



**Written submission from
Woo-Jae Cheong**

**Mémoire de
Woo-Jae Cheong**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard des

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL)

Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens (LNC)

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

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street P.O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

March 3, 2022

Subject: Canadian Nuclear Laboratories' application to amend its Chalk River Laboratories site licence to authorize the construction of a near surface disposal facility IAA Reference Number: 80122

Dear Secretariat:

My name is Woo-Jae Cheong. Since about 20 years ago, I have indirectly started to work for the nuclear industry via the Shoemith research group for my Ph.D. studies at UWO and National Research Council of Canada. I have actively joined the nuclear industry by working on my brief post-doctoral project and then by joining AECL at Chalk River in 2006. I have continued to be working for the nuclear industry by working for AECL and then Candu Energy Inc. since 2006.

I am interested in the Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF) since I simply do care about the environment around which I have been residing closely or remotely. Since our family immigrated to Canada in 1992, I have been living in Ontario for 29+ years. Also, I lived in Deep River for about one and a half year from 2006 to 2008.

During my stay at Chalk River, I noticed that most of the infrastructures at the site were very old. Also, I heard that there were nuclear waste disposal sites around the Chalk River that were inevitably exposed to wildlife population nearby. Thus, I personally believe that cleaning up the site and placing the radioactive waste in a modern engineered facility has a paramount importance to our surrounding environment and are the responsible things to do. I believe that it has more prior importance than the reduction of the fossil fuel waste since the impact of the mismanagement of the nuclear waste would tend to make much severe consequences than that of the fossil fuel waste. Furthermore, we are living in an era in which more frequent extreme weather events are anticipated. Thus, I believe that we need to have a modern engineered containment mound and facility that are equipped with robust environmental monitoring technologies as well as rapid decontamination technologies in case of the radioactive leak.

I believe that the existing nuclear waste disposal site at Chalk River has been well managed and maintained. However, I do believe that the infrastructure and technologies implemented may have some limitations and may not be up to date. Therefore, I support for the construction of the NSDF.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to intervene in this matter,
Woo-Jae Cheong