



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

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**Written submission from  
Nuclear Innovation Institute**

**Mémoire du Nuclear  
Innovation Institute**

**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



# NII response to the CNSC Regulatory Oversight Report for Canadian Nuclear Power Generating Sites for 2023

**DATE:** January 10, 2025

**TO:** Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

**FROM:** Nuclear Innovation Institute

**CC:** N/A

**RE:** *Revised Notice of Participation at a Commission Meeting R001 – Ref. No. 2024-M-26*

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## Overview

The following submission responds to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission’s revised notice of participation at a Commission Meeting regarding the 2023 Regulatory Oversight Report (ROR) for Canadian nuclear power generating sites, with comments pertaining specifically to the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station.

This submission provides an overview of Bruce Power’s collaboration with NII towards protecting the natural environment, building strong community relations, and operational innovation and safety.

## Protecting the Natural Environment

As evidenced by CNSC Staff’s findings in Section 2.5.9, Environmental Protection, of the ROR, it is clear that Bruce Power is committed to environmental protection. Not only does Bruce Power continue to comply with all applicable environmental standards, it also ensures that radiological releases to the environment, hazardous substance releases to the environment, and public dose, all remain below regulatory limits. Going beyond regulatory compliance, Bruce Power has monitored the environment in this region for decades, studying the effects of its operations so that potential impacts can be



understood and mitigated, and through collaboration with NII, Bruce Power has recently expanded its environmental research portfolio and enhanced public access to valuable findings and analysis.

### *Environmental & human health research*

Environment and human health research programming as part of the Bruce Power Nexus Research Centre at NII provides a platform to advance leading research on ecosystems and the environment throughout the Bruce, Grey, and Huron region and beyond, through specific research projects. The Centre facilitates leading-edge research focused on fostering a clean and healthy environment.

For example, the recently launched [\*Climate Project\*](#), a Bruce Power-funded project created by NII, is a living, trusted, and accessible digital hub delivering localized climate change research and actionable intelligence to help people better understand what a changing global climate could mean for where they live. The Climate Project aims to address issues like the effects of climate changes on our local environment by gathering scientific research from qualified sources in academia, municipal, provincial and federal governments, conservation authorities, NGOs, industry partners, and sources of local Indigenous knowledge. Its purpose is to share the body of localized research and scientific knowledge on climate change pertaining to people in this region—those in Bruce, Grey, and Huron counties and local Indigenous communities—all located within the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Territory.

This is but one example of the kind of environmental research conducted through the Centre. With the support of Bruce Power, the program continues to bring leading scientists and researchers to the Bruce, Grey, and Huron region to better understand our natural environment.

## **Building Strong Community Relations**

### *Clean Energy Frontier*

The Clean Energy Frontier program is an advocacy, awareness-raising, and economic development initiative led by Bruce Power operating out of NII. The program focuses on demonstrating the valuable contributions that the clean energy sector in Bruce, Grey, and Huron counties makes to Ontario and Canada, while working to build on the region's advantages in clean energy. While the end goal of the program is to promote and advance the region as a whole, the process of doing so inherently builds connections between communities, thus enhancing trust and strengthening relationships in the region.

The program builds on the success of supplier expansion and economic development efforts by Bruce Power since 2016 to ensure that major companies in the Bruce Power supply chain were providing a direct economic benefit to the communities closest to the Bruce Power site. These efforts have seen tremendous results. In 2016, the 16 major suppliers in the area were concentrated only in Bruce County. By 2023 there were more than 60 major suppliers operating in 14 communities across Bruce, Grey and Huron counties. This also includes Indigenous-owned businesses and partnerships like Makwa Development Corporation and Makwa-Cahill.



The Clean Energy Frontier program communicates this significant advantage by demonstrating the impact of these operations not only to the region but to the rest of the province. For example, an economic impact study commissioned by the program found that the impact of Bruce Power's operations contributed approximately \$4 billion to the province of Ontario's annual GDP.

The program also engages regularly with local elected officials and municipal staff to support them in communicating about clean energy, nuclear power, net zero and other topics. The program recently provided a plain-language toolkit to local elected officials to provide them with the key information needed to comfortably communicate about nuclear power in other forums. Furthermore, the program hosts an annual conference that provides an opportunity for municipalities, local supply chain companies and other key stakeholders to come together and discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the region.

### *NII Advance Technology Campus*

The NII Advance Technology Campus is a first-in-the-region innovation and enhanced education centre. Minutes from the Bruce Power site, the Campus is a space to bring together companies in the clean energy sector to develop, share, and adopt new and innovative technologies, and allows for enhanced training opportunities locally, connecting rural residents to more academic opportunities close to home.

Open in 2024, already the Campus has hosted numerous clean energy industry events and a range of training programs including collaborative skilled trades workshops and courses. Recent welding programs with the CWB Welding Foundation (CWB), the Saugeen Sparks Training Centre, and the Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario - Tomorrow's Trades—for certified beginner and more experienced welding students as they advance towards their apprenticeships—have facilitated learning right here in the Clean Energy Frontier region.

### **Commitment to Innovation and Safety**

Bruce Power maintains a commitment to operational innovation and safety. One avenue through which it upholds that commitment is continued collaboration with NII and our other Founding Members.

Incorporated in 2019, NII is a platform for innovation and process improvement. NII's vision is to create a Canadian landscape that celebrates an innovative nuclear sector as an integral part of a clean energy future. NII seeks to achieve this vision by driving an innovative industry voice, skills development and industry advancement initiatives, and encouraging collaborative engagement with communities, industries, and governments. Since 2019, Bruce Power has and continues to, work with NII and our Founding Members on a number of innovative projects to unlock process advancements, improve safety, and innovate in ways that would not be possible for any of our members individually.



## **Technical contact**

Should you have any questions about the content contained within this submission please feel free to contact the Nuclear Innovation Institute by e-mailing Chad Richards at [chad.richards@nii.ca](mailto:chad.richards@nii.ca) or by calling 519-831-5485.

