



**Written submission from
Ralf Pohlak**

**Mémoire de
Ralf Pohlak**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

**BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.,
Toronto and Peterborough Facilities**

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

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

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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laissée en blanc*

I'm Ralf Pohlak from the Teachers College area in Peterborough. I am not a nuclear expert, however, I do have some scientific background graduating with BSc Physics from University of Guelph and with MBA Science and Technology from Queens. I worked in the petroleum industry for over 20 years and managed areas responsible for influencing and complying with regulation and also the automation of the central control centres for national pipeline grids. I ask to keep the Nuclear pelletizing away from vulnerable populated areas such as the proposed BWXT site in Peterborough.

I have seen pressures on regulators (including the removal of a previous CNSC chairman) and industries and even environmental assessors to compromise public health. Human nature often leads measurement and monitoring to be done away from where and when problems occur. I am disturbed that allowable limits are driven by what is practical to do and not what is safe. A single inhaled airborne particle can ruin a life according to the World Health Organization - no explosion, no smell, no sensation, without immediate reaction, no warning, and no proof. You are exposing many children and unsuspecting citizens of Peterborough to health risk and huge financial liability while the profit is mostly for those far away from either.

There are enough witnesses and testimonies to doubt the perfect and beautiful picture painted by the nuclear commission and the industry and its political servants regarding the nuclear agency. It seems that the federal government and the CNSC - and I expect provincial government view - is that since we already are committed to nuclear energy we need to make these pellets somewhere. Now after becoming a public relations problem in Toronto, the old already

contaminated GE plant with its proven path of least resistance becomes the next option. Why can't this process be done at a unpopulated area as well as monitored truly independently and randomly with appropriate penalties for non-compliance. Is this too expensive ? Then the entire enterprise of nuclear energy would be questioned as it has in Japan and German. It would be shameful if that's the real reason for this application's apparent imminent and reckless approval.

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