



**Written submission from the
FIRST LEGO League Team 4137**

**Mémoire de
FIRST LEGO League Team 4137**

In the Matter of

À l'égard de

**Bruce Power Inc. – Bruce A and B
Nuclear Generating Station**

**Bruce Power Inc. - Centrale nucléaire de
Bruce A et Bruce B**

Request for a ten-year renewal of its Nuclear
Power Reactor Operating Licence for the
Bruce A and B Nuclear Generating Station

Demande de renouvellement, pour une période
de dix ans, de son permis d'exploitation d'un
réacteur nucléaire de puissance à la centrale
nucléaire de Bruce A et Bruce B

Commission Public Hearing – Part 2

**Audience publique de la Commission –
Partie 2**

May 28-31, 2018

28-31 mai 2018

It is a privilege to be able to write to you in support of Bruce Power's application for their license renewal.

Bruce Power strongly supports the community and STEM programs in many ways, including the one I am involved with, FIRST LEGO League (FLL). FLL is an annual competition for children aged nine to fourteen. Each year, FLL defines a fun theme. Last year, the theme was Hydrodynamics, and the teams learned about the human-water cycle.

Each year, FLL Teams design, build and program autonomous LEGO robots to solve complex challenges on a game table. Teams also develop a solution to a real world problem they learn about from their research into the theme. Finally, each team competes in a team-work competition. In 2017, over two hundred thousand children in over eighty countries took part.

The children on the teams learn that Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics are fun and apply to real-life, and that building and programming robots lies within their reach.

Bruce Power has provided strong financial support for local FIRST LEGO League teams in the towns near its site. This support enables the teams to reduce the financial barriers to entry, and allows many children who would not otherwise be able to take part to do so. This support enables the FLL team I coach to provide an eight month program to the children for less than \$100 including a team t-shirt.

This is a fraction of the cost of other youth activities like hockey or soccer. As such, there were a total of four teams based in Kincardine from 2012 to 2017. This inclusivity is effective in reaching children who would otherwise not have this opportunity. The teamwork, communication and technical skills that the children develop in this program are important assets in their development.

Bruce Power's support has enabled the adult mentors to concentrate more on program delivery and coaching and less on fundraising. As a result, Kincardine teams have placed first or second in their local competitions for the past five years, and have proceeded to the Western Ontario Provincial Finals twice. In 2015, one team progressed to the Ontario Innovation Celebration, which featuring the top forty teams' projects in the province. They filed a provisional patent and developed a complete marketing plan for their invention. That team also received an Ontario Power Generation Environmental Award from the Kincardine Chamber of Commerce for their work raising the awareness of keeping plastic out of the environment.

FLL members from Kincardine teams are active in promoting STEM in the community. They take part in public FLL demonstrations at events like the Kincardine Cruise Night, and in 2017, had a display at the International Plowing Match. In 2016, a Kincardine FLL member used the

skills he had learned to develop a science fair project that represented Kincardine at the Canada-Wide Science Festival in Montreal.

This is just one of the programs that Bruce Power supports that demonstrates their ongoing commitment to being a strong community partner.

Thank you,

Brent Williams

Coach, FIRST LEGO League Team 4137

Kincardine, Ontario