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Written submission from the Saugeen Ojibway Nation

Mémoire de la Nation Ojibway de Saugeen

Regulatory Oversight Report for Canadian Nuclear Power Generating Sites in Canada: 2021

Rapport de surveillance réglementaire des sites de centrales nucléaires au Canada : 2021

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

November 3, 2022

Le 3 novembre 2022



I am submitting this letter in support of Bruce Power and the positive partnerships that they have forged with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON).

Bruce Power's site is located on the traditional lands and Treaty Territory of the people of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, which is comprised of the Chippewas of Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation.

As Energy Manager of the Environment Office Saugeen Ojibway Nation, I have seen our relationship with Bruce Power grow as they have made commitments to honouring Indigenous history and culture and are making real progress in the spirit of reconciliation and respect for our communities.

I work closely with the Environment and Regulatory team, and we collaborate on community engagement and communication of Bruce Power's ongoing environmental impact on our Territory, particularly in regards to impacts to aquatic habitat and species. We work on solutions and measures that are amenable to SON to minimize and mitigate these impacts.

Bruce Power's Community Investment Fund supports many community programs within Saugeen and Nawash, and also many sponsorship opportunities for community events and initiatives.

We formed a partnership with Bruce Power to market life-saving medical isotopes, specifically Lutetium 177. Our partnership is known in Anishnabemowin as Gamzook'aamin Aakoziwin (We are teaming up on the sickness) as a means of sharing in the wealth generated by the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station in our Territory, as a means of economic reconciliation. The revenue generated from this partnership will allow us to invest in our community and social programs to sustain necessities such as roads, water, education and recreation. This is vital to the economic development, growth and sustainability of our communities.

As the area's largest employer, Bruce Power helps to create a pathway for careers for our young people through training programs and incentives for members of the SON community. This work is done through the TEEBO (Training, Education, Employment, Business Opportunities) committee. Our communities have ongoing open dialogue with Bruce Power through the TEEBO table, which allows us to bring any issues or barriers our community members face forward and discuss solutions, and work to develop and implement other joint initiatives.

Bruce Power co-ordinates with its suppliers through its Indigenous Relations Supplier Network (IRSN). The IRSN was created in 2017 to help local Indigenous communities participate fully in the business development, procurement, and economic activities taking place on the Bruce Power site. The IRSN is committed to expanding upon Bruce Power's goals to foster meaningful relationships with each community while increasing Saugeen and Nawash employment through targeted education and training programs. The IRSN is made up of Bruce Power suppliers who are enrolled in the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) Progressive Aboriginal Relations (PAR) program.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this process. We are pleased to be walking the journey of reconciliation together with Bruce Power through meaningful partnerships and communication, and look forward to our continued success and future collaborations.

Sincerely,

Michael Chegahno Energy Manager Environment Office, Saugeen Ojibway Nation manager.energy@saugeenojibwaynation.ca