachments to this press release. If you would like copies of these attachments, please contact Kay Cumbow at: <kcumbow@greatlakes.net> These include: The Lake Erie Waterkeeper's Comment Letter, a map of the Lake Erie showing algal bloom, Comments from CACC (posted on our website), Interveners' Comment Letter, Radiation and Public Health Project Comment Letter, and Letter from The Council of Three Fires - Walpole Island First Nation to the Minister of Environment, Canada