Written submission from Lucy Seidler

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
Ms Louise Levert  
Secretariat of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street  
PO Box 1046  
Ottawa  
ON  
1KP 5SP

Re. Decommissioning of Pickering Nuclear Station

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you as a resident of Durham Region in Ontario. I live in Whitby with two young children.

Having learnt the facts about the nuclear station at nearby Pickering, I strongly believe that it is not in the best interest of Ontarians for the station to have its licence renewed and remain operating.

The population of the GTA and the surrounding areas has increased considerably since the station was completed in 1971. Too many lives would be affected by either a terrorist attack or a failure at the station. Whitby, where I live, is just outside of the area where iodine pills are issued, despite being inbetween Pickering and Darlington Nuclear Stations. Our home insurances do not cover liability for a nuclear disaster, and the OPG is only liable for the first $1 billion of damage in such an event. Not only would any kind of event at the station create a physical impact, the financial cost could be crippling not only to families but to local municipalities and the Provincial government. The power generated at the station is surplus to requirements and is sold via the Grid to the United States. As the only benefit of the station to Ontarians is financial, the cost in other terms is clearly not worth the risk.

On a separate vein, I also believe that we should be de-commissioning our nuclear stations completely. With so many ways to harvest energy in a greener, non-impacting manner, I believe funds should be spent investing here rather than trying to extend the lives of old, outdated nuclear stations.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Seidler