



Oral presentation

**Submission from
Alex Thomson**

In the Matter of the

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

Application for the renewal of the Nuclear
Research and Test Establishment Operating
Licence for the Chalk River Laboratories

Commission Public Hearing

January 23-25, 2018

Exposé oral

**Mémoire de
Alex Thomson**

À l'égard des

Les Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens

Demande de renouvellement du permis
d'exploitation d'établissement de recherche
et d'essais nucléaires pour les Laboratoires
de Chalk River

Audience publique de la Commission

23-25 janvier 2018

Alex Thomson

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

Attn. Ms. Louise Levert

Re: Comments on the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's proposed new site license for Chalk River Laboratories

Dear Ms. Levert:

I am writing today to express my concern at the proposed renewal of the license for Chalk River Laboratories. I am particularly distressed by the proposal to remove the condition that the licensee, Chalk River Laboratories, “shall ensure that nuclear legacy liabilities at the CRL site are addressed”. I am not happy that any nuclear facility in Canada is privatized, but this particular facility is the oldest nuclear site in Canada, with 70 years or more of debris and waste, and it is situated on the banks of a river that flows past the nations capital and into a major waterway, the St. Lawrence Seaway.

It is time to clean up the Chalk River facilities and the surrounding area, not to provide a business an open invitation to continue to operate on the site with no responsibility to clean it up. The environmental liabilities of Chalk River, have been costed at \$6.2 billion worth, are integral part to the operation of facility and the new license must provide a detailed plan for cleaning up the Chalk River facility and the surrounding area, with clear standards for monitoring, reporting and accountability.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission must step up to ensure the safety of this facility, its workers, and the surrounding area, and this should start with a stringent and rigorous licensing procedure.

I would like to attend the hearings on January 24 and 25 in Pembroke to make an oral presentation.

Sincerely,

Alex Thomson