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**Written submission from
Canadian Nuclear Laboratories**

**Mémoire des
Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

Darlington New Nuclear Project

**Projet de nouvelle centrale nucléaire de
Darlington**

Application to renew the nuclear power
reactor site preparation licence for the
Darlington New Nuclear Project

Demande de renouvellement du permis de
préparation de l'emplacement d'une centrale
nucléaire pour le projet de nouvelle centrale
nucléaire de Darlington

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

June 10, 2021

10 juin 2021



2021 May 03

Commission Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Regulatory Program Division
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
OTTAWA, Ontario K1P 5S9

Dear Commission Secretariat,

Intervention Supporting OPG's Application for the Renewal of the Darlington New Nuclear Project's Power Reactor Site Preparation Licence

On behalf of Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), I am writing to voice our strong support for Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) application to renew its Power Reactor Site Preparation Licence (PRSL) for the Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP). We respectfully request that this intervention be considered in your deliberations on the application.

The Government of Canada has identified climate change as one of the defining challenges of our time, and considers nuclear power to be an essential source of clean energy needed to achieve its ambitious goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. For decades here in Ontario, well before climate change entered the public consciousness, the Darlington Nuclear Station has produced safe, reliable and virtually carbon-free energy, minimizing the country's greenhouse gas emissions, while providing Ontario businesses and communities with 20% of its electricity.

With more areas of the economy poised to shift to electrification, including the wide-spread adoption of electric vehicles, there will be a growing demand for even more dependable, clean energy here in Ontario in the future. Next-generation nuclear technologies, including advanced and small modular reactors, represent a meaningful opportunity for Canada to achieve its clean energy targets, while leading the world in the development of technologies that have the potential to be more flexible and cost-effective, with more advanced safety features, than today's existing reactor fleet.

In pursuit of this future, OPG's application to renew its PRSL can help bring the next generation of grid scale nuclear power plants online faster than any other location within Canada, giving our country the necessary tools to properly confront climate change. And this licence would be placed in the hands of an organization that has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to safe operations during its long, exceptional history.

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2021 MAY 03

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Through decades of collaboration, CNL knows OPG as a responsible member of the nuclear sector, an organization that places an emphasis on safe operations and is dedicated to the health and well-being of the Canadian public, its workers and the environment. OPG has established a strong safety culture at Darlington, with a clear focus on continuous improvement, the use of international best practices and a recognition of the importance of organizational experience.

In maintaining its PRSL since 2012, OPG has also fulfilled all of the necessary regulatory commitments set out by the CNSC. These obligations include extensive studies, assessments and consultations with Indigenous communities, the public and other stakeholders to complete the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), ongoing reporting on the status of its work, and measures to protect the local environment. Overall, the Environmental Assessment was approved, concluding that OPG's work was environmentally acceptable, and that the site is suitable for the construction of a new power plant.

Given their exceptional track record in safe operations, the essential role that the Darlington Nuclear Station plays in electricity generation in Ontario, and the many economic, financial and environmental benefits to Ontario taxpayers – particularly in the battle against climate change – CNL offers its full support to OPG for this licence application.

If you require any further information, please contact CNL's Chief Regulatory Officer, Shaun Cotnam at 613-584-8291.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe McBrearty
President and Chief Executive Officer

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