



**Oral presentation**

**Exposé oral**

**Written submission from  
Joseph M. Valardo**

**Mémoire de  
Joseph M. Valardo**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de la

**New Brunswick Power Corporation,  
Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station**

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**Société d'Énergie du Nouveau-Brunswick,  
centrale nucléaire de Point Lepreau**

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Application for the renewal of NB Power's  
licence for the Point Lepreau Nuclear  
Generating Station

Demande de renouvellement du permis  
d'Énergie NB pour la centrale nucléaire de  
Point Lepreau

**Commission Public Hearing  
Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission  
Partie 2**

**May 11 and 12, 2022**

**11 et 12 mai 2022**

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March 11, 2022

Secretariat  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

[cncs.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cncs.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca)

Please accept this letter as a formal request for permission to participate as an intervener (in person) in the upcoming public hearing on the renewal of the NB Power operating license for the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station.

I have a significant interest in the license renewal of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, for several important reasons.

As an environmentally responsible Canadian citizen, resident of New Brunswick and a proud nuclear professional with 31 years of service at the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station. I wish to see the station continue to operate successfully for the next generation of New Brunswickers. I firmly believe that nuclear power is the best source of low carbon energy and in the coming years and decades, we will be closing and replacing conventional power production facilities that currently use carbon-based fuel types. Point Lepreau G.S. will be needed more than ever to supply low carbon generated electricity for the residents of New Brunswick. Safely generating low carbon electricity is a responsibility we have to all Canadians, and one that PLNGS has achieved for over 4 decades.

My position at PLNGS as the Senior Safeguards Officer and Senior Nuclear Fuel Accountant has me responsible for the Nuclear Safeguards Program which is directly tied to the Station Operating License. My background, experience, training, and education, in the private sector, the Military and as a leader in the PLNGS Nuclear Response Force, has prepared me for my duties and responsibilities in this critical position.

This is a responsibility that I and NB Power take very seriously in support of Canada's obligations to nuclear accountability and to our community at large. NB Power is the only company that I have ever worked for that has such a high standard for safety culture. We have many checks and balances in place for everything we do, and especially in Safeguards, dealing with the accountability and reportability of fissionable and fertile nuclear substances, as well as ensuring compliance to all Federal and International agreements and treaties, to ensure the safety of employees, the public and the environment. To achieve a world class Safeguards program, we have an in-depth training program as well as keeping extensive records on all OPEX and nuclear materials onsite. From the start of the nuclear fuel cycle, (arrival of material onsite), to the end, when and where we store the spent material. If called upon to provide records or reports, I have the capability to identify the number of fresh and used fuel bundles, their location, serial numbers, date they arrived onsite, content of nuclear material to the nanogram, as well as any movements of the material anywhere off or on site.

I keep an extensive archive of records, reports, and other data far longer than what is required by protocol. Doing so, I can supply information for anyone who requires it, such as the CNSC, IAEA or our peer stations across Canada.

Safeguards adds another layer of reassurance to our regulators and the public, that we are operating the station in a rigorous, safe, reliable manner based on openness and transparency.

I am proud to be a founding member of the newly established COG sponsored Nuclear Safeguards Industry Committee. The role of this Committee is to continue to build on the collaborative platform where members can share information and experience on the implementation of Nuclear Safeguards regulations and processes.

This has proven to be a great resource for the industry and has strengthened our Safeguards program by allowing us participation in program development both for Lepreau and for the industry at large.

Teamwork, peer checking and a strict adherence to our safety culture is part of our daily lives here. I could not perform my job without the support of my fellow employees and vice-versa. I am confident that every report I write and all the data I collect, have been verified and peer checked down to the nano gram to ensure that utmost accuracy and reflects a true representation of our facility.

I am confident that NB Power and PLNGS, provides me with a safe and responsible work environment. I am also confident that if PLNGS is granted a 25-year operating license we will continue to operate PLNGS with the same high standards for safety and operations as it has before.

I am asking the Commission to approve the 25-year operating license for the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, and I

thank you for the opportunity to participate in the renewal process.

I can be reached at the aforementioned address or:  
(W) 506-659-7731 or at [jvalardo@nbpower.com](mailto:jvalardo@nbpower.com)

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Valardo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph M. Valardo