Written submission from the Scientists in School

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 des Scientifiques à l’école

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 23, 2018

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

Re: Renewal of Operating License for Ontario Power Generation

Dear Members of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission,

It is my honour to write a letter in support of Ontario Power Generation and the renewal of its Pickering operating license.

As Executive Director at Scientists in School, I have worked with many different companies in the last 25 years and can honestly say that Ontario Power Generation is exemplary in its strong belief of giving back to the communities in which it operates, and is well-known as a major supporter of local organizations and events. Ontario Power Generation's priority of cultivating and nurturing strong relationships within the communities in which they operate is making a difference for the environment, education, and community initiatives focusing on health and safety, arts and culture, youth amateur sport and humanitarian causes, including support of Indigenous initiatives.

Ontario Power Generation’s support of Scientists in School has been a long-term investment in youth and education, an investment in the next generation of leaders and innovators. Annually our partnership in Pickering, which impacts young scientists throughout Durham Region, helps to provide approximately 2,100 half-day, discovery-based science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and environmental classroom workshops to 57,000 young scientists in Kindergarten to Grade 8 classrooms. Since 2003, Ontario Power Generation has helped to ensure that young minds across the region have access to educational enrichment and skill-building opportunities. Outside of the classroom, Ontario Power Generation regularly requests our participation in events such as Tuesdays on the Trail and March Break Madness. These multi-discipline, hands-on, engaging experiences engage children and youth and are highly valued by the community.

Ontario Power Generation staff are always professional and quick to respond to questions or requests that we have, and willing to help whenever possible. Recently we interviewed two of their employees for a series of STEM career videos that we are producing, which will be on our website and shared with teachers who book our classroom workshops.

From a personal perspective, I would be remiss if I did not comment on Ontario Power Generation’s concern for the environment and the safety of the community. I have been a resident of Pickering for over 30 years; the generating station has always been part of our lives. Their concern for and commitment to the environment is obvious. They work closely with various stakeholder groups on a regular basis to ensure that their communication materials are clear and understandable. They send regular updates via their Neighbours Newsletter, host community information sessions and staff their public information centre with knowledgeable people who offer helpful resources and other information.

Ontario Power Generation is a true community builder and is a thoughtful, well-prepared neighbour. Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at cindy.adams@scientistsinschool.ca.

All the best,

Cindy Adams
Executive Director