



**Oral Presentation**

**Exposé oral**

**Written submission from  
Dana Jordan**

**Mémoire de  
Dana Jordan**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

**BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.,  
Toronto and Peterborough Facilities**

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**BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.,  
installations de Toronto et Peterborough**

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Application for the renewal of the licence for  
Toronto and Peterborough facilities

Demande de renouvellement du permis pour les  
installations de Toronto et Peterborough

**Commission Public Hearing**

**Audience publique de la Commission**

**March 2 to 6, 2020**

**Du 2 au 6 mars 2020**

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laissée en blanc*

My special interest is that I have been born and raised in the now considered “impact zone” of possible danger from the work BWXT NEC is applying to be able to do. Those I love most, children at the school I went to, and myself could potentially be subjected to extreme danger. The value of my outlook and perspective is that I am a youth studying environmental leadership and sustainability in the YLS (“Youth Leadership in Sustainability”) program at Trent University.

I have also been very active as a youth activist, environmentally, and otherwise. For example, helping to coordinate and lead the Student Climate Strikes outside of City Hall, attended by hundreds, that took place September of 2019. I have also contributed to petition work and local initiatives such as the Peterborough Downtown Plastic Abatement project, Citizens Against Radioactive Neighborhoods (“CARN”), and GreenUp’s “Depave Paradise” work to name a few. Most importantly perhaps, I can speak from my experience as the youth council member on Peterborough’s Environmental Advisory Committee (“PEAC”). I will present my perspective of interest via slide show.

Dana Jordan  
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Peterborough, [REDACTED]

Dec. 10, 2019

Mrs. Nouhad Hammad  
Ethics Advisor  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street P.O. Pox 1046, Station  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Dear Mrs. Hammad & Whom It May Concern:

I am a sixteen-year-old student and concerned citizen of Peterborough, Ontario, who is writing to you concerning the Peterborough manufacturing site of BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc. (BWXT NEC) that assembles CANDU® fuel bundles for CANDU® reactors. Currently, BWXT NEC is applying to have the capability of moving their production of natural uranium pellets from its facility in Toronto to the Peterborough site. As a citizen Peterborough who lives nearby to the BWXT NEC site, I am particularly concerned with the potentially negative health impacts on those living in my community. I resolve that these concerns be addressed by in depth and publically accessible inquiry into health and safety measures, conducted in a non-partisan manner. If the findings are to be in violation of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, s 7, Part 1 of the Constitution Act, 1982* or the *Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1990* I further ask of you to do all that is within your power to prevent a potentially real threat becoming reality.

The first community meeting held by the organization “Citizens Against Radioactive Neighbourhoods” (CARN) drew over 225 people. Of the utmost concern to me, I learned there that Uranium has weakly radioactive properties, and remains radioactive in human bodies because of its long physical half-life. Also, Normal functioning of the kidney, brain, liver, heart, and numerous other systems can be affected by uranium exposure, because uranium is a toxic metal capable of causing long-term health threats. Therefore, with respect to the issues raised at this meeting which I attended, I am truly fearful of the prospect of nuclear production in my community and urge BWXT NEC’s application to be rejected specifically on the grounds of the inherent danger to human life this work would entail.

BWXT NEC has requested the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to renew their 10-year uranium pellet production license for the Peterborough site in 2020. Peterborough citizens, like myself, are especially concerned about this prospect since very little information has been released to the public despite BWXT NEC’s Public Disclosure Protocol which promises “the provision of information on [their] licensed activities to persons living near the site, fostering public awareness, and providing a forum for community members to discuss issues and concerns related to [these] licensed facilities”. This Public Disclosure Protocol also talks

about consultation with stakeholders and two-way communication which, to date, has been woefully inadequate.

It is my understanding that microscopic and undetectable carcinogenic particles will be released into the air from uranium production. If workers are not adequately protected and/or uranium dust escapes from this manufacturing facility into the environment, there could be a real and serious threat to those in the nearby neighborhoods if ingested. For example, there are two elementary schools, Prince of Wales that is literally across the street from BWXT NEC and my former public school Queen Mary which is approximately 1.5 kilometers from this site. The health of many people, including BWXT NEC workers and families with children and pregnant women could be put at risk of developing cancer or other serious related illnesses if they were to inhale uranium dust.

CARN, on behalf of concerned citizens such as myself, I politely ask for an environmental assessment, which explains the risks associated with bringing the uranium pellet production to Peterborough and that is made available to the public. It is also important for BWXT NEC to hold public meetings during which citizens can hear directly from company representatives and ask questions regarding the proposed production of uranium pellets in Peterborough. In addition, it would be helpful if representatives from CNSN and the Ministries of Labour and the Environment were also present at these public meetings.

Many families in Peterborough have loved ones who have died or become seriously ill as a result of exposure to asbestos in BWXT NEC's Peterborough site when it was previously run by General Electric. This tragedy has heightened community members' fears concerning this facility and we do not want to have history repeat itself. I also strongly believe that it is our right to know about any hazards resulting from BWXT NEC's operations in Peterborough and protective measures that will be in place to keep people nearby neighbourhoods healthy and safe. I respectfully ask that you ensure that concerns of citizens in Peterborough are addressed as part of the CNSC's review of BWXT NEC's request to expand its uranium pellet manufacturing within this community.

Sincerely,

Dana Jordan