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Oral presentation

Written submission from the North American Young Generation in Nuclear, Durham Chapter

In the Matter of the

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Applicability of the Darlington New Nuclear Project environmental assessment and plant parameter envelope to selected reactor technology

Commission Public Hearing

January 2024

Exposé oral

Mémoire de la North American Young Generation in Nuclear, Durham Chapter

À l'égard d'

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Applicabilité de l'évaluation environnementale et de l'enveloppe des paramètres de la centrale à la technologie de réacteur sélectionnée pour le projet de nouvelle centrale nucléaire de Darlington

Audience publique de la Commission

Janvier 2024



November 20, 2023

Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9
Email: Interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca

RE: The applicability of the original Environmental Assessment (EA) to our selected reactor technology (GE Hitachi's BWRX-300)

Dear President and Commission Members,

My name is Hung Luong and I reside in the City of Mississauga. I am a licensed Engineering under the province of Ontario and have been working as a Technical Engineer servicing Ontario Power Generation and Bruce Power for the last 15 years. I am proud to be contributing to our economy by working in the nuclear industry and making sure that all our homes are comfortable with the electricity generated from the power plants.

On an occasion driving home from the power plant during this summer, as I rolled down the window for fresh air, I smell a strong burnt scent in the air. I called my wife and express this weird smog lingering in the air and ask to see if she experienced the same thing. To that, she informed me that it came from the fire from Quebec as she was listening to the news. Never have I imagined global warming could be so close to our home. For years, I avoided from speaking up to this issue and hoping that we are protected as we are located further up north on the equator and live comfortably under our air-conditioned home. How can a couple degrees be so bad to our environment?

I have been more actively participated in North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NAYGN) Durham chapter and took on the role of public relation this year. There are currently over 100 chapters across North America with around 24 chapters in Canada. NAYGN Durham is a local chapter to the Durham Region, which started its journey in 2008. Beside from the various social events, professional development, and community events, we have been reaching out to schools in educating the public on the benefit of nuclear technologies to our communities and abroad. The chapter has over 950 members, most of whom work for the nuclear industry in Darlington and Pickering area.


Regarding the Environmental Impact Statement submitted by OPG in 2009 and accepted in 2012, the proposal of four BWRX-300 reactors (total capacity of 1200MW) at the DNNP site in place of four large nuclear power plants (total capacity of 4800MW) are still within the original environmental envelope. The approved license was renewed in 2021 and the environmental envelope parameters are still valid due to the smaller footprint and physical size of the BWRX-300.



I often wonder why the scaled down version of the power plant, the Small Modular Reactor (SMR), instead of the large power plant, such as the CANDU Reactor that is a Canadian technology. I think we can agree that environmental impact is a global issue and not specific to a Canada. We must think of the global impact and the best possible solution for the world. Based on my understanding, SMR has the both the flexibility in sizes and shorter time frame to build in incremental units. By being the first, we set the example for the rest of world to follow.

In closing, when I think of environmental impact, I see it as a global issue and not an Ontarian issue. The work that we do at the plant can have an impact in another province, in our neighbouring countries, and countries across the continent. Our work is only the beginning as we enter this rapid change in the climate. The leadership team of Ontario Power Generation have set the tone for net-zero for 2050 for Canada, but our aim is for the rest of the world to follow by setting the example. I urge you to take the appropriate action toward supporting our climate goal!


Hung Luong, NAYGN Durham Chair

A Bhardwaj for 
Veeshesh Sunassy, NAYGN Durham President