



**Written submission from the
Scientists in School**

**Mémoire des
Scientists in School**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard d'

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Application to extend the operation of
Pickering Nuclear Generating Station
Units 5 to 8 until December 31, 2026

Demande visant à prolonger l'exploitation
des tranches 5 à 8 de la centrale nucléaire de
Pickering jusqu'au 31 décembre 2026

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

June 2024

Juin 2024



April 23, 2024

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

Re: Support for OPG's Application to the CNSC for an Amendment to Their Licence

Dear Members of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission,

I am writing this letter to express my support for Ontario Power Generation's application to the CNSC for an amendment to their licence which would allow OPG to operate its Pickering Units 5 to 8 to the end of 2026, an additional two years. Pickering Nuclear plays a vital role in the powering of Ontario, in a clean, low carbon, safe and reliable manner.

In my role of Executive Director at Scientists in School, I have had the pleasure of working with well over a hundred corporate supporters/partners for our charity for over 25 years. Ontario Power Generation - Pickering Site was very nearly our first. Since 2003, OPG Pickering has been an indispensable partner in helping our non-profit optimize our mission, vision, community and youth impact. With this long history of collaboration, it's an honour to write this letter of support. I can truly attest that Ontario Power Generation's corporate culture and citizenry is deeply rooted in giving back to the communities in which they operate. They are exemplary in the ways in which they give back to the Pickering and surrounding communities, and beyond, including supporting Scientists in School's youth STEM enrichment impact across Durham Region. Other OPG sites are also collaborating with us in their communities.

As background, Scientists in School is a leading youth STEM education charity, founded in Pickering as a local community-serving charity, expanding across Ontario starting in our tenth year, and now providing our hands-on workshops for youth in schools and community organizations across Canada. We play a pivotal role in nurturing STEM interest and confidence in youth across their formative Kindergarten to Grade 8 years, through richly immersive, investigative workshops - primarily in classrooms, but also in community settings. Since our inception, we have engaged almost 11 million students, in hands-on workshops where they become the scientists, guided by diverse visiting STEM role models. Annually our partnership with OPG Pickering, supporting Durham District school boards and Durham youth groups, engages over 40,000 K to grade 8 young scientists in typical years, opening the door to life-long engagement in STEM, future STEM career paths, and a thoughtful citizenry of critical thinkers.

OPG Pickering also regularly invites Scientists in School to collaborate on various of their community initiatives, including Tuesdays on the Trail and March Break Madness events for children and families.



Recently, we have worked together in classrooms to shine extra focus on the importance of clean energy, a vital focus in education during the critical elementary years, to ensure this generation grows up informed and eager to help support Canada's goals for tackling climate change head-on and now.

From a personal perspective, I would be remiss if I did not comment On Ontario Power Generation's concern for the environment and the safety of the community in which it works, operates and serves. I have been a resident of Pickering for over 30 years; the generating station has always been part of our community. OPG Pickering's concern for, and commitment to the environment and safety are both front and center. They send regular updates via their newsletter that comes to households across the region, host community information sessions and staff their public information centre with individuals who are there to answer questions from the public, to educate and to provide helpful resources grounded in science.

Beyond my role in Scientists in School, I have a 'window' into OPG Pickering's impact on the broader community, particularly via its collaborations with a breadth of non-profits and charities. I am part of a peer network of Executive Directors of Durham Region non-profits and I hear such positive accolades from leaders of many organizations that make a difference in the local and broader community. OPG Pickering's priority of cultivating and nurturing strong relationships within the communities in which they operate is a change-maker for the fabric Pickering through societal supports in many areas, including: environmental protection and awareness, education, arts and culture, food security, gender equality, young engagement, marginalization impacts on community members, and leadership in Indigenous reconciliation. And these are only those that I have had a view to within the local community and through my network.

OPG Pickering is a highly safety conscious organization, a leader in environmental protection including climate change, and an impactful community builder. I reiterate my support for OPG's application to the CNSC for an amendment to their license to allow OPG Pickering to operate Units 5 to 8 to the end of 2026. I am confident they will deliver valuable clean energy and operate with safety as their number one priority.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cindy Adams
Executive Director, Scientists in School

Cell: 905-837-9626, ext. 238