



SUBMISSION TO THE
CANADIAN NUCLEAR SAFETY COMMISSION

In the matter of

**ONTARIO POWER GENERATION'S APPLICATION TO
RENEW THE DARLINGTON NUCLEAR GENERATING
STATION'S OPERATING LICENNSE**

Submitted by the
CANADIAN NUCLEAR WORKERS COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

Members of the Commission:

The Canadian Nuclear Workers Council (CNWC) was founded in 1993 as an umbrella organization of workers who are represented by unions in various sectors of the Canadian Nuclear Industry. The Council is the collective voice of the labour unions in Canada's Nuclear Industry. A list of our member Unions is attached as Appendix A

The Canadian Nuclear Workers Council hereby registers its support for the relicensing of the Darlington Nuclear Power Station.

Some of our major CNWC members, the Power Workers Union (PWU), represents operations and maintenance staff at the generating station, The Society of Energy Professionals (SEP) represent the supervisors and engineering staff, and the Ontario Construction and Building Trades Council represents the workers from several unions that supply workers to OPG for projects and outages at Darlington.

Representatives from these Unions are members of the CNWC Executive Board and keep our executive abreast of the status of the NPP and any issues that arise. Representatives also provide a report to the annual CNWC convention on the status of the Darlington NPP.

The Local Labour Council, Durham & District Labour Council, is also a member of the CNWC. Delegates from this council as well as delegates from their neighboring labour Council, Northumberland & District, and a leader from a large Union in the area toured the NPP recently. These delegates concluded that the facility was very interesting, safe, clean, and in their view professionally operated. The fact that these people are from outside the industry helps reassure the CNWC that the facility is indeed a safe place to work and that people living in surrounding communities should have no concerns in regards to the continuing operation of the facility.

As we have stated in previous submissions to the Commission, the CNWC holds the health and safety of workers to be paramount. We believe that a safe work environment which results in a very good safety culture creates a workplace that is operated in a very safe manner. A safe workplace ensures that the community is also safe. Working with the Employer, the onsite Unions are involved in health and safety programs at the site. This cooperative effort ensures that worker safety is a top priority and a good safety culture exists and is sustainable.

We vigorously suggest that as Darlington NPP is a unionized facility and that the Union is highly engaged with workplace safety with OPG that any safety issue will be addressed immediately. This should help assure opponents that do not want the operating license renewed, that if the workers are safe the community is also safe.

The presence of the on-site CNSC staff that continually reviews and monitors the safety of this facility helps to ensure the safe operation of the Generating Station. When we point this fact out to people they feel that this oversight provides them with more assurance that public safety is maintained. This fact should also help assure opponents that any issues that could possibly affect public safety are identified and rectified immediately.

Many of the station staff live nearby with their families and this demonstrates their confidence in the safety of the facility.

The CNWC has coordinated several tours of the Darlington Station over the years for Union leader groups. Any preliminary skepticism these leaders may have had about the facility prior to their tour was quickly eliminated. After the tour these leaders felt assured that the plant was very clean and safety was a high priority.

Our members also recognize that the continued safe operation of the Darlington NPP is imperative for the health of the Ontario economy and the safety of its residents.

The Station continues to produce and supply's clean environmentally friendly power to the Ontario Electricity Grid.

During our oral presentation at the upcoming public hearing representatives from two of our member unions, external to the power plant, will provide the commission with a brief presentation on their views of the Darlington NPP and the proposed license renewal.

Conclusion

The CNWC has reviewed the submissions put forth by OPG and the CNSC Staff.

We support the CNSC Staff's overall conclusions that OPG is qualified to carry on the activities authorized by the license, and that, in carrying out those activities, OPG has made and will continue to make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons, and the maintenance of national security and the measures required to implement the international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

We therefore fully support the relicensing of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station.

David Shier - President – CNWC

APPENDIX 1

Canadian Nuclear Workers' Council Member Unions

**International Association of Firefighters
Local 160**

**International Association of Machinist & Aerospace Workers
Local 608**

**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Local 37**

Power Workers Union

**Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPS)
CRPEG & WRPEG**

**United Steel Workers
Locals 8914, 7806, 14193, 13713, 8562a**

Society of Energy Professionals

Society of Professional Engineers & Associates (Candu Inc)

Ontario Building & Construction trades Council

Grey Bruce Labour Council

Durham Region Labour Council

Northumberland Labour Council

**International Union of Operating Engineers
Local 776**

**International Union of Professional & Technical Employees Union
Local 164**

**UNIFOR
Locals 252- O, 599 –O, 48 – S, 524 - O**