

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority disapprove of plan to bury nuclear waste at Kincardine

Majority approve of wind farms, both rural and offshore

TORONTO October 1st, 2014 – In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1079 Ontario voters, six-in-ten voters disapprove of the plan to bury low level nuclear waste at the Bruce Power site in Kincardine (61%), and just one fifth approve (19%). A similar proportion have no opinion (19%). Approval is common to mid age groups (45 to 54 - 27%), males (29%), the wealthiest (\$100K to \$250K - 31%), in Eastern Ontario (26%), among PC voters (25%) and among the best educated (post grad - 28%).

Little consensus on best solution for nuclear waste

Just more than a quarter say the best solution to storing nuclear waste is to bury it in mines in the north (27%), followed by just fewer who suggest storing onsite at nuclear plants (23%), followed by just fewer who say something else must be done (21%). Few opt for shipping it elsewhere (11%) and about one tenth think there is no acceptable solution to disposing of nuclear waste (13%).

Majority approve of wind farms, both rural and offshore

More than one half of Ontario voters approve of wind farms in rural areas (56%), while 3-in-10 disapprove (31%) and one tenth don't have an opinion (13%). This represents an increase in approval from the last time we polled this question (December, 2013 - approve 50%, disapprove 38%). Windfarms are equally popular in all regions of the province, but somewhat more so among New Democrats (66%) and Liberals (65%) than among PC voters (44%). Slightly more than this approve of windfarms offshore in the Great Lakes (60%), one quarter disapprove (24%) and one sixth do not have an opinion (16%). Offshore windfarms are especially popular in Northern Ontario (69%) and among New Democrats (68%).

"On the environmental front, Ontarians are quite sure they don't want nuclear waste on the shores of Lake Huron, a location where they'd rather see wind turbines," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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TORONTO

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HIGHLIGHTS:

- Six-in-ten voters disapprove of the plan to bury low level nuclear waste at the Bruce Power site in Kincardine (61%), and just one fifth approve (19%).
- Just more than a quarter say the best solution to storing nuclear waste is buried in mines in the north (27%).
- More than one half of Ontario voters approve of wind farms in rural areas (56%), while 3-in-10 disapprove (31%) and one tenth don't have an opinion (13%).
- "On the environmental front, Ontarians are quite sure they don't want nuclear waste on the shores of Lake Huron, a location where they'd rather see wind turbines," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 1079 randomly selected Ontarians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on Sept. 30 – Oct. 1st, 2014.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Actual results will depend on the parties' success at getting their voters out. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

Approval of Wind farms - Trending

%	Sample	Approve	Disapprove	Don't Know
Sep 30 – Oct 1 st , 2014	1079	56	31	13
Dec. 17-18th, 2013	1044	50	38	12
March 14th, 2012	1065	62	25	10

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Ontario Power Generation Nuclear Waste Proposal

'Do you approve or disapprove of Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury low and intermediate level nuclear waste at a site in Kincardine near Lake Huron?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1079	72	121	199	278	409	459	620
Approve	19	19	15	27	17	18	29	10
Disapprove	61	64	62	61	64	54	56	66
Don't know	19	16	23	13	19	28	15	24

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1079	155	187	314	501	236	187
Approve	19	26	17	21	19	20	12
Disapprove	61	58	59	58	58	63	75
Don't know	19	16	24	22	23	17	14

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1079	109	176	150	117	97	196
Approve	19	13	15	21	13	20	31
Disapprove	61	57	60	56	75	54	60
Don't know	19	30	25	23	12	26	9

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1079	367	386	166	61	33
Approve	19	25	21	12	15	22
Disapprove	61	60	57	74	71	75
Don't know	19	16	23	13	13	3

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Best Solution for Nuclear Waste Disposal

‘What do you think is the best solution for disposing of nuclear waste?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1079	72	121	199	278	409	459	620
Store onsite at nuclear plants	23	25	21	27	25	19	22	24
Bury in mines in the north	27	23	30	27	26	30	32	22
Ship elsewhere	11	13	10	10	10	10	15	6
Something else	21	26	17	18	18	25	17	25
There is no solution to disposing of nuclear waste	13	12	12	14	15	10	10	15
Don't know	5	2	10	4	7	6	3	8

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1079	155	187	314	501	236	187
Store onsite at nuclear plants	23	30	19	14	16	27	38
Bury in mines in the north	27	26	31	29	30	27	15
Ship elsewhere	11	9	13	11	12	9	9
Something else	21	16	22	26	24	20	18
There is no solution to disposing of nuclear waste	13	15	10	12	11	13	17
Don't know	5	4	5	8	7	4	3

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1079	367	386	166	61	33
Store onsite at nuclear plants	23	24	23	26	32	9
Bury in mines in the north	27	34	31	17	22	8
Ship elsewhere	11	16	11	5	9	1
Something else	21	15	18	33	20	54
There is no solution to disposing of nuclear waste	13	8	11	13	14	27
Don't know	5	3	6	7	3	1

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Wind Farms, Wind Turbines in Rural Areas

'Do you approve or disapprove of wind farms, or groups of wind turbines in rural areas?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1079	72	121	199	278	409	459	620
Approve	56	58	62	55	52	48	57	54
Disapprove	31	28	23	33	36	36	35	27
Don't know	13	13	15	12	12	15	8	19

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1079	155	187	314	501	236	187
Approve	56	58	56	56	56	54	55
Disapprove	31	36	23	33	29	32	31
Don't know	13	6	21	11	15	14	13

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1079	109	176	150	117	97	196
Approve	56	45	50	67	43	65	69
Disapprove	31	27	30	24	49	24	24
Don't know	13	28	20	8	8	11	7

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1079	367	386	166	61	33
Approve	56	44	65	66	54	60
Disapprove	31	47	19	26	40	36
Don't know	13	9	16	9	6	4

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Wind Farms, Wind Turbines off Shores of the Great Lakes

‘Would you approve or disapprove of offshore wind farms, or groups of wind turbines off the shores of the Great Lakes?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1079	72	121	199	278	409	459	620
Approve	60	61	68	62	58	49	64	56
Disapprove	24	24	17	25	27	29	27	21
Don't know	16	15	16	12	15	22	9	22

Region

%	Total	E. Ont	416	905	GTA	SW. Ont	N. Ont
Sample	1079	155	187	314	501	236	187
Approve	60	59	56	61	59	58	69
Disapprove	24	31	20	25	23	28	17
Don't know	16	10	24	14	18	14	14

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	1079	109	176	150	117	97	196
Approve	60	55	52	61	54	75	73
Disapprove	24	17	25	21	33	16	23
Don't know	16	28	23	18	13	9	5

Provincial Party Preference

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	1079	367	386	166	61	33
Approve	60	53	66	68	71	46
Disapprove	24	39	15	19	14	48
Don't know	16	8	19	13	14	6

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