Written submission from Sylvia Schmidt

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
Date: May 3, 2018

c/o Louise Levert
Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St., P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9
Via cnsc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

Re: Advocating for the imminent shut down of the Pickering reactors (Ref. 2018-H-03)

Dear Commissioners:

I am a Toronto citizen who lives 27 km from the Pickering nuclear station. I write to you in opposition to the continuing operation of the Pickering reactors.

I am disturbed to hear that Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is requesting permission to run the reactors past their design life once again. This is a risky endeavour and I don’t want to live with more threats of danger from this nuclear power plant – one that is poorly run, damages our waters and fails to benefit us in any way.

I am concerned for the safety of myself and the rest of the millions of people living in Pickering as well as the GTA, which is all much too close to this dangerous nuclear station. The impacts of a major nuclear accident would be more than we could bear. I have not received any information on an emergency or evacuation plan. How would we handle a catastrophic release of hazardous radioactivity onto the winds and waters? Or if the Pickering reactors became a potential target for terrorists? I support Toronto City Council’s calls for strengthened emergency response.

The Pickering reactors contribute to the destruction of marine life; thermal pollution from dumping hot water, damage to the sea floor and destruction of organisms from the unrelenting force and heat of its discharge. The radioactive waste generated has no disposal solution.

These are all unnecessary risks as the Pickering reactors are hardly needed since most of its output is surplus.

We must rely on the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to protect our interests and deny the OPG license renewal. Please do so. For safety’s sake, the reactors should be permanently shut down as soon as possible.

I would have liked to participate in the oral presentations but the fact that they are being held in Courtice, Ontario makes it difficult to get to for myself and millions of others that live in the GTA so I hope this written submission is taken with the same weight.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Schmidt