



Canadian Nuclear
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne
de sûreté nucléaire

CMD 25-M9.17

Date: 2025-01-10

File / dossier : 6.02.04

Edocs pdf : 7440322

**Written submission from
Zachary Simon**

Mémoire de Zachary Simon

**Regulatory Oversight Report
for Canadian Nuclear Power
Generating Sites for 2023**

**Rapport de surveillance
réglementaire des sites
nucléaires pour 2023**

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

February 25, 2025

Le 25 février 2025

Zachary Simon

January 10, 2025

Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, PO Box 1046
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9
Email: interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca

RE: CNSC 2023 - Canadian Nuclear Power Generating Sites Oversight Report

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Zachary Simon. I am a member of the Elsipogtog First Nation, a Mi'kmaq community northwest of Moncton, New Brunswick. For many years, I've had an interest in the operation of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS) and have established a long-standing and respectful relationship with the staff at PLNGS. Please accept this letter as my written submission.

For many years, I held the role of liaison between my community and the Point Lepreau station, to help increase the level of knowledge of station operations and ensure questions and concerns from community members were addressed through open lines of communication.

I was also our community's Covid Response Co-ordinator where I worked co-operatively with local health departments and Point Lepreau staff to ensure our community had access to important health information and personal protective equipment.

My role as liaison was not to promote the Station, but instead act as a channel through which information, questions and perspectives could flow respectfully both ways. Although initially skeptical about nuclear power, through my experience and interactions with NB Power staff I grew to better understand how the station operates and the priority NB Power places on protecting the safety of people and the land, and their respect for First Nations cultures and traditions.

Although I no longer serve in a formal role, NB Power staff knows that I continue to have a keen interest in the station. I appreciate their ongoing efforts to keep me informed and involved in engagement opportunities.

For example, in 2023, staff hosted a series of public information sessions that included the opportunity to speak with many station representatives as well as industry groups, including the NWMO. Knowing the topic of waste management is of particular interest to not only me but also my community, staff reached out to extend a personal invitation to join them at a session.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the dedication and care shown by the staff of PLNGS in their ongoing engagement within First Nations Communities. Over the years, we have seen their commitment not only in the work they do but in the relationships they nurture with our people.

PLNGS staff approach their work with respect and understanding of our traditions, our ways, and the challenges we face. They do come into our communities with a willingness to listen, learn, and build trust over time

We have seen them engage in meaningful conversations with our elders, our leaders, and our youth.

PLNGS staff have shown that community engagement is not just about the work—it's about creating real, lasting relationships that are built on mutual respect. They understand that change takes time and is not something imposed upon us, but something we can all contribute to together.

I want to express our gratitude for the way PLNGS staff have supported us, and for their continued partnership in the years to come.

I continue to have confidence the staff at Point Lepreau are operating the station with a commitment to safety and protection of the surrounding environment.

Wela'lin,

Zachary Simon