File / dossier : 6.01.07 Date: 2020-01-27 Edocs: 6108433

Written submission from Charlotte Kennedy

Mémoire de Charlotte Kennedy

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc., Toronto and Peterborough Facilities

Application for the renewal of the licence for Toronto and Peterborough facilities

BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc., installations de Toronto et Peterborough

Demande de renouvellement du permis pour les installations de Toronto et Peterborough

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

March 2 to 6, 2020

Du 2 au 6 mars 2020



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January 25, 2020 Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission 280 Slater Street, P.O. Box 1046, Station B Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Sent by email cnsc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

Dear Sir or Madam:

RE: Intervention by Charlotte Kennedy for the BWXT Licence Renewal (Hearing Ref. 2020 - H - 01)

A INTRODUCTION

Charlotte Kennedy submits this letter in response to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (CNSC) Public Notice dated December 20, 2019 regarding BWXT's request for Renewal of Operating Licence FF0L-3620.1/2020.

B INTEREST OF THE INTERVENOR

I am writing as a very concerned long-time resident of Peterborough. I love this city and am hugely concerned about the prospect of pellet manufacturing here at the BWXT plant. Why put the people of the city at health risk by allowing pellet manufacture, which brings increased radioactive emissions? This is unconscionable.

C CONCERNS

Here are the concerns of this intervenor in regard to this licencing application:

1, Limited Consultation: Right now there is a very small window of opportunity for public involvement regarding pelleting. I would prefer that there be no licence at all. But, at the very least, there must be no pelleting. Where it stands right now, BWXT application would allow it to start pelleting any time in the 10 years of it's licence without any further consultation with the public. This is dangerous and wrong. All reference to pellet manufacturing here must be deleted from the licence.

2, Increased health risks: BWXT admits in its Application for a Licence Renewal, that there are hazards of internal radiation in the form of loose uranium that can enter the body in many ways. This applies to both Toronto and Peterborough. If pellet production is allowed, there would be an increase in radioactive emissions, putting Peterborough workers and residents at health risk. Why would we agree to this when we already have serious health studies at hand that show Peterborough city and surrounding area have a cancer rates well above provincial rates. GE has left behind a lot of toxic material. Why would we add to this burden on us? We know much more than we did when GE plant started. We need to act on what we

now know, care about our children, our families, our neighbours, our community as a whole, our water, our land, our environment, and say NO.

3, **The storage tank issue**: liquid hydrogen can be highly explosive and is very flammable. Why then would we agree to have a tank like this within a residential neighbourhood where people live, walk, drive, and children go to school and play outside?

4, Yes, Virginia, Accidents happen: Accidents can happen, do happen and will happen. A look at BWST's application will show documented accidents at the Toronto Facility. Accidents such as sprinkler pipe bursting, and hydrogen gas leak.

We are human, not perfect, and climate change is bringing great upheavals and much more extreme conditions than we are used to and whose impact we cannot foresee. Why then would we allow such a risk right in the heart of our city?

5, **How my life would be affected**: If pelleting is allowed in Peterborough, with the risk of increasing release of radioactive emission, how will this affect my life and the life of this city?

*Already a senior and, therefore, a vulnerable citizen, my own personal health will be at greater risk.

* I will no longer be eager to invite friends, my adult child or grandchildren up to visit.

* I will no longer be singing the praises of this city to friends wanting to move out of Toronto due to the traffic congestion, concern about pelleting already going on there, and high cost of buying and renting.

* I will no longer be able to recommend Trent University or the many wonderful creative arts events to out-of-town friends, due to this danger in the environment.

* I will no longer be keen to eat local produce, which supports to local farmers and the local economy.

* I may have to consider moving away, no easy task for a senior with strong roots in this community that I love.

Any and all of these can mean very negative impact on myself personally and on the local social and economic life of this city.

6, What will be our legacy?: We do not want to leave an increase in toxic environment to those who come after us. Our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren will be left with all the radioactive waste that pellet manufacturing

will produce, not to mention health affects. Let's look at the fact that the GE operations have left a huge toxic legacy. This is well known. Why would we even consider adding to that horrible legacy?

Do we want Peterborough to become another Port Hope? We've all seen headlines in the Toronto Star, in My Kawartha, about the situation there. One headline I recall in the Star a few years ago advised Port Hope residents that moving away was their only option.

Do we want to be known as: "Peterborough, It's a Nuclear" instead of "Peterborough, It's a Natural" ? Disastrous.

D CONCLUSIOIN

For all the reasons I have outlined here, it is clear to me that pelleting manufacturing at the Peterborough BWXT facility does not meet the CNSC mandate. As a result, I request that you firmly disallow BWXT to manufacture pellets at their plant in Peterborough. Do not allow their 10-year license to be amended for this.

I would prefer that no licence be granted at all and the old GE building be totally cleaned up and converted to green energy, but at the very least, the exclusion of pellet manufacturing is essential.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Kennedy A very concerned citizen and grandmother

Peterborough, ON