



**Written submission from  
Williams College**

**Mémoire de  
Williams College**

In the Matter of

À l'égard de

**McMaster University**

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**Université McMaster**

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Application to renew its McMaster Nuclear  
Reactor Class IA non-power reactor operating  
licence

Demande concernant le renouvellement de son  
permis d'exploitation d'un réacteur de catégorie  
IA non producteur de puissance pour le réacteur  
nucléaire McMaster

Public Hearing - Hearing in writing based on  
written submissions

Audience publique - Audience fondée sur des  
mémoires

**April 2024**

**Avril 2024**

January 5, 2024

To whom it may concern:

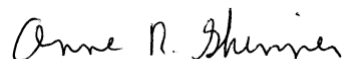
I am writing in support of the McMaster University Research Reactor Licence renewal (#NPROL-01).

In addition to such important activities such as producing isotopes for medical use, MNR supports a wide variety of research efforts. My research studies the various stages of human evolution through dating sites of hominin occupation. As part of that, MNR analyzes materials for radioisotope content. Over more than 30 years, this has led to a number of successful grant proposals. In turn these have enabled the publication of over 100 scientific papers, and at least as many presentations at professional meetings. Williams College is a undergraduate institution that strongly encourages research collaboration between faculty and students. Students have participated in this research, are co-authors on many papers, and have delivered some of the presentations. As a result of the intellectual excitement this generates, they have gone on to STEM careers of their own. There are very few places that can provide the quality of service I have had from MNR; without MNR my work would neither have been as productive nor as likely to have been recognized by professional organizations.

As well as this appeal on behalf of myself and other researchers, I feel strongly that nuclear power must be a component of clean energy in the future. Small modular reactors are clearly how that power will be created. MNR is, and hopefully will continue to be, an exemplar of the way in which nuclear power can be harnessed safely and effectively.

In summary, I urge you to renew the MNR license. It will benefit small groups, such as scientific researchers, and the larger community.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Anne R. Skinner  
Senior Lecturer