

ADMINISTRATION



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CNSC CCSN



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Mr. M. Dallaire
Director General, Regulatory Policy Directorate
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
P.O. Box 1046
280 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9

	1.01.02
FILE DOSSIER	1-8-8-0
REFERRED TO REFÉRÉ À	Dallaire, M.

Dear Mr. Dallaire:

Bruce Power Comments on Stakeholder Workshop Report: Process for Establishing Release Limits and Action Levels at Nuclear Facilities (DIS-12-02)

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the CNSC's request for comments on the recently posted Stakeholder Workshop Report: Process for Establishing Release Limits and Action Levels at Nuclear Facilities (DIS-12-02, Reference 1).

As a participant at the June 2013 CNSC workshop, Bruce Power acknowledges the workshop report adequately summarizes the discussions. However; the report does not disposition any of issues identified at the workshop nor does it provide any indication of a path forward to the resolution of these issues. Bruce Power continues to have serious concerns about the actual framework suggested in the Discussion Paper and perpetuated in the workshop report.

As mentioned previously, Bruce Power while supporting what we believe to be the underlying motive for this Discussion Paper, a continual improvement in performance, has serious concerns with the specific recommendations. We reiterate our key issues from our prior submission (Reference 2) below:

- The use of a non-science based regulatory release limit combined with the use of statically based action levels generated from station operational emissions levels will have a significant negative impact in public perception. As stations exceed their action levels; by design; increased reporting will result. This increased reporting will be perceived as regulatory limit violations even though the levels are set much lower than any expectation of harm to the environment. There will be no way to effectively explain this complexity in the public domain.

Bruce Power Frank Saunders Vice President - Nuclear Oversight and Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 1540 B10 4th floor W Tiverton ON N0G 2T0
Telephone 519 361-5025 Facsimile 519 361-4559
frank.saunders@brucepower.com

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- Action levels should continue to reflect a “potential loss of control” or “risk to the environment” and not be utilized to drive improvements in “operational performance”, which can be addressed through Bruce Power’s ALARA and Pollution Prevention programs. The basis for actions levels among the nuclear industry should be consistent, but should be derived through existing consensus processes such as the Canadian Standards Association (CSA). The use of the CSA will allow stakeholders from government, industry and the general public to arrive at consistent approach to developing relevant action levels.
- The issue of multiple regulatory agencies with overlapping jurisdiction, i.e., CNSC, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment Canada, and Ontario Ministry of Environment, monitoring the same processes is not properly addressed and a standardized approach needs to be evaluated. Bruce Power is committed to ensuring environmental safety, but it is not reasonable that the nuclear industry should be required to meet different requirements, file separate reports and be subject to administrative penalties from multiple agencies for the same area of regulation.
- The cost of implementation of many of the technology based limits has not been justified by a proper cost-benefit analyses/impact analyses (i.e., BATEA process must be followed).

In closing, as a company and as individuals who live in our community, we seek always to ensure that the environment is protected. Bruce Power adopts applicable best industry standards as a framework for achieving continual improvement and sustainable performance excellence, while minimizing our environmental impact and preventing pollution. Bruce Power supports having a standard for setting consistent and transparent action levels across the industry and is ready to participate fully in a discussion of possible improvements and their implementation.

If you require further information or have any questions regarding this submission, please contact Mr. Maury Burton, Department Manager, Regulatory Affairs at (519) 361-5291.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'FSA', with the word 'FOR' written below it in a smaller, less legible script.

Frank Saunders
Vice President Nuclear Oversight and Regulatory Affairs
Bruce Power

cc: CNSC Bruce Site Office (Letter only)
consultation@cnscccsn.gc.ca



References:

1. Report, CNSC Stakeholder Workshop Report: Process for Establishing Release Limits and Action Levels at Nuclear Facilities (DIS-12-02), December 3, 2013, <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/consultation/comment/swr-d-12-02.cfm>.
2. Letter, F. Saunders to M. Dallaire, "Bruce Power Comments on CNSC Discussion Paper DIS-12-02 – Process for Establishing Release Limits and Action Levels at Nuclear Facilities", June 28, 2012, NK21-CORR-00531-09645 / NK29-CORR-00531-10164 / NK37-CORR-00531-01905.