

## **RESOLUTION**

**Sponsored by**

**THE HONORABLE MIKE QUIGLEY AND PETER N. SILVESTRI,  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

### **RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CONSIDERATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO DESIGN, BUILD, OR OPERATE AN ADVANCED FUEL CYCLE RESEARCH FACILITY AT ILLINOIS SITES**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Energy (DOE) has been delegated the responsibility of implementing the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) program; and

**WHEREAS**, the GNEP program includes designing, building, and operating a nuclear fuel recycling center, an advanced “recycling” reactor, and an advanced fuel cycle research facility; and

**WHEREAS**, this program could include the transport, indefinite storage, and handling of irradiated (“spent”) nuclear fuel containing uranium, plutonium and other radioactive isotopes; and

**WHEREAS**, Argonne National Laboratory and the Morris General Electric Operation Facility are being considered as potential sites to host these programs; and

**WHEREAS**, these facilities are located within the 8-million-person Chicagoland region, in close proximity to Cook County, the City of Chicago, and dense population centers in the western and southwestern suburban areas, and furthermore, are situated among some of the most productive agricultural lands in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, alternative sites currently under consideration such as Roswell, New Mexico, Idaho Falls, Idaho, Piketon, Ohio, Hanford, Washington, and Paducah, Kentucky, have a much lower population density than the areas surrounding Argonne National Laboratory and Morris; and

**WHEREAS**, Illinois law currently prohibits the construction of any new commercial nuclear power reactor prior to the demonstration and operation of a permanent deep-geological repository for the permanent disposal of high-level radioactive wastes; and

**WHEREAS**, many homes, schools, hospitals, parks, forest preserves, retail stores and office complexes are near to Argonne and Morris; and

**WHEREAS**, significantly increased quantities of radioactive materials are likely to travel on public roads and railways through Cook County and northeastern Illinois as a result of the proposed GNEP program at Argonne and Morris; and

**WHEREAS**, reprocessing facilities in West Valley, New York, Hanford, Washington, Augusta, Georgia, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Sellafield, England, are responsible for severely contaminating their nearby communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and U.S. Senator Richard Durbin have both expressed strong reservations about the GNEP program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Burr Ridge, the City of Darien, and Lyons Township have adopted resolutions opposing the GNEP program, and other communities are considering similar resolutions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, that:

1. The Board of Commissioners of Cook County hereby opposes designing, building, or operating an advanced fuel cycle research facility, irradiated fuel reprocessing facility, and/or advanced power reactor at the Illinois sites as considered by the Department of Energy through the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership.
2. Any transuranic waste currently on site at Argonne National Laboratory should be transported to a facility where it can be properly contained.
3. The Board of Commissioners of Cook County opposes any future plans to expand Argonne National Laboratory and Morris to include programs that may be detrimental to the health, welfare, and safety of surrounding residents.
4. The Board of Commissioners of Cook County requests that plans for any and all future programs being considered for implementation at any and all such DOE candidate sites and facilities be properly communicated in writing and delivered by Registered U.S. Mail to all representative bodies within a 25-mile radius of Argonne and Morris, and that adequate notice of attendant public meetings regarding these plans should be given directly to the representative bodies within that radius at least one month prior to a meeting taking place.
5. A copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to Timothy Frazier, GNEP Draft PEIS Document Manager, Office of Nuclear Energy, U.S. Department of Nuclear Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0119, and to U.S. Senators Richard Durbin and Barack Obama, the members of the U.S. Congress representing Cook County, the Governor of the State of Illinois, the Attorney General of the State of Illinois, and the members of the Illinois House and Senate representing Cook County.