



**Written submission from  
Maimuna Hafiz**

**Mémoire de  
Maimuna Hafiz**

In the Matter of

À l'égard de

**Ontario Power Generation Inc.,  
Pickering Nuclear Generating Station**

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**Ontario Power Generation Inc.,  
centrale nucléaire de Pickering**

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Request for a ten-year renewal of its Nuclear  
Power Reactor Operating Licence for the  
Pickering Nuclear Generating Station

Demande de renouvellement, pour une période  
de dix ans, de son permis d'exploitation d'un  
réacteur nucléaire de puissance à la centrale  
nucléaire de Pickering

**Commission Public Hearing – Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission –  
Partie 2**

**June 2018**

**Juin 2018**



c/o Louise Levert  
Secretariat  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St., P.O. Box 1046  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9  
Fax: 613-995-5086

Via e-mail: [cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca)

April 29, 2018

**Subject: My opposition to the continued operation of the Pickering reactors (Ref. 2018-H-03)**

Dear Commissioners,

As a student at the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC), it profoundly concerns me that the Ontario Power Generation (OPG) plans to continue the aging reactors in Pickering when their design's life has significantly passed.

It has been brought to my attention that the majority of Pickering Nuclear Generating Station's (NGS) electricity is surplus energy, therefore I am writing to urge the Commission to deny OPG's request for a ten-year licence renewal. These decaying reactors are putting the people of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and the environment at higher risk.

The Pickering nuclear station is putting the public's health and safety unnecessarily at risk. Producing this unneeded electricity puts our economy at harm, since Pickering's energy is surplus, residents of Ontario are unnecessarily burdened by more costly energy bills.

I understand there was no environmental review when the Pickering NGS was first built back in the 1960s. With no environmental assessment, the station was built with no credible plan on how to safely store its radioactive waste for millennia. With Pickering's power mostly surplus OPG is producing radioactive waste for no good reason. I think this is unconscionable.

Additionally, when the Pickering NGS was built, the GTA was not as densely populated as it is today. As a nuclear power generating station, Pickering puts the lives of residents in the GTA at risk during an accident. OPG has only focused their very minimal attention towards the safety of those that are 10km from the station. In the past, events such as Fukushima and Chernobyl have had communities within 30-50 km evacuated. I think this shows OPG has not put enough concern into protecting neighbourhoods across the GTA that may be affected.

As a full-time student and part-time worker at the University of Toronto Scarborough, it heavily concerns me that my school is approximately 10 km away from this plant and there were no public

safety warnings brought to our attention. Students haven't been told what they should do if an accident were to occur at Pickering.

Furthermore, my family and I live in North York, which is 30 km within the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station. We have lived in North York for over a decade, and over the years OPG has never brought to our attention that these aging reactors may have potential risk. As previously stated, Chernobyl and Fukushima listed communities within 30-50 km as evacuation areas. Therefore, OPG has failed to educate the public regarding the aging reactors and the safety regulations that should be met for these communities.

Accidents such as the Chernobyl and Fukushima are surprisingly not as rare, it has come to my attention that there have been numerous near-miss accidents in Pickering. If there is an accident similar to that of Chernobyl and Fukushima, the results would be extreme since the city of Toronto is more densely populated compared to those of the Chernobyl and Fukushima.

Request:

I ask you to deny OPG's requests request to unnecessarily continue operating the Pickering NGS.

However, if you permit OPG to continue running this power plant, there should be KI pills (Potassium Iodine) available to the citizens within more than 10 km. Fukushima and Chernobyl have both stated that the danger zone was around 30 km. Thus, I think it is crucial for the people within these distances to have easy access to KI.

Over the past 2 years of studying at UTSC, it deeply concerns me that there have been very little awareness among people regarding how close the power plant is and the possible risks. Although the continuation of this power plant is extremely unnecessary due to majority of the energy being surplus energy, if you allow Pickering to continue operating I request that OPG provide information regarding the safety regulations to people living beyond 10km.

I do not intend to also make an oral submission to the hearing.

Thank you for your attention,

Maimuna Hafiz