

Media Advisory

Canadian Auto Workers Durham Regional Environment Council

ITER jobs at any price?

A public forum to discuss the potential social, economic and environmental impacts of a International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor proposed for Durham Region.

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

CAW Local 222 Hall

1425 Phillip Murray Ave.

Oshawa, ON

Canadian Auto Workers Durham Regional Environment Council (CAW DREC) will host a public forum for the residents of Durham Region on the proposed \$12 billion International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER). What the community needs is public information, not public relations platitudes.

"Our council proudly represents more than 33,000 CAW members. They, together with all citizens of Durham Region, are entitled to a broader set of facts on ITER," says Dave Renaud, President, CAW DREC. "We understand the desire for jobs. But at what price – at the price of our health, the health of our children, or lost opportunities to fund proven, renewable energy alternatives that do no harm to workers or their communities? Let's be clear, ITER, should it work, will not produce any energy for decades to come. We don't have decades. We need clean, not cleaner energy, and we need it now."

These concerns and others, including the need for a full environmental assessment of ITER will be explored at the forum.

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. An energy expo representing interested and relevant organizations will be on hand.

Discussion will begin at 7:00 p.m. Confirmed speakers are David Martin, Nuclear Policy Advisor, Sierra Club of Canada and Brian Charlton, former Ontario Minister of Energy. A question and answer session will follow.

Representatives of ITER Canada declined an invitation to participate in the forum.

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