



**Written submission from the
Canadians for Nuclear Energy**

**Mémoire de
Canadians for Nuclear Energy**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de la

**New Brunswick Power Corporation,
Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station**

**Société d'Énergie du Nouveau-Brunswick,
centrale nucléaire de Point Lepreau**

Application for the renewal of NB Power's
licence for the Point Lepreau Nuclear
Generating Station

Demande de renouvellement du permis
d'Énergie NB pour la centrale nucléaire de
Point Lepreau

**Commission Public Hearing
Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission
Partie 2**

May 11 and 12, 2022

11 et 12 mai 2022

Canadians for Nuclear Energy
Canada Written Intervention

License renewal Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station
May 11th 2022

Sean Wagner MSc.
Program Director for Canadians for Nuclear Energy

Sean Wagner, for the record.

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for the opportunity to provide a written intervention on the license renewal for the point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station

There are many points that could be made from an objective stance about why keeping Point LePreau active as long as possible is only a beneficial thing for New Brunswick and its neighbours and partners in the rest of Confederation:

We could mention how estimates indicate that 1.5 megatons of CO₂ per year will be averted if Point Lepreau's license is extended rather than being replaced by natural gas. That is the equivalent of avoiding 1.5 million transatlantic flights per year. Despite claims that wind and solar can replace retired nuclear, international experience is conclusive, wherever nuclear plants are shut down fossil fuel use increases. replacing nuclear with wind and solar is referred to as treadmill decarbonisation.

There is also the fact that Point Lepreau NGS is a CANDU-6 reactor which alongside the rest of the Canadian CANDU fleet has an exceptional safety record and a 96% Canadian owned and operated supply chain. The CANDU design is one of the best engineered and safest in the world with 2 independent automatic shutdown systems as well as passive safety features in the form of horizontal fuel channels and control rods held up by electromagnets. But it is apparent that actual engineering solutions are not considered valid defenses to those clamoring to prevent nuclear technology from continuing in Canada.

The topic that instead stands out is related to how significant societal resources were invested in refurbishing Point Lepreau NGS in 2012. This refurbishment provides another 30-40 years of carbon free energy to the grid to get us into the 2040's. And this is only the beginning of the potential of Point LePreau, as the CANDU design is inherently meant to replace parts with age, refusing a license extension is not merely a stance against the importance of combating climate change, but it also stands as a public declaration of a lack of faith in Canadians, that they are incapable of performing to the level required to build, operate, and maintain a nuclear facility. By giving in to the fear based arguments that there are no safe methods to utilize nuclear technology it is a clear statement that the population is believed incapable of achieving a high

level of competence and thus must be limited to “safe technologies”, like a child being prevented from going near the oven.

If this is the stance that is to be taken in regards to Point LePreau, reaching our net zero goals will be significantly more difficult as it will be wasting this vital piece of ultra low carbon infrastructure that is Already operating safely and productively with the support of the New Brunswickers who live and work in the nuclear field.

To conclude, as Canadians concerned with the economy, our energy system, climate change, and the fundamental trust between people that is required for a society to function we strongly endorse the continued operation of Point Lepreau NGS which is a precious piece of our clean energy infrastructure and can provide many more years of reliable air pollution and fossil free energy to New Brunswickers.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sean Wagner