



**Written submission from the
Gamma Industry Processing Alliance**

**Mémoire de
Gamma Industry Processing Alliance**

In the Matter of

À l'égard d'

Ontario Power Generation

Ontario Power Generation

**Ontario Power Generation – Licence
amendment application for the Darlington
Nuclear Generating Station regarding the
commercial production of Cobalt-60**

**Ontario Power Generation – Demande
concernant la modification de son permis
pour la centrale nucléaire de Darlington en
vue de produire commercialement du
Cobalt-60**

Public Hearing – Hearing in writing based on
written submissions

Audience publique – Audience fondée sur des
mémoires

Spring 2024

Printemps 2024



Application from Ontario Power Generation for the amendment of its power reactor operating licence seeking to authorize OPG to commercially produce cobalt-60 at the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station

On behalf of the Gamma Industry Processing Alliance (GIPA), I would like to express our support for Ontario Power Generator's license amendment request regarding the commercial production of cobalt-60. GIPA member companies recognize that cobalt-60 is essential to global healthcare.

GIPA is an industry association made up of member companies who are experts in the manufacturing, transport and use of cobalt-60 sealed sources. Our members are leaders and subject matter experts on cobalt-60 and gamma irradiation processing.

Cobalt-60 sealed sources are used for gamma irradiation for the purpose of sterilization of medical devices used in the healthcare industry. This process protects patients from risk of infection. A patient in surgery or receiving wound care or simply having a blood sample taken, is highly likely to be treated using product that has been sterilized using cobalt-60. Globally, it is estimated that 30-40% of medical devices are sterilized using gamma irradiation. Cobalt-60 is also used for food treatment, polymer processing and environmental applications that benefit people globally.

The demand for sterilization, and therefore cobalt-60 is growing at rates not previously seen. This is due to an increasing and aging population, greater access to healthcare globally, and the development of new medical devices that require sterilization. We support OPG's commitment to gamma processing through ongoing production at the Pickering facility as well as future production at the Darlington facility. The authorization of commercial cobalt-60 production at DNGS would be a great contribution to meeting the growing demand for sterile medical devices that keep the global population safe and healthy.

Yours sincerely,

Greg Fulford

Chairman
Gamma Industry Processing Alliance