



Oral Presentation

Exposé oral

**Written submission from
Angel Hamilton**

**Mémoire de
Angel Hamilton**

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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Filed on January 26, 2020 by Angel Hamilton

I would like to request that the licence for pelleting of uranium be denied in Peterborough, ON at the former GE premises.

First of all I just want to say that my best friend Stephanie Curtin, who I have known since I was a baby, has a twelve year old daughter Sepheria at Prince of Wales School across the street from BWXT. My concern is for the health of her child and all the children potentially affected.

I am a documentary filmmaker who works closely with filmmaker Rob Viscardis. Rob made the documentary "Town of Widows" about the occupational diseases and cancers of local workers at the former CGE. I share this because of my concern for the population of Peterborough residents who have already been lied to by this company and told that they will be safe when in fact that was not true. The CBC and The Toronto Star picked up this story.

This exposure has created much suffering to individuals, families and an entire community. I will create a documentary called "Uranium Widows" immediately about all the current widows of uranium globally who are having to deal with their husbands working in this industry and dying from cancers.

In addition, my Mom lives in the South End of town with my brother Ben and my nephew Chance. Many of my closest friends live in the neighbourhood.

I also have relatives and friend's who work at BWXT. This is a very divisive issue and is adding stress to the community.

I would like to recommend that BWXT lose their lease, lose their ability to do nuclear processing in this town. I am dismayed that so many people trust them when there has been so much lying around GE toxic history and now so much lying about with this company. Enough is enough.

It is not worth the risk for the sake of 300 stable secure jobs is not worth risking the health of an entire community and environment. There are many other more life affirming, creative ways make a living. Legalizing and encouraging hemp biofuels, hemp clothing, and hemp medicines for instance. The electricity that we need can be generated from solar, wind, geothermal, hemp and bio fuels.

We must exercise caution as the emissions from this are so dangerous. Heavy metals and hazardous nuclear chemicals such as uranium have the potential to be airborne and are extremely dangerous to the residential neighbourhood.

The permit for this type of business should be denied as it is too close to people living close by. It is a type of discrimination towards vulnerable people such as the many are unemployed, or rural peoples who are struggling to exist in the city, already stressed because of poverty. Additionally many artists, students, and elders who are retired.

This company has not factored in how the school across the street will be affected. Studies done by the European Union and several peer reviewed scientific journals indicate that young children have the greatest vulnerability to absorption through inhalation and ingestion. Since their playground is only 25 meters away, the likelihood of their exposure to uranium particles is extreme. Children lack the ability to excrete toxins to the degree that adults do.

These emissions are much too high for these small vulnerable children and pregnant women. It will diminish their life chances and their life spans and their quality of life over time. There have been life span studies that have indicated that the contaminants of uranium are cancer causing, especially thyroid cancers, lung cancers, destruction of the liver, kidneys and nervous system. The consequences do not usually show up until later in life. So they appear to be fine. These chemicals disrupt reproductive hormones and are endocrine disruptors which will contribute to infertility, cardio diseases, diabetes, mental retardation and birth defects.

There is grave concern for this license to be approved given that the history of other nuclear fuel pellet processing plants have had on air, water, soil. There have been many accidents that have landed this company in trouble legally. The class action lawsuit that has begun in June 2019 in Pike County Ohio when a school was closed due to the uranium dust that was found inside by independent third party university scientists. BWXT was implicated in this. This is extremely worrisome as they reassured that this would never happen and it did. There have been an unusually high amount of childhood thyroid cancer and leukaemia that are in this community that have not been addressed.

This company therefore, cannot be trusted. It doesn't have a social licence or community consent. It has not properly informed the public or had proper consultation or consent of the local Indigenous peoples. It is in violation of our democratic processes and environmental regulations and is in violation of the United Nation Charter.

An evacuation or decommissioning plan as well as potential compensation to victims and accidents costs needs to be addressed.

The site history of GE from 1965-present of making fuel bundles for candu reactors has a pollution legacy and cumulative effect on the health of the population. Furthermore, the Ontonabee River is much much too small and vulnerable to sustain this impact. The toxicity will travel through several communities on the Trent -Severn waterway. Lake Ontario's size makes it more able to dilute toxicity unlike Little Lake. This will lead to the decimation of plants and animals and will affect human population health and survival.

Port Hope has been contaminated. Longitudinal life span studies of the deleterious effects of Uranium exposure over sixty years in this region have proven cancers are significantly higher. Children have a three times higher risk of cancers of the colon, stomach, liver, ovaries, skin, lungs, thyroid, bladder and kidneys resulting in diminished life chances. These outcomes are supported by strong statistics evidence. (United Nations 2000).

Why is there no citizen liaisons committee in Peterborough like there is in Toronto? Why is there no emergency preparedness and why is there no evacuation plan? There is a conflict between regulation of the nuclear industry and promotion of it over the public interest.

In conclusion, I recommend that CNS deny the 10 year license to permit BWXT to undertake Uranium pelleting in Peterborough, ON.

References Cited

pembina.org

Renewable is Doable

Rueters and New York Times arsenic and uranium may have leached in to Lake Ontario

Blind River licensed lay CNSC

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Citizens Inquiry in to the Impact of Uranium Cycle

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