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Written submission from Jonathan Campbell

Mémoire de Jonathan Campbell

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

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

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

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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Dear Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission,

My name is Jonathan Campbell, and I would like to oppose BWXT's application to perform Uranium pelleting at its Peterborough location.

Although I no longer live there, Peterborough is my hometown. My parents still live in my childhood home on nearby Bolivar street. My young nephews regularly visit their grandparents, playing outside under the spectre of the GE plant. The introduction of any potential health risk to my family is not something that I want or something that the local community should be forced to bear. While I've seen BWXT's rationalization that the process of pelleting is "safe", the danger of such a hazardous process taking place in a residential area presents an unnecessary threat. Just because BWXT already has a presence at the plant doesn't mean that new processes should be brought into a degraded and polluted industrial site. The 80-acre expanse is a tumour in the heart of the city, a cancer that should be removed, not fed.

Living in London, I have come to learn about its history and its industrial past. In earlier times, coal was seen as the only way to produce enough power for the city and its population. Coal burning power plants spanned the shores of the Thames river, winding through the entire city. Even though it was a messy and industrial endeavour, it was allowed to continue as no other options seemed to be available. The U.K. winds swept the pollutants spewing from the smokestacks out to sea. Until one day they didn't.

In December of 1952, a random weather occurrence created a temperature inversion that immersed London in a deadly, polluted fog. It's estimated to have killed up to 12,000 people and caused health issues for tens of thousands more. The "safe" process of power generation was no longer harmless and changed the outlook towards what sort of exposure was considered acceptable for the city's population. New laws were passed to remove the industrial actions from the city centre, protecting residents from future impact. The smokestacks of old still tower over the city, as a reminder of the deadly past.

This is a lesson for Peterborough. Allowing BWXT to introduce a potentially deadly action in the middle of the city is short-sighted and dangerous. The impact of a random environment event, a human error or an uncontrollable action could cause a huge loss of life in the community when something goes wrong. How can revenue generation for BWXT, by using a cheap, dilapidated and contaminated location, be seen as a valid trade off for the risk to human life?

Quite simply, it cannot. There is no amount of money that can bring back a loved one. I hope that the Commission does not put my family at risk and declines BWXT's application for pelleting in Peterborough. Please intervene and use your position to protect the people I love.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Campbell