



**Written submission from
Karen Heinemann**

**Mémoire de
Karen Heinemann**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de la

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

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

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

From: Karen Heinemann
Sent: March 11, 2022 3:14 PM
To: cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca/Intervention
Subject: PLNGS Hearing Ref. 2022-H-02

Please consider this email my written intervention to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, regarding the licence renewal of the NB Power Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station.

I am a member of the public concerned about nuclear generating facilities, their safety, upkeep, environmental impact and how climate change may impact this facility.

A lengthy renewal at a time when there are so many uncertainties that could affect the station's safety, reliability and financial viability, would show a flagrant disregard for the public interest. It is critical that there be regular, timely opportunities to input the evolving needs and concerns of upcoming generations in New Brunswick and other Bay of Fundy residents. A 25-year licence means that we will have no chance to have our say again until 2047!

The Lepreau nuclear plant emits radioactive tritium, a carcinogen, into air and water. Canada's current "safe" limits for tritium are many times higher than in other countries. Why is Canada's safe limit for tritium 10 times higher than our closest neighbor, the United States, and 70 times higher than Europe?

The Lepreau station has a history of reliability issues:

- Electricity production at Lepreau has not met production targets, in the first seven and a half years since a disastrously long and over-budget refurbishment, requiring an additional \$500 Million in capital expenditures.
- The most recent unplanned outage, only 11 weeks after a two-month planned maintenance, was 40 days in January and February 2021 during peak demand.
- The pace of the reactor's aging and the emerging reliability and costs of operation, need to be regularly shared with the public in a relicensing format, to allow input on decisions about continued operations, in the public interest. Those decisions will include committing to expenditures required for Lepreau, versus investments in alternate sources of power.

Conclusion: In the interest of ensuring flexible, responsive, publicly- sanctioned decision-making for such uncertain times, the CNSC must not renew the operating licence for Point Lepreau power station for the requested 25 years. Instead, the CNSC should continue to consider 5-year relicensing periods, to ensure regular public review allowing for public input to planning as patterns emerge, and before choices are forced.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email. Thank you for your consideration in my concerns.

Karen Heinemann