



**Written submission from  
Matt Snell**

**Mémoire de  
Matt Snell**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

**BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.,  
Toronto and Peterborough Facilities**

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**BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.,  
installations de Toronto et Peterborough**

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Application for the renewal of the licence for  
Toronto and Peterborough facilities

Demande de renouvellement du permis pour les  
installations de Toronto et Peterborough

**Commission Public Hearing**

**Audience publique de la Commission**

**March 2 to 6, 2020**

**Du 2 au 6 mars 2020**

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request that the CNSC deny granting a 10-year license to BWXT's Peterborough facility, with my strongest objection being to BWXT's request to allow uranium pelleting in Peterborough's urban core.

I was moved to write an intervention because I have a young son who goes to Prince of Wales, the elementary school across the road from BWXT's Peterborough facility. It absolutely galls me to learn that BWXT's own risk assessment report makes no mention of school-aged children. What possible credibility can this report have when it fails to take into account the human lives its supposedly exists to protect? Outside of BWXT staff, no other group will be closer to the facility. These children literally play in the shadow of a facility poised to ramp up its intake of toxic, hazardous materials.

Furthermore, in a January 20 meeting of Peterborough city council, councillor Dean Pappas noted that this property was grandfathered in, as modern zoning laws would not permit such a facility in the urban centre. Even granting that the hundred-year-old zoning remains sufficiently safe in its current capacity, how in good conscience could you possibly make a case for extending and expanding upon that outdated foundation? "Outdated" is a charitable description – to anyone familiar with the exterior, "visibly dilapidated" paints a clearer picture.

The CNSC cannot hope to approve this license if it wishes to maintain the public trust. Through its refusal to acknowledge the obvious and unacceptable risk of processing uranium next to the most vulnerable segment of our population, the CNSC will expose itself as nothing more than the servant of big business interests. When a federal body can no longer be trusted to act in the interests of the public, it will find any future attempts to maintain a neutral, analytical perspective on energy the subject of in grave doubt or outright ridicule. Do not undermine your own mission or the integrity of our public institutions by ignoring the obvious shortcomings of this application.

Please know that I am not simply objecting out of principle: I am specifically concerned about the storage of 9000 gallons of hydrogen on the property, when BWXT admits to a hydrogen jet fire at its Toronto facility in 2017. I am concerned that the pelleting process, not currently performed at the facility, is dirtier and more difficult to contain than BWXT's operations currently. And though I stress the presence of children because they are more vulnerable and less able to understand emergency procedures in the event of an accident, I am concerned for all the residents, business, and institutions that will find themselves hurt by this development. Please apply the only safety standards that make sense in this location and deny BWXT's license outright.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Snell