

ICUCEC - unpublished Simpson letter to SP

Unpublished letter to the Star Phoenix, by Dr. Graham Simpson

Dear Sir,

The recent hype about the "second coming" of the nuclear industry to Saskatchewan, including your pro-nuclear editorials and the positive vibes from the NDP Government are not serendipitous actions.

They are a carefully contrived response to the failure of CAMECO to enlarge the Port Hope uranium refinery when the people of that town stopped, this year, expansion of the refinery into new and dangerous processes. The people suffered from sixty years of radioactive contamination and failure of Eldorado Nuclear, CAMECO and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to remedy the problems and provide the information about health and safety issues associated with the uranium refinery.

CAMECO needs another place to continue what cannot be done now in Port Hope so what better place to try than Saskatchewan?
We are being softened up with promises of jobs but nothing is spoken of the risks.

We went through the refinery question in the eighties and the answer was a clear NO so why do we have to go through all that again?

The CNSC is so pro-nuclear that almost anything that is proposed in Saskatchewan is likely to get a green light. It is time the people of Saskatchewan woke up to the fact that creating jobs without understanding the long-term negative effects is a self-inflicted injury.

CAMECO, COGEMA, and AECL have been softening up the public with grants to every organization in Saskatchewan willing to accept their money but apparent generosity also hides the dark side of the uranium-nuclear power-atomic weapons- nuclear waste chain.

The specious argument of pro-nukes, that we are morally obliged to accept nuclear reactors and their dangerous high-level wastes in Saskatchewan because we export uranium, stirs me from moral apathy to suggest the Saskatchewan Government should start making nuclear weapons as well!

Graham Simpson