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**Written submission from
United Way of Bruce Grey**

**Mémoire de
United Way of Bruce Grey**

Bruce Power

**Bruce Power Mid-Term Update of
Licensed Activities**

Commission Meeting

September 20 and 21, 2023

Bruce Power

**Rapport de mi-parcours au sujet
des activités autorisées de Bruce
Power**

Réunion de la Commission

Le 20 et 21 septembre 2023

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
c/o Louise Levert, Secretariat
280 Slater St., Box 1046
Ottawa, ON
K1P 5S9



Dear Members of the Commission:

I am writing this letter to offer my personal and professional support to Bruce Power's mid term licence review which is currently before the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

As the Executive Director with the United Way of Bruce Grey, I have worked closely with Bruce Power for many years. Both of our organizations share a common goal of helping those less fortunate in our communities by assisting grassroots organizations that positively impact people in the region. Bruce Power and its employees support the United Way through automatic payroll deductions and corporate fundraisers. Since 2001, Bruce Power has raised over \$3 million for my organization, and in 2017 it pledged another \$1.6 million over three years. This represents a \$533,000 per year commitment, which it decisively met in 2017 through employee donations, golf and soccer tournament fundraisers, and corporate and supplier donations.

Since 2003, Bruce Power has played an integral role in the success of the United Way. Our mandate is to meet unmet needs in Bruce and Grey Counties by mobilizing volunteer and financial resources in the common cause of caring. The United Way is an autonomous organization, which builds upon the strength of volunteers and voluntary action by engaging the whole community for the benefit of the whole community. Governed by a local Board of Directors, along with other volunteers and staff, we help to build caring communities and respond to a broad range of human needs on a local scale. This local autonomy allows us to respond to local needs, with locally created solutions.

The United Way has three main priorities. The first is 'From Poverty to Possibility,' which targets poverty, homelessness and neighbourhoods. The goal is to help people engage in their community by strengthening neighbourhood revitalization efforts, reducing poverty and improving access to affordable housing.

Our second priority is 'Healthy People, Strong Communities,' which targets vulnerable people, people with barriers in need of support, seniors, and victims of violence and abuse. The goal is to improve opportunities for people to access programs and supports that empower them to overcome barriers, build resilience, reduce isolation and be part of a caring, inclusive community.

Our third priority is 'All That Kids Can Be,' which targets early years, children, youth and families. The goal is to ensure children and youth are valued and supported members of the community with opportunities and resources to help them reach their fullest potential.

For the past 15 years the United Way has been a strong advocate for people experiencing energy poverty. In the past two years that advocacy was ramped up due to a significant increase in people facing financial crisis due to high electricity bills. Our own Utility Assistance Program supported people who needed help with furnace oil, propane and cord wood. We provided grants of \$600 per applicant household. We also provided budgeting advice and supported applications to other programs that help people with high energy bills.



In October of 2021, the United Way Board of Directors increased the grant for the oil, wood and propane portion of the Utility Program to \$700 to adjust the grant to inflation. We could not have made this increase without the ongoing commitment that Bruce Power has made to the United Way.

Though not a product of Bruce Power's operations, high electricity prices were crippling many families in Bruce Grey, especially during the winter of 2014/15. The United Way actively informed the community that people were being disconnected from the electricity during the winter months. The United Way sought regulatory change to ensure people were not disconnected during winter months. A winter disconnection ban was implemented in February of 2017.

Throughout the past 3 years of the Covid-19 pandemic, Bruce Power has regularly consulted the United Way on emerging issues in the community, and where appropriate, supported positive resolutions and programs to address those issues.

Throughout this process, Bruce Power – from its CEO to its 4,200 employees – has been unfailingly supportive of the United Way, our advocacy efforts, our programs, and our need to speak for those without a voice.

Bruce Power is vitally important to Ontario families and businesses as a safe, reliable provider of over 30% of the province's electricity. Its leaders take seriously their responsibility to also provide for the communities in which we live, and we look forward to working together for the next 10 years and through to 2064.

Sincerely,

Francesca

Francesca Dobbyn
Executive Director
United Way of Bruce Grey