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**Written submission from
SaskPower**

**Mémoire de
SaskPower**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

Darlington New Nuclear Project

**Projet de nouvelle centrale nucléaire de
Darlington**

Application to renew the nuclear power
reactor site preparation licence for the
Darlington New Nuclear Project

Demande de renouvellement du permis de
préparation de l'emplacement d'une centrale
nucléaire pour le projet de nouvelle centrale
nucléaire de Darlington

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

June 10, 2021

10 juin 2021

April 29, 2021

Mr. M. Leblanc, Commission Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street P.O. Box 1046
Station B Ottawa ON
K1P 5S9

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

RE: Support for the Renewal of Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP)

As Saskatchewan's primary electricity provider, SaskPower's mandate is to provide reliable, sustainable, cost-effective electricity to our customers and the communities we serve.

SaskPower is well advanced in a major clean energy transformation that will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by at least 50% below 2005 levels by 2030. To support even deeper cuts to GHGs in the longer term, SaskPower is assessing all available and emerging power supply options. This includes moving forward with the planning and development phase of nuclear power from small modular reactors (SMRs). Through our decade-long assessment of SMRs SaskPower has relied on information, expertise and support from Canada's highly respected nuclear industry.

We've benefited from a strong partnership with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) through our own SMR evaluation, the development of the Pan-Canadian *SMR Roadmap* and *SMR Action Plan* as well as the recently released *Feasibility Report for Small Modular Reactors* for the provinces of Ontario, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan. SaskPower continues to work closely with OPG on plans for a fleet-based approach to SMR technology selection for Canada, where the same SMR technology is selected for deployment first in Ontario by 2028 and then in Saskatchewan with our first SMR potentially coming to the grid in the mid-2030s.

Through the submission and acceptance of OPG's 2012 environmental assessment (EA) which included extensive public involvement and public hearings to a joint review panel with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), OPG has demonstrated the DNNP would be safe and not cause significant environmental effects with the mitigations and commitments made. OPG has completed the long-lead commitments related to the licence and their EA as outlined in the *Darlington New Nuclear Project Commitments Report*.

Mr. M. Leblanc
April 29, 2021
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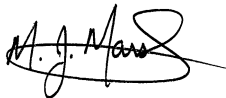
In addition, the shovel-ready status of the Darlington site makes it a vital strategic asset, providing opportunity for an SMR developer to launch a fleet of units. OPG's capabilities as an industry leader in safe nuclear operations and project management success continues to be demonstrated by a positive track record of achievements and international recognition.

We feel OPG has demonstrated a capability to not only execute the activities allowed by this licence, but also the readiness to undertake activities to support potential future new nuclear power generation projects. OPG's competence in environmental, health and safety standards combined with their commitment to continuous improvement reinforces our confidence in OPG as an experienced, trustworthy and reliable nuclear operator.

SaskPower strongly supports the renewal application of OPG's *Licence to Prepare Site* for the Darlington New Nuclear Project.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M.J. Marsh". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

M.J. (Mike) Marsh
President & Chief Executive Officer, SaskPower

c: Tim Eckel, Vice President, Asset Management, Planning and Sustainability
Rachelle Verret Morphy, Vice-President, Corporate & Regulatory Affairs and General Counsel