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Written submission from Women in Nuclear (WiN) Canada Mémoire de Women in Nuclear (WiN) Canada

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens

Application to renew its waste nuclear substance licence for the Port Hope Project

Demande concernant le renouvellement du permis de déchets de substances nucléaires pour le projet de Port Hope

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

November 22, 2022

22 novembre 2022





Commission Registry
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, P.O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, ON, K1P 559
Email: interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca

October 14th, 2022

Subject: Canadian Nuclear Laboratories' application for a 10-year renewal of the Port Hope Project Waste Nuclear Substance Licence for the completion of the Port Hope Area Initiative - Reference Number: 2022-H-13.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Women in Nuclear (WiN) Canada is pleased to submit an intervention in support of the application made by Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) for a ten (10) year renewal of the licence to continue the cleanup of historic low-level radioactive waste in Port Hope, Ontario as part of the Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI).

Established in 2004, WiN Canada today has over 4,500 members across Canada. Our members work in the nuclear industry and many live in the communities in which the nuclear industry operates. They come from a variety of work experiences and education, and are involved at every level of an operation. Safety and the environment are always an important consideration for our members. We place a high priority on the safety of communities in which we live, work and raise our families.

WiN Canada is aware that the PHAI represents the Government of Canada's commitment to respond to the community-requested solution for the cleanup and local, long-term, safe management of approximately 1.7 million cubic metres of historic low-level radioactive waste in Port Hope and Port Granby.

Through the years, we have witnessed PHAI's economic and social benefits for the community. This initiative has added great value through job creation, economic spin-off and municipal infrastructure upgrades including road improvements in the town. We are confident that once complete, this work will eliminate the current government oversight of properties in Port Hope, thus making the town more marketable. We also know that many CNL staff, who are also WiN Canada members, live in the local region and reside in homes within the area, shop locally and participate in community events – all of which contribute to its economic benefits. The PHAI has been and will continue to create job opportunities through subcontractors that require qualified people to fill a wide range of needs – including construction, engineering, landscaping and administration. We look forward to the continuation of this project as it moves towards completion.

As women working in the nuclear industry, we value the role nuclear energy plays in a net-zero carbon future. The role of nuclear energy in Canada is critical to our success in reaching our net-zero carbon goals by 2050. Canada's nuclear industry makes an important contribution to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG)





emissions. "Women are disproportionally affected by the impacts of climate change all over the world. Women's traditional roles as the primary users and managers of natural resources, primary caregivers, and keepers of the home mean they are involved in and depend on livelihoods and resources that are put most at risk by climate change" (Canada.ca, 2019). A clean-energy future is important to women everywhere. Approval of this license based on the data submitted is important to a clean energy future in Canada.

Locally, Women in Nuclear Canada has a Durham Chapter that contributes to bringing together and represents the mission and vision of the organization. The Durham Chapter provides support and awareness to both professionals and companies to create a supportive network to attract, retain and grow the number of women working in the nuclear industry. Our organization and members are key players in the implementation of initiatives that improve gender equality and foster the professional development of women in the nuclear industries.

The PHAI has proven itself to be the right approach to long-standing environmental issues and, like CNL, we are pleased with the successes already made in Port Granby, which continues to positively impact what is needed to achieve a cleaner environment. It is for these reasons that WiN Canada supports the application made by CNL for a ten (10) year renewal of the licence to continue the cleanup of historic low-level radioactive waste in Port Hope, Ontario as part of the PHAI.

Respectfully,

Lisa McBride President

Women in Nuclear Canada

