

# Update on Nuclear Waste Management and Deep Geologic Repository

Pickering Nuclear Community Advisory Council Kevin Powers, Director, Corporate Relations and Communications

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#### **Overview**



- Over 40 years of safe operation
- Knowledgeable and responsible stewards
- Responsibilities include:
  - Protection of the environment
  - Health and safety of persons
  - Maintenance of national security and safeguards





## Stewardship





- Stewardship means safe and careful handling of the waste
- In 40 years, OPG has never had a transportation accident resulting in radioactive release or serious personal injury
- Waste minimization project:
  - Sorting materials for incineration, compaction, or (if zero radioactivity) recycling





#### **WWMF Licence Renewal**



Aerial view of OPG's Western Waste Management Facility, and the site for the proposed DGR, at the Bruce nuclear site in Kincardine, Ontario.

- Applying to Canadian
   Nuclear Safety
   Commission to renew
   licence for next 10 years.
- Hearings in April 2017.
- Seeking licence to expand capacity at current site for continuing "business as usual."
- Proposed DGR is not part of this licence process – it is a separate regulatory process.





#### **PWMF Licence Renewal**



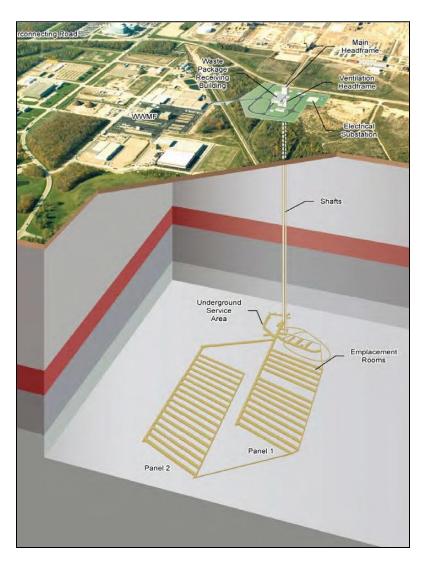
Aerial view of OPG's Pickering Waste Management Facility

- Applying to Canadian
   Nuclear Safety
   Commission to renew
   licence for next 11 years
- Hearings in April 2017
- Planned expansion of three additional used fuel dry storage buildings, and a new Dry Storage Container Processing Building
- To accommodate DSCs from Pickering until the end of commercial operation





## Lasting Solutions – the DGR



- Deep Geologic Repository (DGR) will safely and permanently store all low- and intermediate-level waste from OPG-owned nuclear facilities
  - 680 meters underground in ancient, impermeable geologic formations
  - At the Bruce nuclear site
- Plan is supported by factbased science and analysis
- Validated by a rigorous federal Environmental Assessment (EA) review





## **DGR - Regulatory Process**







- In 2015, the federal Joint Review Panel report stated that:
  - Bruce nuclear site is appropriate for DGR
  - Public health and safety is protected
  - Lake Huron is protected
  - Project should proceed "now rather than later"
- In 2016, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change asked OPG for 3 additional reports – completed in December
  - Study on alternate locations found that environmental effects are greater at other locations, and costs are higher, with no additional benefits in safety to public or the environment





### DGR - Next Steps



- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to prepare analysis and recommendations for federal Minister
- Minister's decision on EA expected by end of 2017
- Approval of the EA would be followed by:
  - OPG application for site clearance construction licence (2018)
  - Further design work
  - Construction earliest completion would be 2026
  - Application for operating licence

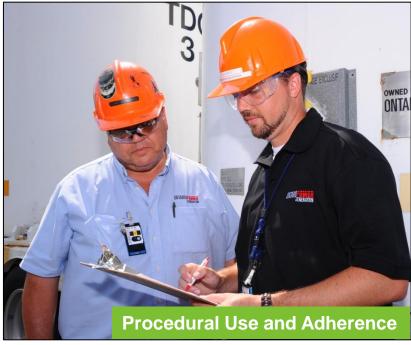




#### **Human Performance**



- Nuclear Waste
   Management division
   aligned with wider
   Nuclear Fleet
- Healthy nuclear safety culture
- Continuous improvement









# **Environmental Stewardship**







- Environmental Management System certified to ISO 14001
- Emissions far below limits
- Supporting biodiversity initiatives





# **Public Safety**





- Comprehensive on-site and off-site emergency response capability
- Applying lessons learned from drills
- Fire Protection Program improvements





# Public Information & Engagement









- Commitment to openness and transparency
- Information provided on a regular basis using a range of tools:
  - Social Media
  - Community Newsletters
  - Website
  - TV Advertising





# **Indigenous Relations**







- Effective Indigenous engagement program
- Committed to long-term, respectful, mutually beneficial relationships

