

**Pickering Nuclear Generating Station
Community Advisory Council
Pickering Nuclear Information Centre
Meeting Minutes, March 20, 2018
Highlights**

Site Update

Randy Lockwood presented an update on the productivity of the Pickering plant. He also talked about: OPG's forthcoming presentation to the CNSC regarding its application for renewal of the Pickering Nuclear licence to operate; the defence-in-depth emergency response elements at the site; and other matters.

Public Affairs

Cheryl Johnston reviewed March Break Madness activities organized by the Pickering and Darlington stations during the week of March 12, in partnership with community organizations. A total of 4,500 people attended these events over the week.

CNSC Intervention

A discussion took place about the nature and content of the CAC intervention in the CNSC public hearing in June regarding OPG's application for renewal of the Pickering Nuclear licence to operate.

**Pickering Nuclear Generating Station
Community Advisory Council
Pickering Nuclear Information Centre
Meeting Minutes, March 20, 2018**

Pickering CAC:

John Earley
Donna Fabbro
Kristin Hall
Natalie Harder
Bill Houston
Tim Kellar
Pat Mattson
Cody Morrison
Sean McCullough
Zachary Moshonas
Dan Shire
John Stirrat
Ralph Sutton
Anna-lisa Tersigni

Guest:

Frank Dempsey

OPG:

Cheryl Johnston
Randy Lockwood
Analiese St. Aubin

PDA:

Francis Gillis
John Vincett

Regrets:

Jim Dike
Keith Falconer
Donald Hudson
Dinesh Kumar
Greg Lymer
Moe Perera
Helen Shamsipour
Kira Shan

Topic #1: Review of Minutes

Council members called for two changes to the February minutes:

- Topic #3: Site Update, second bullet, lines 3 – 4: delete “though they recognized the plant for teamwork and creative use of technology,” as this clause is picked up later in the bullet point. So the second sentence in the bullet point should just read: “These peer inspections focus on pointing out areas for improvement.”
- Topic #3: Site Update, third bullet, line 1 should read: “The Nuclear Safety Review Board (an independent body) spent a week at the site...”

With these changes, the CAC minutes for Feb. 20, 2018 were approved.

Topic #2: Site Update

Senior Vice President Randy Lockwood presented a site update:

- Randy commented that the CAC tour of the Pickering Nuclear control room simulator during the February meeting seemed to be a very interesting experience for the CAC. He suggested that, when the weather gets warmer, the group go on a field trip to view emergency response equipment on the site, including structures outside the reactor buildings that house emergency mitigating equipment.
- Today One OPG Day was celebrated. This event is designed to improve the culture across the company. This positioning encourages all aspects of the company to seek Efficiency (rather than tending to be Bureaucratic); to embrace a Facilitative leadership style (rather than just a technical style) and to be Results Oriented in the Future (rather than resting upon past accomplishments).
- Pickering Nuclear is holding the backlog of maintenance tasks at zero across the site, something the station is very proud of. Most nuclear plants would carry a backlog of one or more minor maintenance tasks per unit each month.
- Units 1, 5, 7, and 8 are operating at full power. The planned outage of Unit 6 is nearing completion; it will continue to April. The planned outage of Unit 4, which began on March 7, will run into July. The Unit 4 outage is in the inspection stage currently, and that activity is going well.
- Day 1 of the CNSC hearing on OPG's application to renew the licence of Pickering Nuclear will take place in Ottawa on April 4. OPG representatives will be discussing documents on how the station will manage safely and efficiently to 2024 as well as activities after the close of commercial operations. CNSC staff on the Pickering site have recommended that the station be granted a 10-year licence. OPG is pleased with that recommendation, though it's the Commissioners themselves who will make the decision. CNSC will hold its public hearing June 26 to 28 in Courtice.
- OPG's application to renew the licence is on the company website, as is the site's Periodic Safety Review (PSR) and OPG's letter to the CNSC (links to these items are included in the link: <https://www.opg.com/generating-power/nuclear/stations/pickering-nuclear/Pages/pickering-nuclear-licence-renewal.aspx>). The CNSC staff report assessing Pickering Nuclear is now available on the CNSC website (<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/reactors/power-plants/nuclear-facilities/pickering-nuclear-generating-station/index.cfm>).

Randy presented several slides picturing activities at the station:

- The turbine hall, with a very large Canadian flag on one wall
- The cobalt harvesting process where rods are being taken out of a reactor (Cobalt-60 is extracted from reactors at Pickering every 24 months. Pickering Nuclear and Bruce Power supply more than 50 percent of the world's Cobalt 60; the radioactive isotope is used to safely sterilize medical equipment and food products.)
- A Peregrine Falcon photographed on the site (Peregrine Falcons were spotted back on the site this week; they like to nest high up on the reactor building, presumably because it is like a cliff.)

A Council member noted that there was an article in the Neighbours Newsletter on the falcons at the site a couple of years ago. The article mentioned that, when diving toward prey, the Peregrine Falcon is the fastest animal on the planet.

A member asked if Cobalt-60 extraction is a fairly new process at the site. Randy said no, that Pickering Nuclear has been harvesting the isotope since 1971.

Emergency Mitigating Equipment

A Council member remarked that the approach to emergency response at the site seemed to reflect what was learned from the events at Fukushima.

Randy said, yes, OPG learned a lot from Fukushima. He noted that emergency mitigating equipment on the site is completely portable and completely separate from the plant. This equipment provides an independent source of power and of cooling. During an emergency, if all backup equipment fails, there is a way to stall progression of an incident. From a probabilistic perspective, however, the risk of such a failure at Pickering is very low.

Randy listed the progression of defence in depth layers at Pickering Nuclear:

- Design and materials
- Stand-by safety systems
- Redundancy of these systems
- Staff training
- A source of emergency power
- Portable generator equipment

Topic #3: Public Affairs

Cheryl Johnston, Senior Communications Advisor at Pickering Nuclear, reviewed March Break Madness activities organized by Pickering and Darlington stations during the week of March 12:

- A total of 4,500 people attended events over the week. OPG could not have carried out

these events without its community partners.

- This year almost 400 people attended the Forest Friends event at Claremont Field Centre (last year was the first time for the event, attended by only 50 people). OPG also partnered with the Toronto Wildlife Centre for this event.
- Family Art Takeover at The Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa: over four hours, 750 people created their own canvases and went on a treasure hunt.
- A total of 500 people attended two swim days that OPG sponsored at the Pickering Recreation Complex.
- Almost 1,000 people joined OPG representatives for a day at Windreach Farm.
- A thousand people enjoyed a maple syrup festival at the Purple Woods Conservation Area.
- About 100 young people attended a Scientists in School event at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre. They learned what sound is and enjoyed a harmonica lesson.

Cheryl noted that many participants came up to her and other OPG staff to express thanks for the outdoor and physical activities as well as the art and music events. A participant said he did not even know that Purple Woods existed.

Natalie Harder (of Toronto and Region Conservation) noted that the Forest Friends day marked the first time so many people came to an event at the Claremont Field Centre.

It was noted that the next day (March 21) was the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids Sake event, for which OPG is a sponsor.

Topic #4: CNSC Intervention

A discussion took place about the nature and content of the CAC intervention in the CNSC public hearing in June regarding OPG's application for renewal of the Pickering Nuclear licence to operate. A group of CAC members volunteered to be a part of the Council's presentation team.

Topic #5: CNSC News

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

Next Meeting
Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 6 pm
Pickering Nuclear Information Centre
(supper available at 5:30 pm)