



CMD 25-H2.60

Date: 2025-05-08

**Written Submission from
Gail Cockburn**

**Mémoire de
Gail Cockburn**

In the matter of the

À l'égard d'

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Application to renew power reactor
operating licence for the Darlington
Nuclear Generating Station

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Demande concernant le renouvellement
du permis d'exploitation d'un réacteur de
puissance pour la centrale nucléaire de
Darlington

**Commission Public Hearing
Part-2**

**Audience publique de la Commission
Partie-2**

June 24-26, 2025

24-26 juin 2025

My name is Gail Cockburn; I've lived in Durham Region since 1961. I have an interest in the safe operation of the nuclear plants in Durham Region. I'm also interested in how the normal operation of the plant affects the health of people in the community through routine releases. Following the 1986 disaster at Chernobyl a small group of citizens, Durham Nuclear Awareness, formed to raise awareness about nuclear issues and the risks affecting Durham residents. We focused on nuclear safety, the health effects on the community and the sufficiency of emergency planning.

A request from OPG for a 30 YEAR operating license at Darlington destroys public trust in the CNSC and OPG that claims to be open and transparent.

A 30 YEAR license erodes trust in an established system where the public can study the proposal from OPG, make a submission before the CNSC at a hearing in person or in writing at 10 YEAR license intervals. But this will NOT occur with the 30 YEAR license proposed! There will not be a CNSC hearing process where the public, and members of public with a particular knowledge and expertise can assess a proponent's request at a transparent and open 10 YEAR license hearing.

With a 30 YEAR license there will be a lack of transparency around the ongoing operations at the plant. The public will not be aware of any problems and radioactive releases as they occur.

CNSC meetings, Regulatory Oversight Reports, and mid-term reviews as a substitute for the hearing process do not provide an opportunity for public engagement.

The importance of emergency planning and preparedness cannot be overstated for people living in Durham Region.

A 30 YEAR license affects Emergency Planning. It does not allow for ongoing opportunities to make changes to safety planning that will need to happen as population growth and development continues in the area.

Many people in Durham Region are unsure about what to do during a nuclear emergency; picking up children from school, evacuation, sheltering in place, and people without transportation.

The PNERP has not been updated since 2017, under review since 2021 and yet to be released. OPG has requested a 30year license without an updated PNERP.

An updated PNERP should include the pre distribution of KI from 10km to 50km.

A 30 YEAR license denies the opportunity for the public and knowledgeable individuals to comment and raise questions related to the safe operation of the Darlington Nuclear Plant.

Regulatory oversight is not sufficient as replacement for public engagement at a 10 YEAR license hearing.