



**Oral presentation**

**Exposé oral**

**Written submission from  
Richard Sexton**

**Mémoire de  
Richard Sexton**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard des

**Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL)**

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**Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens (LNC)**

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Application from the CNL to amend its Chalk River Laboratories site licence to authorize the construction of a near surface disposal facility

Demande des LNC visant à modifier le permis du site des Laboratoires de Chalk River pour autoriser la construction d'une installation de gestion des déchets près de la surface

**Commission Public Hearing  
Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission  
Partie 2**

**May and June 2022**

**Mai et juin 2022**

Commission Secretariat/Register  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street, P.O. Box 1046, Station B  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9  
Sent by email [cncs.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cncs.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca)

**Subject: Intervention by Richard Sexton for the CNL License Application to Amend its Chalk River  
Laboratories Site License to Authorize the Construction of a Near Surface Disposal Facility**

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter from Richard Sexton, the former CEO and President of AECL, as an expression of my full, unreserved support for the CNL application to construct a Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF) at the Chalk River Laboratories Site. By this letter, and pursuant to the CNSC's Rules of Procedure ("Rules"), I am requesting status to participate as an intervenor in the public hearing and an opportunity to present oral submissions.

As a nuclear professional with a MS in Health Physics and senior executive with over 35 years' experience I have had the opportunity to lead some of largest and most complicated decommissioning and waste management projects in the USA, the UK and Canada. I have spent my whole career committed to protecting the safety of workers, the public and the environment. The proposed NSDF offers CNL and Canada a unique opportunity to demonstrate to the public and the international community our industry's commitment to responsibly manage the full lifecycle of nuclear energy and technology.

While serving as the President of AECL from 2016-2021, I had firsthand knowledge of the technical expertise, resources, and substantial efforts CNL applied to the design, the engagement of stakeholders and the indigenous community and environmental assessment process. The NSDF design is an internationally accepted approach and proven method for disposing of low-level radioactive waste. In my view, the NSDF will be a world class facility that I am confident that it will be safely and compliantly operated by CNL. It should be recognized that over the last 6 years AECL has had both internal and outside experts review the proposed NSDF. These experts determined the approach to be technically sound and concluded the NSDF will significantly reduce the environmental risks from existing CNL contaminated sites and facilities.

The NSDF is vital to CNL's decommissioning and site remediation mission which will enhance the protection of the Ottawa River and surrounding environment. Having managed decommissioning and waste management projects for over 30 years, I can tell you that the availability of a disposal facility is critically needed by CNL and the lack of such facility could delay site remediation and decommissioning progress resulting in an ongoing and unnecessary environmental risk. The NSDF is also needed to continue critical lab research activities like nuclear medicine which continue to serve Canadians. Further delays will not benefit the public or the environment.

In conclusion the NSDF is the right and responsible solution for CNL, AECL, the environment, the public and Canada. I am confident the NSDF will provide a long-term solution that is fully protective of the environment. I respectfully encourage the Commission to carefully consider the case made by CNL and approve the construction of the NSDF at Chalk River.

I would like to thank you in advance for the opportunity to express my views and if appropriate participate in the Public Hearing.

Sincerely



Richard J Sexton