



**Written submission from
Tony Reddin and Marion Copleston**

**Mémoire de
Tony Reddin et Marion Copleston**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de la

**New Brunswick Power Corporation,
Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station**

**Société d'Énergie du Nouveau-Brunswick,
centrale nucléaire de Point Lepreau**

Application for the renewal of NB Power's
licence for the Point Lepreau Nuclear
Generating Station

Demande de renouvellement du permis
d'Énergie NB pour la centrale nucléaire de
Point Lepreau

**Commission Public Hearing
Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission
Partie 2**

May 11 and 12, 2022

11 et 12 mai 2022

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, P.O.Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Tony Reddin and Marion Copleston, Bonshaw, PEI

March 27, 2022.

Re: Intervention by Tony Reddin and Marion Copleston for the NB Power Licence Renewal Application (Hearing Ref.2022-H-02)

To whom it may concern:

We, Tony Reddin and Marion Copleston, request to intervene in the hearing in the above-referenced matter. Please consider these comments submitted to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, regarding the licence renewal of the NB Power Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station.

NB Power must be denied in its request to have the licence of the PLNGS renewed for 25 years. It would be a flagrant disregard for the public interest to effectively prevent any public input during the remaining expected operation of the PLNGS.

There are clearly many current and future factors that will affect decisions about license renewal over the next few years, including disposal of radioactive waste from the PLNGS, decommissioning, and ongoing safety, reliability and financial costs. There are also considerations of extreme weather events from climate change, considerations of regional and decentralized electricity generation, and factors which are currently unknown. The citizens of New Brunswick may well decide to close the PLNGS down before 25 years. It is critical that New Brunswickers have regular opportunities to give their input into these important decisions.

We are very concerned about leaving our children, and future generations, with a terrible legacy of radioactive waste. The disposal and management of spent fuel and irradiated materials from the PLNGS is already a burden that will continue for many centuries into the future.

One current issue that needs to be addressed now is that the PLNGS emits high levels of radioactive tritium, a carcinogen, into air and water. The current limits for tritium considered safe in Canada are many times higher than in other countries, so those limits must be lowered.

Reliability of PLNGS is a big issue - the most recent unplanned outage lasted 40 days in January and February 2021 during a time of peak demand, and only 11 weeks after a two-month maintenance shutdown.

The effects of age on the PLNGS, and the related reliability and costs of operation, must be regularly shared publicly in the relicensing process and in other ways. Future expenditures requested for the PLNGS must be compared with investments in alternate sources of power.

The CNSC must not renew the operating licence for the PLNGS for the requested 25 years. Instead, the CNSC must continue to have 5-year relicensing periods, and prepare for decommissioning.

In addition, NB Power should not be supporting the development of a reprocessing plant that will extract plutonium from the spent fuel from the PLNGS. Extracting plutonium raises concerns about nuclear weapons proliferation and other issues. Please refer to this [article in the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists about New Brunswick's plutonium plans](#).

Therefore the CNSC must not allow the extraction of plutonium from the spent fuel of the PLNGS.

We would appreciate a prompt acknowledgement.

Thank you,

Tony Reddin and Marion Copleston,
Bonshaw, PEI