



# ANISHINABEK NATION

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November 5, 2020

*Sent via email: [justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca).*

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

As First Nations people working tirelessly to protect the environment and seek solutions to the climate crisis, we reflect the concerns of millions of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians. We are dismayed to learn that your government plans to announce on November 18 at an industry conference its action plan to support the development of small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs), leading eventually to the expansion of nuclear energy in Canada.

Natural Resources Canada has undertaken no consultation whatsoever with our First Nations people but has interacted with the “stakeholders” in the nuclear industry and organizations willing to sign on to a statement of support for SMRs.

We are writing in solidarity with the 30 public interest groups across Canada who believe that SMRs are a dirty, dangerous distraction from tackling the climate crisis, and who have signed the media release below. We agree with them that nuclear energy is not green, not clean, too costly and too slow to build.

How can your government propose to commit this country to a strategy of nuclear energy expansion, with its wide-reaching and long-lasting environmental, health and fiscal implications, without a public dialogue and assessment of environmental, health, economic and social impacts, and without involvement with First Nations?

Any further government commitment to the development of small modular reactors must be put on hold and a process established to permit First Nations and other concerned Canadians to have their say and evaluate the economic, societal and environmental cases for and against nuclear energy expansion.

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Yours sincerely,



Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
Anishinabek Nation

- c. Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the NDP
- Annamie Paul, Leader of the Green Party of Canada
- Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois
- Erin O'Toole, Leader of the Conservative Party
- Minister Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources
- Minister Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate
- Minister Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry
- Minister Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance