



**Written submission from
James Scarrow**

**Mémoire de
James Scarrow**

In the Matter of

À l'égard de

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

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

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

May 4, 2018

Dear Commissioners,

When CNSC was established in 2000, the mandate it was given was to protect the health and safety of Canadians, as well as our environment. I have lived in Toronto all of my life, and for all of my adult life have lived with concerns regarding the Pickering Nuclear Power plant and its proximity to a dense population. Population densities have also increased considerably from when this plant was built, and environmental standards have risen substantially as well.

Further, the power now being produced is apparently surplus to current and expected needs. International safety guidance says population intensification near nuclear plants should be discouraged. Over a million people currently living just within 20 kilometers of Pickering, and in the Fukushima nuclear disaster, 150,000 people were evacuated within 20 kilometers. I cannot imagine the impact of a major accident happening here; it would make Fukushima look like a picnic in the park.

Further, our current emergency plan is insufficient, with no credible plan for how to evacuate over 1 million people from a 20 km diameter zone around the Pickering power complex, how to provide the huge amount of emergency and ongoing post-disaster medical support that would be required, or a source of funding to pay for all of this emergency support. An accident is all the more likely as a result of the plant being aged beyond its design life. Apparently there have been various "close calls" during this plant's life; we are just asking for trouble by continuing its operation.

The plant's location on the shore of Lake Ontario, which is a source of drinking water and an economic source of water to millions and millions all around the lake's shore on both sides of the boarder, make the potential harm from a significant accident horrendous. In short, it is not practical, safe, or economically feasible to continue to operate and bear the risk of a plant only producing surplus power.

Public Safety is the CNSC's and the provincial government's responsibility and I strongly believe that this should be enough reason to reject OPG's request to continue operating the Pickering Nuclear Power complex. It is no longer acceptable to operate a major nuclear station in the GTA let alone an aging unnecessary one.

Lastly, I am deeply concerned about how OPG will manage the nuclear waste that the Pickering nuclear power station has created and will leave after it closes. There should be a way to

dismantle and safely store it considering all social and environmental impacts. Right now, OPG's plan is to simply close the station and wait for forty years before figuring out how to clean it.

I believe, there should do more transparency and consultation on how the station is closed. For all these reasons, I appeal to the CNSC to fulfil its mandate to the people of Toronto, Ontario, and to Canada as a whole, and reject OPG's requested licence renewal, and to also initiate a process by which OPG must safely dismantle this aging and unnecessary risk to us all.

Respectfully,

James Scarrow