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Update from CNSC Staff

Mise à jour du personnel de la CCSN

Action item from Record of Decision DEC 20-H2, March 2020 Public Hearing

Suivi découlant du compte-rendu de décision DEC 20-H2, audience publique de mars 2020

Update from CNSC staff on its Peterborough Public Engagement Plan

Mise à jour du personnel de la CCSN au sujet du plan d'engagement public de la CCSN pour Peterborough

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

June 8, 2021


Le 8 juin 2021




MEMORANDUM NOTE DE SERVICE

To [Marc Leblanc
Commission Secretary

À [c.c.: P. Elder, R.Jammal, J. Cameron

From [H. Tadros 
Director General
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Subject BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc (BWXT): Peterborough Public Engagement Plan in response to the
Objet Commission’s direction to CNSC staff as outlined in the Record of Decision Dec 20-H2

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to inform the Commission of Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) staffs’ planned engagement activities in response to the direction from the Commission, specifically as outlined in paragraph 24 of the [Record of Decision](#) concerning BWXT’s licence renewal application.

BACKGROUND

In November 2018, BWXT submitted an application to renew its operating licence for its Toronto and Peterborough facilities for a period of 10 years. Following public hearings in March 2020 and the Notice of Continuation in April 2020, the Commission announced its decision on December 18, 2020 to renew BWXT’s operating licence.

The following was provided in paragraph 24 of the Commission’s Record of Decision Dec 20-H2 - “The Commission directs CNSC staff to conduct an information session in Peterborough, Ontario, to explain the beryllium resampling results to the community and to answer any questions that the community may have. This session should be held as soon as possible and no later than 6 months after the release of the Commission’s decision in this matter.”

DISCUSSION

In order to address the Commission’s direction in paragraph 24 promptly as outlined above, CNSC staff developed an engagement plan noting that, due to COVID-19 restrictions and precautions, all

meetings and presentations will be virtual. In chronological order, the following points provide the main activities, and associated promotions, within the plan:

- Meet with interested Indigenous communities to discuss the new licence, sampling results/plans and planned outreach activities (meeting held with Curve Lake First Nation on February 8 and ongoing engagement with other interested Indigenous communities).
- Update CNSC webpages with information on new licence, record of decision, beryllium sampling and planned outreach activities (February 22, 2021).
- Meet with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to discuss involvement with engagement activities (February 17, 2021).
- Present the beryllium sampling results, methodology and any technical questions to the BWXT NEC Community Liaison Committee (CLC) members. The CLC consists of members from Peterborough Public Health, Dr. Aherne, the Prince of Wales School Principal and local resident representatives (March 11, 2021).
- Present Peterborough Examiner/local media information pushouts and articles (March 15, 2021).
- Canada Post delivers the mail drop to residents' doors within 10 km of the Peterborough facility. The mail drop provides logistical details about the planned webinar on March 31st and high level information on the resampling results, pointing to CNSC's facility specific webpage for additional information (March 15, 2021).
- Send an email to CNSC subscribers and to Indigenous communities announcing a webinar and posting on CNSC webpage: latest news (March 15, 2021).
- Post on social media to announce the webinar (March 15, March 24 and March 30, 2021).
- Meet with Peterborough City Council to address questions from local elected representatives (March 2021).
- Conduct a webinar (in both official languages) to target local residents, stakeholders, and Indigenous communities providing information on beryllium sampling results methodology and IEMP campaign in Peterborough; as well as address any questions participants may have (March 31, 2021).

An application for judicial review of the Commission's decision and licence respecting operations in Peterborough has been filed in the Federal Court by Citizens Against Radioactive Neighbourhoods (CARN). Staff's approach to the outreach activities outlined above takes into consideration this application of judicial review, and means that CNSC staff will be cautious and avoid any community discussions or outreach activities leading to discussions of the court challenge. CNSC staff will avoid any such questions or discussions. If questions or comments are posed during any of the planned activities relating to the court application, staff will be clear that we have nothing to say about the judicial review application or its merits, that staff is not involved in the court case, and that staff is responsible for carrying out the directions of the Commission.

A major risk identified is the potential worsening of the pandemic in Ontario that may affect participation of interested community members and the execution of these activities as planned. CNSC staff will assess the effectiveness of the planned outreach activities based on the virtual meetings planned for March 2021 and include any follow up virtual or in-person meetings to

ensure effective outreach taking into consideration CNSC staff safety due to the prevailing pandemic.

CNSC staff will report on these outreach activities and the feedback received as part of the Regulatory Oversight Report (ROR) for uranium and nuclear substance processing facilities this year.

CONCLUSION

CNSC staff have developed a public and Indigenous engagement plan that addresses the Commission direction as outlined in the ROD related to BWXT's licence renewal. CNSC staff will carry out the planned engagement activities and will report back to the Commission in the ROR for uranium and nuclear substance processing facilities.