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Written submission from the Women in Nuclear Canada

Mémoire de Women in Nuclear Canada

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





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

March 28th, 2022

Subject: Point Lepreau Operating License Renewal-2022 H-02

Dear Sir or Madam,

Women in Nuclear (WiN) Canada is pleased to submit an intervention in support of New Brunswick Power Corporation's (NB Power) application to renew the power reactor operating license for Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS). The current power operating license is set to expire in June 2022 and the renewal request is for a term of 25 years until June of 2047. This submission is currently under review by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

Established in 2004, WiN Canada today has over 4,000 members across Canada. Our members work in the nuclear industry and many live in the communities in which the nuclear industry operates. 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.

NB Power is committed to the protection of the environment and the surrounding community in which they operate. They successfully updated their ERA and conducted a supporting Thermal Plume Assessment to show this commitment, and this allowed them to fully understand the impacts of the Station's operation on the surrounding environment. In the past, PLNGS also implemented full-scale integrated exercises that focus on enhancing interoperability and coordinated response to a nuclear event, which has challenged over 35 organizations and demonstrated an on-going dedication to enhancing interoperability and coordinated response to a nuclear event. In addition to these activities, NB Power has demonstrated an investment and dedication to excellence in safety at PLNGS. This has been seen through the significant upgrades made to the Station's Emergency Management Facilities.

WiN Canda is supportive of PLNGS's close relationship with the surrounding community. They have been successful in providing regular engagement with community members, organizations, and government agencies. In addition, it is appreciated that NB Power and representatives of the First Nations community meet regularly to discuss projects, operations, and First Nations interests. Similar to WiN Canada, PLNGS is committed to ensuring a welcoming and supportive environment of respect, recognition and inclusion that embraces and values diversity. This is also a part of WiN Canada's mission is to develop a dialogue with the public to promote factual awareness about nuclear.





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 New Brunswick Chapter that contributes to bringing together and represents the mission and vision of the organization. The New Brunswick 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 mining and nuclear industries.

NB Power submission has demonstrated a sustained commitment to ensuring the safe reliable long-term operation of PLNGS to support the generation of low carbon energy for the province of New Brunswick. The provided information confirms the suitability of PLNGS renewal. As such, PLNGS remains suitable for a new nuclear generation and NB Power's site preparation licensed activities would not pose any unreasonable risk to the public, personnel, or environment. In addition, the future opportunities for this site will provide Canada with a viable option for clean, reliable nuclear energy, complementing renewables, in meeting growing energy demands, while supporting environmental and climate change goals. It is for these reasons that Women in Nuclear (WiN) Canada supports NB Power's application for the renewal of Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station licence.

Respectfully,

Lisa McBride President

Women in Nuclear Canada



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