

**Pickering Nuclear Generating Station  
Community Advisory Council  
Pickering Nuclear Information Centre  
Meeting Minutes, May 15, 2018  
Highlights**

**Site Update**

Randy Lockwood presented an update on the power production of the six active units, the station's surpassing of its backlog reduction target, the forthcoming CNSC hearing on renewal of Pickering Nuclear's licence, and other matters.

**Operation Clean Sweep**

Saloni Sabharwal and Hannah Bushby talked about Operation Clean Sweep, in which OPG employees, friends and family help seniors in the Pickering/Ajax area with yard work twice a year (spring and fall). Council members were impressed with the project and offered some suggestions.

**Emergency Mitigating Equipment Tour**

Shawn Partridge talked about emergency mitigating equipment on the Pickering Nuclear site. CAC members then toured two structures on the site containing such equipment as cooling water containers, back-up generators and transport vehicles.

**Pickering Nuclear Generating Station  
Community Advisory Council  
Pickering Nuclear Information Centre  
Meeting Minutes, May 15, 2018**

**Pickering CAC:**

John Earley  
Mary Gawen  
Kristin Hall  
Bill Houston  
Donald Hudson  
Tim Kellar  
Greg Lymer  
Pat Mattson  
Sean McCullough  
Cody Morrison  
Zachary Moshonas  
Helen Shamsipour  
Dan Shire  
Ralph Sutton  
Anna-lisa Tersigni

**OPG:**

Randy Lockwood  
Shawn Partridge  
Glenn Pringle  
Analiese St. Aubin

**North American  
Young Generation in Nuclear**

Hannah Bushby  
Saloni Sabharwal

**PDA:**

Francis Gillis  
John Vincett

Guests:

John Miseresky  
Frank Dempsey

Regrets:

Jim Dike  
Donna Fabbro  
Keith Falconer  
Dinesh Kumar  
Moe Perera  
Kira Shan  
John Stirrat

**Topic #1: Correspondence**

Council Facilitator John Vincett flagged the latest Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) newsletter, available on-line at:

<https://www.nwmo.ca/~media/Site/Files/PDFs/2018/04/10/12/48/NWMO-News-V1612018.ashx?la=en>

This newsletter includes information on why two locations that had been under consideration are no longer part of the selection process for siting a repository for long-term storage of used nuclear fuel.

John thanked Council members for their comments on various drafts of the CAC intervention letter to the CNSC regarding the OPG application for renewal of the Pickering Nuclear operating licence. He noted that the Commission has accepted the Council's submission and is in the process of scheduling the CAC presentation during the public hearing at the end of June.

## **Topic #2: Review of Minutes**

Council members called for several changes to the April minutes, the last two bullet points of Topic #3: Site Update:

- Part 1 of the CNSC hearing on the renewal of Pickering Nuclear's licence has just been completed. This part of the hearing took place in Ottawa. Last fall OPG completed a series of deliverables to the Commission related to the licence application. ~~The station~~ Station staff tested equipment and reported on strengths, gaps and possible improvements. OPG developed an implementation plan for closing the gaps, ~~it~~ provided documents and made a presentation to the hearing on April 4.

Randy added further details:

- In its presentation to the CNSC, OPG made a commitment to remain publicly transparent. Pickering Nuclear has a very good story to tell. The station has made significant investments to improve and modify all six active units on site. OPG staff ~~is~~ continues to be very engaged and committed to running the plant ~~as safely as possible~~.

With these changes, the minutes of the CAC meeting of April 17, 2018 were approved.

## **Topic #3: Site Update**

Senior Vice President Randy Lockwood presented a site update:

- Units 1, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are all running at full power. The Unit 6 outage was recently completed safely and ahead of schedule.
- The current outage of Unit 4 is progressing well. Cooling and draining of the core of the reactor (not normally part of an outage) was executed almost exactly on schedule. The unit is expected to be restarted in the first few days of July.

- The station's backlog target of 20 maintenance tasks has been surpassed, with 22 of the tasks now completed. The goal of the station is to drive the backlog numbers down to the level of nuclear industry best.
- Part 1 of the CNSC hearing on OPG's application for the renewal of Pickering Nuclear's licence took place on April 4. There were no additional information requests from the Commission this time. OPG is now gearing up for Part 2 of the hearings. The location for these public hearings has been changed to the Pickering Recreational Complex, and that is a good thing as it makes it easier for interested people to attend. The length of the hearings has been extended to cover almost the entire week (June 25 – 29). There have been about 140 interventions, many of them positive. Our thanks to the CAC for your submission. You have obviously taken note of what you've heard from OPG during Council meetings. The slide you've developed on the credibility of OPG's claim that the station will operate safely and efficiently to 2024 is insightful and exactly right.
- OPG has completed updates to municipal councils in the area. Special thanks to CAC member Bill Houston for attending our presentation to the Ajax Council.
- WANO (World Association of Nuclear Operators) recently returned to Pickering to review our technical support system. We asked the inspectors how the station can improve its nuclear professional culture.
- The Durham chapter of NAYGN (North American Young Generation in Nuclear) was recently awarded best chapter in Canada. Two NAYGN Durham members will speak to the Council later this evening.

Randy responded to Council questions:

- *Where was the water from Unit 4 drained to?*  
We have a common system that can transfer water from unit to unit. In the draining from Unit 4, we used this system to transfer a lot of water. That water has tritium in it. Once we have finished the operations, the water will be put back into the system and reused.
- *What is the expected length of service from Unit 4 before its next outage?*  
We are generally moving from 24 to 30 months between outages. No outage takes place at the height of summer or depth of winter. We like to think that the current procedure at Unit 4 is the last time the unit will need to be drained.
- *Can you update us on what is happening with the DGR proposal for long-term storage of low and intermediate level nuclear waste?*  
(Glenn Pringle, Manager of the Pickering Waste Management Facility (PWMF), said that the recommendation from the Joint Review Panel was to approve the DGR project with a number of conditions, and the matter now rests with the federal government for a final decision. The Minister of Environment has asked OPG two questions: one about

the integrated effect of the repository and the potential for NWMO selecting a site in the same general area as the proposed repository; and the other about the interaction between OPG and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. OPG is now in the process of answering these government questions, and a final decision is expected in 2019.

Randy answered one further question:

- *Is 140 interveners in the CNSC hearing a larger number than usual?*  
It compares with the number of interventions at the Bruce Hearing.

#### **Topic #4: Public Affairs**

Analiese St. Aubin, Manager of Corporate Relations and Communications at Pickering Nuclear, talked about OPG involvement in recent and forthcoming community activities:

- We hosted a very successful Durham Steps for Life Walk on Sunday, May 6 with over 300 people in attendance, raising an estimated \$24,000. This walk supports families who have experienced workplace tragedy, life altering injury or illness. Pickering Nuclear is one of the founding partners of Threads for Life, the organization behind the Walk.
- Bring Back the Salmon program – we will be releasing the salmon fry from our hatchery here at the Info Centre on May 31 at Greenwood Conservation Area.
- Our annual Backyard Buddies program is on May 23 with students from Sir John A. MacDonald Public School. We will be installing a pollinator garden on the school property.
- Because the ground was not yet ready on April 22, the Take Pride in Earth Day tree planting and park clean-up event has been rescheduled for June 16.

#### **Topic #5: Operation Clean Sweep**

Saloni Sabharwal and Hannah Bushby, community outreach leaders with the Durham Chapter of NAYGN (North American Young Generation in Nuclear), talked about Operation Clean Sweep (Appendix 1).

Operation Clean Sweep was started in 2009 by Darlington employee Joe Amantea. The project helps seniors in the Pickering/Ajax area with yard work twice a year (spring and fall). The project was taken over by NAYGN Durham in 2015. Work groups are made up of OPG staff, friends and family.

The work this year is scheduled for May 26. The volume of work determines how many

houses the volunteer group can visit.

Hannah and Saloni presented a series of photographs of groups of volunteers from past years. Over 30 volunteers are expected for the project this spring.

They noted that Operation Clean Sweep strengthens OPG's social licence and engenders a feeling of pride and community in NAYGN Durham members.

More information is available at [naygndurham@opg.com](mailto:naygndurham@opg.com).

Hannah and Saloni responded to Council questions and suggestions:

- *How are the seniors to be helped selected?*  
We advertise the project. We often go back to the same people as well as adding new people. We try to do as many yards as we can.
- *High school students could be recruited, especially as students now require some specific hours of community service as part of their graduation. The volunteer opportunity could also be opened to the general public.*
- *Do you need more tools?*  
Yes! (CAC member Mary Gawen noted that Toronto and Region Conservation can supply tools on loan.)
- *Have you considered UOIT as a source of volunteers?*  
Yes, we go to various institutions.
- *Do you have contact phone numbers.*  
Yes.
- I suggest informing the public in April so seniors can ask for help.
- Set up a Townhall Customer Information Booth through City Hall.  
These are good suggestions.
- What if a volunteer gets hurt.  
We do our best to make sure that does not happen. We have a safety briefing and give a caution about using tools appropriately. We make sure that those volunteers who are trained in first aid are well distributed through the work groups.

On behalf of the Council, John thanked Hannah and Saloni for a very informative presentation.

## **Topic #6: Emergency Mitigating Equipment Tour**

Shawn Partridge, Section Manager Emergency Preparedness, briefed the Council about

emergency mitigating equipment on the Pickering Nuclear site (Appendix 2). The purpose of this equipment is to provide backup cooling water and power in the unlikely event of an emergency at the plant, and the further unlikely event that our back-up systems do not perform as expected. This is a further level of back-up.

Shawn responded to Council questions:

- *What is the role of staff in an emergency?*  
Their job is to deploy the equipment as required. All of the equipment in the tents have specific destinations where they are sent. We test the systems with regular drills. During emergency drills, staff don't actually hook up the equipment to the actual system; but we have dummy hook-ups right next to the real ones, and these are used to test our ability to hook up the equipment efficiently and effectively. The drills are realistic.
- *Do you have redundancies, for example in emergency cooling supplies?*  
Yes.

On the tour of two large, tent-like structures containing emergency mitigating equipment, it was emphasized that emergency service staff are basically a delivery service.

The first tent contained cooling supply units and backup generators. The second tent contained spare equipment and vehicles. All equipment is maintained to be immediately usable.

The station can build and support its own telecommunications system.

In a very strong wind, the tents can be blown away without damaging any of the equipment. It was noted, however, that during the windstorm in April, there was no damage to the tents. The equipment is protected from wind damage by a sophisticated tie-down system that has a quick release.

In addition to equipment in the two tents, five standby diesel generators are located elsewhere, which Council members visited on their way back to the Information Centre. Fuel is stored on site as well as in other locations. This additional equipment would also be available to Darlington, should it be required. For the transport of equipment, secondary routes are available if the highway is blocked.

## **Topic #7: CNSC News**

For selected news items from the CNSC, please see Appendix 3.

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 19, 2018, 6 pm**  
**Pickering Nuclear Information Centre**  
**(supper available at 5:30 pm)**