



**Written submission from
Fernanda Sierra**

**Mémoire de
Fernanda Sierra**

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

c/o Louise Levert
Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)
280 Slater St., P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9

Via Email: cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

May 6, 2018

Dear commissioners,

It is with a concerned spirit that I write this letter to urge the provincial government to vote against the licence renewal of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (PNGS).

As I became more aware of the facts of maintaining this plant in operation and evaluating its pros and cons, I overwhelmingly came across with the words 'clean, safe and reliable'. The reality today is that PNGS is a nuclear plant which continues to operate beyond its designed life and day by day, increases the risk for safety incidents in a high populated area which happens to be close to where I go to school, work and live in.

I moved to Canada 6 years ago and public safety was something I had been confident was a top level priority to the Ontario and Canadian Government. The current regulations of the plant and lack of federal and provincial rules monitoring the plant, prove that public safety is not the first concern of the OPG. The risk of a potential accident is too high and simply not appropriate to the way a modern nuclear plant should operate. Furthermore, nowadays there are alternatives that can be 'clean, safe and reliable' sources of energy. It is time to eliminate the dependence towards nuclear energy that was developed short after a similar dependence to coal which proved to severely affect people's lives and the environment. It is time to allow electricity in Ontario to come from other sources in which jobs can still thrive without compromising public safety.

The goals the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) and the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis (CANCEA) suggest through their analysis 'Pickering Continued Education: Impact Analysis on Ontario's Economy' (2018) advice that the continued operation of the plant will have an extremely positive economical impact to the province. However, I find it alarming that the bias towards the report is misleading the public about the potential impacts of this aging plant. The report was sponsored by the Ontario Power Generation (OPG), which currently owns and operates Pickering Nuclear Generating Station.

In closing, I am aware that understanding nuclear energy is complicated, however, it is not difficult to comprehend that as one of Canada's oldest nuclear reactors, PNGS puts us all at risk. Plans that do not compromise electricity prices and housing affordability should be established in order to serve long-term environmental and safety goals. It is time to invest and rely on alternative sources for energy.

I thoroughly appreciate you taking the time of reading and considering my concerns. I will gladly voice my opinion if necessary at the hearing.

Sincerely,

Fernanda Sierra