

Neighbours

A proud part of the community since 1965

Fall/Winter 2006

We've taken the first step

OPG applies for site preparation licence for new nuclear reactors at the Darlington site



Above, Ontario Power Generation's Darlington Nuclear site, the site of possible new reactors.

On September 22, 2006, Ontario Power Generation formally began the federal approvals process with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), for new nuclear units at the Darlington site. OPG has submitted an application for a Site Preparation Licence.

This follows the direction by Ontario Minister of Energy in June of this year that we begin the federal approvals process for new nuclear units at an existing nuclear site.

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OPG believes Darlington is best-suited for new nuclear development because:

- There is room to build on the site;
- The site is adjacent to a major transmission corridor;
- Based on over 15 years of operating experience at the site, we understand the environmental impacts of operating reactors at Darlington, and those impacts are well within Canadian standards;
- The host community of Clarington and the Region of Durham are also very supportive; and
- We have a highly skilled workforce with many years of experience in operating nuclear units.

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Durham Children's Groundwater Festival



Grade 4 students from across Durham Region learn to be water stewards at the 9th annual Durham Children's Groundwater Festival.

Water is something we use every day. It is a precious resource, vital to all living things.

At the ninth annual Durham Children's Groundwater Festival, about 5,000 Grade 4 students learned all about water and how to become water stewards in their home, school and community. The 40 hands-on displays were hosted by local high school students – many of whom remember attending the Festival when they were in Grade 4.

Darlington and Pickering Nuclear are strong partners in the Festival in both financial and in-kind support. Each year, our environment department uses a groundwater model to demonstrate how pollution can travel through the various water tables and how it can impact our drinking water.

Beverly Forget, a member of the Durham Children's Groundwater Organizing Committee, and a Senior Communications Advisor with OPG Nuclear Public Affairs, says, "Water is such an important part of a healthy environment and unfortunately it is becoming a threatened resource. This Festival is hands-on, interactive, fun and it's memorable. It teaches children to apply their knowledge in their everyday life."

The United Nations Environment Program estimates there are 14-million cubic kilometers of water on earth - in oceans, polar ice caps, rivers, lakes, fresh water aquifers, as well as in clouds and rain water. In all of these bodies, water is continually moving through the cycle of evaporation, precipitation and runoff to the sea.

Next time you use water, think about it and become a water steward!

Energy is in the Air



A message from Pat McNeil

The quality of life Canadians expect is dependent on a reliable, affordable and safe supply of electricity.

The electricity industry must constantly improve its performance, reliability and safety in order to ensure the supply so critical to our economy, health, education and daily life. If we look around us, there are few things not impacted by the security of our electricity supply.

The Ontario government has introduced many recent initiatives to ensure this supply, not only for today but for our future, both through electricity generation and conservation.

In Durham Region, many organizations play pivotal roles in furthering the conservation and supply management agenda for the province including: the University of Ontario Institute of Technology; local electricity distributors like Veridian, Whitby Hydro and Oshawa PUC, as well as private sector companies like Enbridge and Siemens.

OPG's contribution is on the generation side of the equation. OPG, through its nuclear stations in Durham Region, is integral to two generation initiatives identified by the government. OPG has begun the work to determine the viability of life extension for the Pickering B plant. As well, it took the first step of many, towards potential new nuclear units on the Darlington site in its application to the federal nuclear regulator. You can read about the Darlington initiative on page one of this newsletter.

The Pickering B studies are examining the potential environmental and societal impacts, as well as the commercial viability of continuing to operate its four units another twenty five to thirty years. Work on the Environmental Assessment for the Refurbishment and Continued Operation of the plant began this past summer and will be completed towards the end of 2007.

There is a sense of excitement about the work ahead for the industry as a whole. These are important responsibilities the industry must execute well for the benefit of all Ontarians. OPG is honoured to be part of future generation supply plans and is committed to continuing to exercise its responsibilities in an open and transparent manner.

Pat McNeil
Senior Vice President
Plant Life Extension Program

Reading and Remembrance



Pickering Nuclear was proud to partner with the Durham West Arts Centre, Veterans Affairs Canada, and the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Branch to support the provincial project of Reading and Remembrance in 2006.

On November 10 at 2:10 p.m., thousands of school children honoured our veterans

by showing the importance of reading and remembering the Canadians who fought to protect civil liberties.

OPG is proud to be a founding sponsor of this worthwhile project and to promote both literacy and a better understanding of Canada's heritage.

In this second annual event, schools were encouraged to bring history right into the classroom with special guests. Many Ontario mayors and councilors, including those here in Pickering and Durham Region, read with children or listened to the children tell the stories in their own words.

For more information on this project or on the Durham West Arts Centre, visit www.DWAC.ca.

Pickering Waterfront Trail Sign Unveiling



Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan joined OPG and the Pickering Waterfront Committee for a sign unveiling at Millennium Square on Pickering's waterfront.

Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan and several other local politicians spoke at a recent unveiling ceremony for a new sign marking the Pickering Waterfront Trail at Millennium Square at the bottom of Liverpool Road.

The Mayor and other politicians thanked OPG for its major contribution to the Waterfront Trail development.

Laurie Swami, OPG Nuclear's Director of Licensing outlined how the trail ties in with the extensive work OPG has done to enhance the natural environment in the area around the Pickering Nuclear plant as part of OPG Pickering's Biodiversity Program. As Laurie stated, the purpose of this program is to manage our property to encourage continued existence of native species and their ecosystems; to provide opportunities for our neighbours and for our employees to enjoy the natural environment close to home; and to educate our neighbours and employees about the natural environment.

After the unveiling ceremony, the public enjoyed a barbecue hosted by OPG.

Safe and Secure at OPG's Nuclear Facilities

Over the past few years, Ontario Power Generation, under the guidelines of Canada's nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), has introduced tough new standards for security at each of its power plants.

OPG has been in step with compliance and has taken a leadership role in the development of best-in-industry practices and programs.

Some of the improvements include:

- On-site Durham Regional Police Services providing 24/7 armed response;
- Robust security screening procedures, including explosives, X-ray, and metal detectors, along with geometric hand monitors for each entry into the protected area of the station;
- New state-of-the-art main and auxiliary buildings at both Pickering and Darlington nuclear stations;
- Comprehensive security clearance processes for each employee and contractor, and a process for renewal every five years or less and;
- Situational awareness training for supervisors and the mandatory wearing of photo ID.

In total, OPG has invested more than \$300 million in security upgrades in the last five years to ensure the station, our employees and the public are well protected.

"We're proud of all the work we have accomplished to date and continue to search out new and even safer methods of protection of the public and our assets," says Stan Harvey, Vice President of Nuclear Security at OPG.

Ensuring peace of mind for our neighbours

The number one priority at OPG nuclear operations is safety, for employees and the public. Our nuclear stations are designed with multiple safety systems and are staffed by highly-trained personnel.

Part of operating safely is ensuring minimal impact on the environment in which we operate our plants. OPG has routine monitoring processes in place around the perimeter of our stations, working with government agencies, to ensure the public

is protected from radiation emissions at all times.

Canadians routinely receive approximately 1,770 microsieverts of radiation annually from sources such as the sun, food, radon in soil and through routine activities such as air travel and dental x-rays. In the second and third quarter of 2006, people who lived at the site boundary of Pickering Nuclear would have received an additional 1.8 microsieverts of radiation. This is a very small percentage

of what we each receive naturally, and it is well below the 1,000 microsievert annual limit set by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, the federal regulator governing OPG operations.

A strong regard for safety and the environment is just part of our commitment to the communities in which we operate.

To view our quarterly station performance report and OPG's mid-year performance report, please visit www.opg.com or phone us at 905-837-7272.

Winterfest is here!

Looking for a free, fun winter and holiday-themed event for the whole family?

Join us for movies and a craft Saturday, December 2 or 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre. Enjoy the festively-decorated information centre while watching family movies and making holiday crafts.

Children must be accompanied by a parent. The Pickering Nuclear Information Centre is wheelchair accessible.

For further details, please call the Pickering Nuclear Community Information Line at 905-837-7272.



Giving back with United Way

The United Way of Ajax-Pickering-Uxbridge touches the lives of one out of every three people in our community and at Ontario Power Generation, we're proud of our long-standing partnership.

"That means some of your co-workers, neighbours, friends and even your own family have been assisted by the United Way or one of its 30 agencies," says Don Terry, Director of Nuclear Public Affairs. "People who never imagined they would need it."

OPG and its employees are committed to strengthening the communities where they live and work. Our involvement with the local United Way is one of the best ways to fulfill that commitment.

Our involvement has never been stronger than during the current United Way fundraising



L-R: Olwen Gover, Don Terry and Bev Lizotte were a few OPG employees instrumental in making the 2006 United Way Campaign a success.

campaign. Don Terry is serving as the Campaign Chair and fellow OPG employee Beverley Lizotte is on a four-month secondment supporting campaign activities.

Meanwhile back at the office, Olwen Gover is leading our annual charity campaign for employees. Last year, Pickering Nuclear employees and retirees donated almost \$317,000 to registered charities with about \$84,000 of their support going to our local United Way.

"We couldn't fulfill the range of needs in our community without the generous support of companies like OPG and its employees," says Edna Klack, Executive Director for the Ajax-Pickering-Uxbridge United Way.

To find out more about how you can support our local United Way, please visit www.apuwap.ca or phone 905-686-0606.

We've taken the first step *Continued from cover story*

Now that the license application has been submitted, the CNSC will review the application and determine the environmental assessment requirements.

The CNSC regulates the use of nuclear energy in Canada to protect health, safety, security and the environment. The CNSC describes five major steps in the licensing of a nuclear power plant. Before a company or applicant can undertake each step, it must obtain approval from the CNSC.

In addition, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act stipulates that an Environmental Assessment (EA) must be carried out. The EA must demonstrate that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects with available mitigation measures. If the decision on the EA is negative, the project will not proceed to the licensing process.

We will keep you informed and proactively seek your views at key stages of the regulatory process. We welcome your questions or thoughts at any time. Send an e-mail to newbuild@opg.com or call us, toll-free, at 1-866-487-6006. For more information, visit our web site at www.opg.com/newbuild.

Watch for a special edition Neighbours

In November you may have received a special edition Neighbours with information specific to the Pickering B environmental assessment in your mailbox. The EA newsletter provides the information you need to keep up-to-date with the EA process for potential life extension of the plant. You may receive these periodically over the next year as OPG continues its studies for consideration of plant life extension. For more information on this and other OPG projects, visit www.opg.com or drop by the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre at 1675 Montgomery Park Rd at the bottom of Brock Rd.



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