



Environmental Assessment Report: Ontario Power Generation Inc. Pickering Waste Management Facility Licence Renewal

February 2017



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) conducts environmental assessments (EA) under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA) for all projects, in accordance with its mandate, to ensure the protection of the environment and the health of persons. The safety component of the CNSC's mandate is covered in the safety case assessment carried out for all projects.

This EA Report, written by CNSC staff for the Commission and the public, describes the findings of the EA under the NSCA completed for the licence application by Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) to renew the Pickering Waste Management Facility (PWMF) Waste Facility Operating Licence, WFOL-W4-350.02/2018. This EA under the NSCA includes CNSC staff assessment of the licence application and the documents submitted in support of the application, annual environmental monitoring reports, the results of previous EA studies, and the findings of CNSC's Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP).

The EA Report focuses on items that are of current public and regulatory interest, such as releases to air and surface water, the health of the surrounding human populations, and the protection of the atmospheric, aquatic, geological and hydrogeological, terrestrial and human environments.

CNSC staff conclusions are based on, but not limited to, the following:

- OPG's environmental protection programs which meet CNSC regulatory requirements.
- The findings and methodology of OPG's Pickering nuclear site Environmental Risk Assessments (ERA), noting that OPG is in the process of updating the site-wide ERA with monitoring data from 2011 to 2015 in advance of the required five-year cycle.
- The results of CNSC's 2014 and 2015 IEMP that confirm the public and the environment in the vicinity of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station site are protected from the releases of the facility, with the releases from the PWMF being a small contribution to these releases.

Based on the EA under the NSCA conducted for this licence application, CNSC staff conclude that regarding the PWMF, OPG has and will continue to make adequate provision for the protection of the environment and the health of persons until the decommissioning and abandonment of the site.