



CMD 26-H7.29

Date: 2026-08-11

**Written Submission from the
Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade**

**Mémoire de
Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade**

In the matter of

À l'égard de

Ontario Power Generation

Application to refurbish Pickering Nuclear
Generating Station and to renew licences
for the Pickering Nuclear Generating
Station and Waste Management Facility

Ontario Power Generation

Demande concernant la réfection de la
centrale nucléaire de Pickering et le
renouvellement de ses permis pour la
centrale et l'installation de gestion des
déchets

**Commission Public Hearing
Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission
Partie 2**

October 2026

Octobre 2026

Dear Commission Secretariat:

The Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade (APBOT) represents more than 500 businesses and community organizations and has been the voice of business in Ajax and Pickering for 71 years. We are long-time advocates on matters of importance to our business community and our community at large.

In 2024, we intervened in support of the application by Ontario Power Generation (OPG) to continue operations of units 5-8 to the end of 2026. Given the station's continued strong safety and operational performance since then, we confidently submit this letter today in support of OPG's application for the renewal of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (PNGS) Power Reactor Operating Licence (PROL) for a 10-year term from January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2036.

We submit our support with the understanding that during this term, OPG plans to refurbish Units 5 to 8 to support continued operations for 30-plus years and progress the decommissioning of Units 1 to 4 as per the CNSC approved Detailed Decommissioning Plan (DDP). Additionally, this application requests the consolidation of the licensed activities authorized under the current Pickering Waste Facility Operating Licence (WFOL) with the Pickering PROL to give a holistic view of generation and waste for managing the licence, based on feedback from intervenors, and to streamline regulatory processes.

Our first consideration, shared with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and OPG, is safety. PNGS operations meet or better, strict standards and regulatory requirements to ensure their employees and our communities are always safe. As you know, no member of the public has ever been harmed because of a radiation emission from the nuclear power plant or nuclear by-product storage facilities, and we trust that track record to continue.

That trust is fortified by the station performance that has continued to improve even as OPG moves to end of commercial operations. This speaks to the motivation and commitment of OPG management and staff to maintain operational excellence.

Our second consideration is that APBOT members and businesses across our province require reliable and low-cost electricity to power their businesses. The continued operation and refurbishment of PNGS will allow Units 5 to 8 to continue to provide 10% of our province's energy supply.

It will provide many other benefits for customers, the economy, and the environment including:

- Securing more than 2,100 MW of clean, reliable power for an additional 30-plus years.
- Powering two million homes and businesses across Ontario, safely and reliably.
- Maintaining and securing thousands of highly skilled jobs for OPG, contract partners, and the broader Canadian supply chain.
- Generating a significant increase in Ontario's GDP by \$38.2 billion over the project's lifespan, including \$17 billion during the refurbishment phase.

The recent on-time and under-budget refurbishment of the Darlington Nuclear units also gives us confidence the planned PNGS Refurbishment will be safely complete in a timely and financially viable fashion. We are particularly encouraged with OPG's exhaustive use of OPEX (Operating Experience) to identify and act on every opportunity for improvement throughout the planning and execution of the PNGS project.

We are impressed by the decision to have the Darlington Refurbishment leadership team guide this effort, leveraging their recent and proven expertise. Equally important is the involvement of current station operations staff. We expect they know the station better than anyone and they have a real personal stake in its continued safe and effective operation.

We are pleased that the production of Cobalt-60 will continue. It represents 20% of the North American supply and 10% of the world's supply of this life saving by-product. The medical isotopes produced by OPG's reactors are important contributors to the health and well being of people in our community and elsewhere.

Finally, APBOT has a long-standing and positive relationship with OPG. Beyond the obvious economic and employment benefits, OPG's presence in our community has been beneficial for our other members, as well as the communities of Ajax and Pickering, and the entirety of Durham Region. Their leadership and their employees' leadership as community builders is second to none. One need look no further than our organization which has had four OPG employees serve as our President and Chair. Others have served as Directors, including one currently with an OPG retiree serving as Advisor to our Board of Directors.

In preparation for determining our positive intervention, we reviewed the Renewal Application for Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (PNGS) Power Reactor Operating Licence and Pickering Waste Management Facility (PWMF) Operating Licence. Our Board of Directors attended an OPG presentation on current operations as well as the plans for licence extension, refurbishment, and continued operations. A highlight of the visit was a tour of the station. Our Government Relations Committee received an overview of the application and had our questions satisfactorily answered. In addition, our Board Advisor attended the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station Licensing Workshop where our additional questions were well answered.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to share our strong support of OPG's application for the renewal of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (PNGS) Power Reactor Operating Licence (PROL) for a 10-year term from January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2036. We understand there will be public hearings in October, and we will be prepared to deliver an oral intervention then.

Sincerely,



Mil Patel
President, Board of Directors
Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade