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**Oral Presentation**

**Exposé oral**

**Written submission from  
Rob Mound**

**Mémoire de  
Rob Mound**

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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## THE WRITE UP

I would like to say the following things:

1. **RELEVANCE:** I have been an immediate neighbor to the plant for 15 years
2. **COMMUNICATION:** Once again communication has been poor. The only reason that I knew that there was a 10 year review was because community activists went door to door and leafleted the subways. There has not been communication by the company or whatever organizations are supposed to oversee the company. This is how we found out a decade ago, and this is how we found out today. With less than a week notice I put in a request to speak following a link my neighbor sent me. I was told that without having this written you would not accept and that I would have to request an extension. I was provided an email. I asked for a 2 week extension. I never heard back. Not yes, no no, and no acknowledgment of the email. I have a copy of that email request (printed today which I can bring to the meeting).
3. **SECURITY:** Past and Present. When I moved here some 15 years ago I was in the neighborhood and there were some people doing construction on the building in the North East Corner. I think they were on break and we struck up a conversation. At some point I asked what they were doing (and they told me) and then I asked what the plant did and they all immediately shut up. They told me that if I wanted any information I would have to contact the plant at their security fence. I did not but it made me curious. I asked a neighbor and she said, "I don't know, but I have a friend that works at the Dufferin Fire Station. He wouldn't tell me what they did but he said that if there was ever a fire to flee the city." I am paraphrasing that quote. Then about a decade ago there was a video released by some community activist who asked a worker on film what they make. And she outright lied saying ceramic plates or some such thing. The fact that historically contractors have been told not to speak to neighbors, that firefighters appear to have been informed of risks but again told not to tell people details and that workers first instinct was to lie suggests to me that the lack of transparency has been intentional historically, and whatever hotdog event or "select/screened community consultation" the company puts on is simply cover for this.
4. **SAFETY PLAN:** As far as I know there is none. No information has ever come to inform people of what to do if there is a catastrophic failure in engineering. Maybe there is a plan but it is a secret? See above. At a community meeting a week ago when people were asked about it no information was available.
5. **RISKS: RAIL:** There are train tracks and a rail intersection nearby. The Lac-Mégantic disaster in 2013 killed 42 people and destroyed 30 buildings. I wonder how much worse and explosion of that nature would be if it included a uranium plant. I wonder if this type of worst case scenario has been considered for this plant.
6. **RISKS: THE HYDROGEN TANK:** Is obviously explosive and while we were told that the tank meets all standards, I believe that is true of the propane tanks that exploded in Toronto a decade ago. As you recall the Sunrise Propane tank disaster in Toronto in 2008 resulted in two deaths and millions in damages with thousands of people evacuated. I

wonder how much worse and explosion of that nature would be if it included a uranium plant. I wonder if this type of worst case scenario has been considered for this plant.

7. RISKS: THE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Toronto has changed a lot in the last decade and the neighborhood in which the uranium plant hid is no exception. The 3000 condos being built at Lansdowne and Dufferin, the multiple new condos to the south west and north of the facility, etc. Obviously if this was going to be sited today, this would not be a location that would be considered. The safety risks related to catastrophic failures increase with increased population. The concern is not what will happen when everything works, the concern is always what will happen when everything fails. This has not been considered, has not been communicated and comes after decades of secrecy and disinformation. The license should not be renewed.

Sincerely  
Rob Mound

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Toronto Ontario.