



**Oral Presentation**

**Exposé oral**

**Submission from  
Evelyn Butler**

**Mémoire de  
Evelyn Butler**

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**



Submitted by email on May 6, 2018

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)  
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Ottawa, ON  
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Via: [cnscc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnscc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca)

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

Dear Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission,

I want to talk about Pickering. I know, it seems like a talked out issue but the fact is very simple. It's old, and has seen it's day as one of our country's most substantial power plants. Below, are my concerns for why we must shut Pickering down for good.

The majority, of people living in Toronto know little to nothing about Pickering and the danger it poses to their livelihoods. They are not aware, of the risks that this poisonous plant poses to them as it did the people impacted by Fukushima or Chernobyl. They have never, been told what they should do in the event of a nuclear accident at Pickering. These good people, do not even have the assurance of being told that the CNSC, OPG or the Wynn government in office are taking their concerns over the risks of exposure to radiation and it's widespread impacts to the population seriously.

It cannot even be argued, that there is a guaranteed and reliable plan in place to protect them. Should that day ever come, the scale alone of evacuation would not be enough for the more than a million people impacted within 20km of the plant let alone over 2 million who live within a 30 km radius.

Toronto residents, also lack knowledge on the fact that they should be being given access to the KI pills, whose distribution and education by OPG through outreach on cancer prevention is sorely lacking. Even more outrageous, is the fact that Greenpeace Canada has been the one to be sending out their own volunteers to speak to the public to inform them. They are essentially doing the OPG's job. If

they want, to better protect the people OPG should invest in an awareness campaign on the importance of the KI pills that is brought to the people's attention by their own efforts. If OPG, refuses to do this the CNSC should in all fairness deny OPG's request to continue running Pickering.

So the question has to be asked, why is the province keeping this plant running? Fact is, the surplus output it generates at a loss by operating, is not needed. Instead of gaining anything from it, hard working ordinary people are paying for it on their electricity bills while its benefactors in the U.S. who we export it to profit from it.

Pickering, over the years has seen many near miss accidents. This is due, to the design flaw they share with Chernobyl over their CANDU reactors from positive reactivity, that could be setting the stage for an accident that cannot be swept under the rug. It must be understood, that no matter the amount of effort put into keeping up with national or international safety systems and design standards by the IAEA, eventually it must be said that a new and better solution must be determined. The OPG, is fighting an uphill battle that it continues to lose as the tide continues to fight ever harder against it.

It is equally not ethical, for the OPG to be allowed to hide behind the *Nuclear Liability and Compensation Act* to protect themselves but not Torontonians from a nuclear accident. If they are so sure, no nuclear accident will or ever could happen at Pickering why do they need this legislative act?

Lastly, there should not be allowed a plant this close to such a high population amount that Toronto and the area between it and Pickering is home to. Both Ontario and Canada, have never seen fit to set any kind of provincial and federal rules to oversee this issue. In other parts of the world having a plant in close proximity to high population numbers is not permitted so why is Canada being allowed to follow its own path?

So the point of all this, is that we can live without Pickering. There is no credible justification, to keep it running and the growing movement of sustainable, clean and renewable energy sources proves this. Yet, still the OPG prefers to pocket the money it continues to receive from the selling of this surplus power to the governments electricity system operator.

Why is this important to me? I have family and friends, who live between Pickering and Toronto. I never want to see, the day they are forced to abandon their homes to flee for their health, all because corporate greed was more important than caring for the people, that are suppose to be protected instead of being put in jeopardy.

It's time, to move forward with a better strategy that is done through the use of cheaper and cleaner renewable energy sources as the demand for them grows. The younger generation should never have to pay for the mistakes of their forebears. Let's not stay in the past, clinging on to old outdated methods that put our people in unnecessary danger. Let's do the right thing, and shut it down and build a better community together.

Thank you.

Evelyn Butler