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Written submission from SaskPower

Mémoire de SaskPower

In the Matter of the

À l'égard d'

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Application for a licence to construct one BWRX-300 reactor at the Darlington New Nuclear Project Site (DNNP)

Demande visant à construire 1 réacteur BWRX-300 sur le site du projet de nouvelle centrale nucléaire de Darlington (PNCND)

Commission Public Hearing Part-2

Audience publique de la Commission Partie-2

January 2025

Janvier 2025





Rupen Pandya President and Chief Executive Officer

2025 Victoria Avenue Regina, Saskatchewan Canada S4P 0S1 Phone: 306-566-6644 rpandya@saskpower.com

Letter Number: N-RA-LTR-0003

November 4, 2024

Ms. C. Salmon, Commission Registrar Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission 280 Slater Street P.O. Box 1046 Station B Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

Sent via email: interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca

Subject: Support for the Issuance of a Licence to Construct for Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP)

Dear Ms. Salmon:

Saskatchewan Power Corporation (SaskPower) is the principal supplier of electricity in the province of Saskatchewan and has an obligation to deliver power to the province in a safe, reliable, cost-effective and sustainable manner. Approximately 60% of our power is generated from greenhouse gas (GHG) emitting sources, including coal and natural gas generation. To meet regulations to reduce GHG emissions, we have developed a plan to reach net-zero by 2050 or sooner. To meet this goal, we need a diverse supply mix and are exploring a range of low or no emission power source options including nuclear power from small modular reactors (SMRs).

As a greenfield jurisdiction in the nuclear industry, SaskPower relies on our working relationships with experienced nuclear utilities. SaskPower has collaborated with OPG since 2017 with the objective of sharing information related to licensing, constructing and operating of the same SMR design in our respective jurisdictions. SaskPower is of the view that this type of collaboration will support our shared goal of achieving the highest levels of safety in nuclear construction and operations while protecting the environment and the health and safety of persons in both Ontario and Saskatchewan.

Ms. C. Salmon, Commission Registrar Page 2 November 4, 2024

Through our close working relationship with OPG, SaskPower has seen firsthand OPG's globally recognized commitment to nuclear safety in every aspect of their nuclear operations. SaskPower has observed OPG's thorough approach and commitment to public health and safety in the development of the construction plan for the deployment of the BWRX-300 and in the development of a highly qualified supply chain of people, goods and services that we are confident will deliver Canada's first commercial scale SMR safely.

In 2022, SaskPower selected the General Electric-Hitachi (GEH) BWRX-300 for deployment in Saskatchewan. SaskPower expects to submit a Licence to Prepare Site (LTPS) application in 2027 and a Licence to Construct (LTC) application in 2028, leading to a final investment decision 2029. The successful and safe completion of construction of the first BWRX-300 by OPG will be invaluable to the deployment of SMRs in Saskatchewan. The timing of OPG's construction completion, as projected in 2028, and the beginning of ours, in 2031, will allow us to gain important insights into the construction process, costs and lessons learned, as well as preparations for operational readiness.

SaskPower strongly supports the approval of Ontario Power Generation's application for a Licence to Construct for Darlington New Nuclear Project. Please feel free to contact me directly should you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Rupen Pandya

President and Chief Executive Officer, SaskPower and SaskNuclear

c: Leonard K. Clewett, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Development Rachelle Verret Morphy, Executive Vice President, Legal & Corporate Services and General Counsel Allison Champion, Manager, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs