



**Written submission from  
Anna Eidt**

**Mémoire de  
Anna Eidt**

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 the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission:

Have you ever lost someone to cancer? Have you ever encountered a severe health problem caused by something you were previously assured was safe and controlled? Have you ever worked a job that caused you so much worry and anxiety that it spilled into your life outside of work?

I am dismayed that our municipality or the CNSC would even consider allowing another generation of hazardous material to be handled in the former GE facility in Peterborough, Ontario. When the tragic repercussions of GE's legacy are still being felt in the community, and the toxins from our past industrial mistakes have not yet been properly decontaminated, it is simply not the time to attempt to introduce new toxic materials, especially not one known to increase juvenile leukemia, stillbirths, and congenital malformations.

Peterborough needs jobs, and in the midst of this climate crisis we absolutely need to explore alternative sources of energy. These are facts. But why repeat and compound the same boneheaded mistakes of our past when so many creative, and SAFE alternatives exist? And why, if we must turn to pelleting, should you ask towns and residential areas, already weighed down by the consequences of past industrial toxins, to shoulder the burden of these risks?

My greatest concern is for the workers and the immediate surrounding community. According to BWXT's own compliance reports, pelleting is a process that is dangerous. It exposes workers toxins, as well as the surrounding community, including children attending school; a place meant to keep them safe from harm. Even more disconcerting is the track record of mishaps at the hands of humans and nature, at both the Toronto and Peterborough locations. We are bracing for an increase in unpredictable climate events, and the public has in no way been assured that this plant could be prepared for every possibility. Extended power outages and floods could have unknown consequences, with extreme detrimental effects on property values, city revenue, and both the physical and psychological wellbeing of our citizens.

Why should citizens be asked to conserve water, while pelleting, a process that requires vast amounts of water, be welcomed? Our water source is small, precious, and already contaminated. Willingly adding any amount of toxins to our water at the hands of industry is simply unconscionable.

Why should we allow any increase in a radioactive heavy metal into our water and air? Why should a highly flammable and explosive liquid be stored on the same block as a schoolyard? Why would we agree to the possibility of an environmental cleanup down the road that will cost taxpayers millions, if not billions of dollars?

What kind of education is being offered to workers and the community about the short and long-term effects of uranium exposure? Why is there currently no beryllium monitoring program in place for the plant's surroundings? BWXT is not currently

fulfilling their responsibilities to the public and major stakeholders in the area to report events, or demonstrate that they are meeting many compliance requirements of their current license. Why would we trust them with the handling even more risky substances?

The long-term risks clearly outweigh the short-term benefits from every angle, and I beg of your commission to employ common sense, and put the health of our community as a whole above the interests of a private American weapons manufacturing company from Lynchburg, Virginia (a fictional caricature of a more untrustworthy corporation surely does not exist). Peterborough is not some dumpy washed-up town that can be used again and again as a site for risky corporate behavior for profit. We love our city, and we will fight for it's health to no end, but we shouldn't have to.

I respectfully request that the CNSC deny BWXT's request for a 10-year license to allow pelleting in Peterborough.

Sincerely,

Anna Eidt