



**Written submission from
Helen Forsey**

**Mémoire de
Helen Forsey**

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

From: Helen L. Forsey
Sent: March 15, 2022 3:54 PM
To: Interventions / Interventions (CNSC/CCSN)
Subject: Intervention PLNGS Hearing Ref. 2022-H-02

Dear CNSC,

This email is my written intervention to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, regarding the proposed licence renewal of the NB Power Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station.

I am a senior citizen with deep roots in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and the Ottawa Valley. I have children, grandchildren and a baby great-granddaughter who will have to face all the horrendous dangers of a future dominated by climate change and the legacy of nuclear development. I have friends in the Saint John area, where my late mother was born and grew up, as well as in Fredericton and in Kent County, NB.

The nuclear industry is putting the environment and the future for all of us at risk by pursuing a renewed license for Point Lepreau, especially a long-term one.

The CNSC must not allow any licensing extension beyond a maximum of five years for the Point Lepreau reactor. That plant is already a danger to people and the environment, and will become ever more dangerous and harmful as it ages and its radioactive wastes accumulate even further.

I have many reasons for opposing further licensing of nuclear power - reasons which others with more time and energy than myself have been explaining in documented detail for years, and which they are again putting forward in regard to Point Lepreau. I shall be very brief in this message, but I refer you to those more detailed submissions opposing the proposed 25-year license renewal for that operation. I urge you to give your full attention to all that they say on the following points, and on the many others that similarly reflect why NB Power's request must not be granted.

1. *Nuclear energy production is exceedingly dangerous to people and the environment*, locally and planet-wide, due to the extreme and long-term toxicity of radioactivity. In the specific case of the Point Lepreau plant, leaks or other problems pose a high risk to the people of the surrounding area and to the Bay of Fundy with its unique ecosystems and its economic and cultural importance.
2. *Nuclear energy is NOT "green", even in the narrow sense of carbon emissions*. It produces huge quantities of emissions on both the "upstream" and "downstream" sides of production, including uranium mining and milling, and the falsely vaunted "reprocessing" of some of its waste.
3. *Nuclear power plants by their very nature produce highly toxic radioactive waste that lasts for millennia* and is already stockpiled in massive quantities in Canada and elsewhere. Despite decades of heavily-financed searching, there is still no road in sight for ensuring permanent safe disposal of these poisons. In fact, "permanent safe disposal" is a contradiction in terms for invisible toxicity that lasts for longer into the future than the human race has existed.
4. *Accidents, natural disasters or attacks on nuclear plants pose lethal threats*, accelerated and magnified by climate change and international tensions. This means that nuclear energy must be phased out as soon as possible, with operation of any existing plants *wound down, not extended*. There are simply too many crucial unknowns and too many grave risks to even contemplate renewing a license for more than a very few years, if that.
5. *All decision-making regarding the nuclear industry demands meaningful public input, including that from Indigenous peoples*. Renewing a license for even five years, let alone longer, denies all of us any voice in decisions that will affect us and our descendants for innumerable generations into the future - if indeed a livable future for them will still be possible.

A responsible decision on this by CNSC has the positive potential to push the New Brunswick government and NB Power to put all their resources into reducing energy demand through retrofitting and re-structuring, and supporting truly renewable alternative energy supply, notably solar, wind, small-scale hydro and potential tidal power.

I therefore urge you in the strongest terms to refuse the request of NB Power for a new license for the Point Lepreau plant, and to set the maximum licensing period at 5 years.

Please confirm that you have received this submission, and give it full weight in your deliberations.

Helen Forsey

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