Written submission from the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce

In the Matter of

Ontario Power Generation Inc.,
Pickering Nuclear Generating Station

Request for a ten-year renewal of its Nuclear Power Reactor Operating Licence for the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station

Commission Public Hearing – Part 2

June 2018
May 3, 2018

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Secretariat
280 Slater Street, P. O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, ON  K1P 5S9

Re: Ontario Power Generation Pickering Nuclear Generating Station operating license renewal

Dear Members of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission:

On behalf of our members and Board of Directors, I am writing today to express wholehearted support from the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce for Ontario Power Generation’s (OPG) license renewal application to 2028 for its Pickering Nuclear Generating Station. The Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce represents and is the voice of business for over 700 Members.

Ontario Power Generation is one of largest employers in Durham Region with highly educated and skilled job opportunities now and in the future. They are a strong economic driver in Durham Region through its operations, projects, and leadership in community building organizations.

In all our dealings with OPG directly and indirectly, we have found it to be a safe, productive and engaged operator, with a strong connection to its community through both its actions and ongoing communications of all decisions. We are particularly impressed with OPG’s commitment to safety in all it does, which we believe is best reflected in the Pickering station receiving the CNSC’s highest safety performance rating in 2015 and 2016 and its employee injury rate that is among the best in the world for its industry. In addition, we know full well the benefits of nuclear power as a source of clean energy and its significant contributions to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Finally, we believe this extension is particularly critical given the extensive refurbishment projects under way for the Darlington and Bruce generating stations. While this important work is under way, there will be increased demands on the overall energy production plans in Ontario at time when our province relies on nuclear for almost half of its production. An extension of the Pickering license during this time will provide needed assurances for the province in planning out its energy needs for the coming ten years.

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The Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce is proud of the track record it has in empowering, connecting and advocating for businesses across the Region of Durham. OPG plays a significant role in our community and the importance of a strong, reliable energy grid to businesses and residences across Ontario. We strongly support the license renewal of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station through to 2028.

Sincerely,

Nancy Shaw
CEO