Written submission from the Whitby 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

Mémoire de la Chambre de commerce de Whitby

À l’égard de

Ontario Power Generation Inc.,
centrale nucléaire de Pickering

Demande de renouvellement, pour une période de dix ans, de son permis d'exploitation d'un réacteur nucléaire de puissance à la centrale nucléaire de Pickering

Audience publique de la Commission – Partie 2

Juin 2018
April 4, 2018

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

Re: OPG Pickering Nuclear Generating Station operating licence renewal

To Who It May Concern:

On behalf of our members and Board of Directors, I am writing today to express wholehearted support from the Whitby Chamber of Commerce for OPG’s licence renewal application to 2028 for its Pickering Nuclear Generating Station.

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 a time when our province relies on nuclear for almost half of its production. An extension of the Pickering licence during this time will provide needed assurances for the province in planning out its energy needs for the coming ten years.

The Whitby Chamber of Commerce is proud of the track record it has in empowering, connecting and advocating for businesses across the Region of Durham. We have a very good understanding of the role OPG plays in our community and the importance of a strong, reliable energy grid to businesses and residences across Ontario. As such, we believe we are well-positioned to encourage the commission to approve this renewal through to 2028.

Sincerely,

Kyle Paterson
President, Whitby Chamber of Commerce