



Oral presentation

**Submission from
Mark MacKenzie**

In the Matter of the

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

Application for the renewal of the Nuclear
Research and Test Establishment Operating
Licence for the Chalk River Laboratories

Commission Public Hearing

January 23-25, 2018

Exposé oral

**Mémoire de
Mark MacKenzie**

À l'égard des

Les Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens

Demande de renouvellement du permis
d'exploitation d'établissement de recherche
et d'essais nucléaires pour les Laboratoires
de Chalk River

Audience publique de la Commission

23-25 janvier 2018

From: [Mark MacKenzie](#)
To: [Interventions \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)
Subject: Consideration of the Site License Renewal for the Chalk River Laboratories, CNSC public hearing January 24 and 25, 2018
Date: 11 décembre 2017 20:58:45

To whom it may concern:

I would like to make an oral presentation at the above-mentioned hearing into the Site License Renewal for the Chalk River Laboratories

I have a number of concerns about the proposed new license as follows:

- 1) The term of the license is too long. A 10-year license is not appropriate given that the contractor running the site has only been in place for two years of a six year contract that will end in four years.
- 2) Radioactive waste does not appear to be well managed at the Chalk River Labs site. According to the Ottawa Citizen article by Ian McLeod, "A Toxic Legacy", December 19, 2011, there are serious waste problems at Chalk River and waste sites containing very hazardous materials are leaking and migrating towards the Ottawa River.
- 3) The licensee has proposed a radioactive waste disposal facility that has been criticized by experts as out of compliance with international guidance. I have serious concerns that the proposed Near Surface Disposal Facility, being in fact 10 stories above ground risks the water quality of the Ottawa River for generations to come. If this proposed facility is not a solution to the waste problems at the Chalk River Laboratories, how will the CNSC ensure that the waste problems are being dealt with in a responsible manner over the course of the proposed license.
- 4) There have been reports in the media, that indicate the licensee is actively promoting use of the Chalk River Laboratories as a testing ground for a new generation of nuclear reactors, called "Small Modular Reactors" [Terrestrial Energy's molten-salt nuclear reactor approved by national regulator](#) and **Chalk River's nuclear research centre is switching gears** Radioactive waste would be generated by research and development of small modular reactors. I question whether it is wise to allow the creation of more radioactive waste at the Chalk River site when the wastes already there do not appear to be well managed.

Please note that while I am a Councillor in the Township of McNab/Braeside which is downstream from Chalk River, I am not asking to intervene on behalf of the Township, but as a private citizen.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this licensing hearing..

Mark MacKenzie