

# PICKERING NUCLEAR

## Neighbours Newsletter

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## Durham OPG Employees Give the Community a Boost

Local charities got a big boost as Ontario Power Generation (OPG) employees across Durham dug deep to help those in need. Employees working at locations across Durham Region have donated more than \$900,000 in support of community charities as part of OPG's annual employee charity campaign. OPG employees across the province donated a total of \$1.96 million dollars.

"This is welcome news for many less fortunate families in our communities and the organizations that support them," said OPG's Chief Nuclear Officer Wayne Robbins, a resident of Durham Region. "We're pleased to be in a position as a company and individuals to offer this type of support, especially during these tough economic times. Many of our

staff live here in Durham Region, so it is very important that we support the community where we live and work."

One of the advantages of the campaign is that employees can designate their charity of choice. Local charities benefiting from the campaign included Durham Region hospitals, the United Way, community care agencies, women shelters and many more important environmental, educational and community support organizations.

As well, OPG absorbs the costs of processing and delivering the donated funds to the charities. There is no administrative fee deducted so 100 per cent of the employees' donations go straight to the charities.



### Support for Haiti

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) employees and pensioners have responded to the support needed for the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake there by donating about \$180,000 through a payroll deduction program. With the Canadian government's pledge to match all monies raised by Canadians, this total became more than \$250,000.

As well, employees supported the Durham Regional Police Service in their efforts to collect and ship tents for the people of Haiti to use as emergency shelter. In a matter of a few days, 70 tents were collected at the Pickering and Darlington stations.

Pictured here delivering tents is OPG retiree Dave Reid, who put out calls to his friends in Scouts (Dave is a long-time volunteer) in Whitby, Lindsay, and Hastings. Dave delivered 33 tents—one for each year he worked at OPG.

### OPG Announces Nuclear Investment Strategy

OPG has announced a two-part investment strategy for its current nuclear generating stations in Durham Region:

OPG will proceed with a detailed planning phase for the mid-life refurbishment of the Darlington Nuclear station, with construction expected to start in about 2016. The next phase will include an Environmental Assessment and an Integrated Safety Review leading to a plan that will define the scope, cost and schedule of the refurbishment project.

OPG will also invest \$300 million to ensure the continued safe and reliable performance of the Pickering B station for approximately 10 years. Following this, OPG will begin the longer term decommissioning process as refurbishment for Pickering B station will not be pursued.

In addition to this investment decision, OPG also continues the planning and regulatory work for construction and operation of new nuclear stations at its Darlington site.

This edition of *Neighbours* newsletter includes a two-page added insert outlining all the details of the announcement. To learn more about the announcement, visit [www.opg.com](http://www.opg.com) or call our Information Centre at 905-837-7272.



ISO 14001 Certification - Pickering Nuclear  
Environmental Management System

**ONTARIOPOWER**  
GENERATION

# A Very Big Outage

Nearby residents may have begun noticing some changes on our site recently as we ready for the start of a Vacuum Building Outage (VBO), but our employees began preparations in the summer of 2007.

It's the largest and the most complex project to be undertaken across Ontario Power Generation's nuclear fleet this year. A VBO is completed every 10 years at Pickering.

Many permits and approvals were obtained from government agencies to ensure all regulatory requirements are met. An additional 1,900 employees are hired, security cleared, and trained to ensure the outage is completed on time and on budget. Cranes, elevators, and trailers are just a few of the pieces of equipment acquired and brought onto

site. More than 7,000 prerequisite activities are underway and on track for the April outage start.

The VBO requires the shutdown of all six Pickering Nuclear reactors to allow for the intrusive inspections and maintenance of the station's vacuum building structure to ensure its continued availability. More than 4,200 work orders, involving more than 40,000 tasks will be completed during the outage.

Pickering Nuclear staff plan to build on Darlington Nuclear's successful VBO last spring.

## What is a vacuum building?

A critical part of Pickering Nuclear's safety system, the vacuum building is a 51 metres tall structure made from reinforced concrete. The interior is kept at a near perfect vacuum. In the very unlikely event of a rupture in the piping in any of Pickering's reactors, steam from the break would be automatically sucked into the vacuum building and condensed into water –preventing any damage due to steam pressure build-up.

The vacuum buildings at Pickering and Darlington have never had to be used.

## Safe Storage Project Progressing Well

The complex project to place Pickering Nuclear Units 2 and 3 into safe storage continues to progress well.

All major work activities will be completed before Pickering's Vacuum Building Outage begins so that employees can support its success. All field work is expected to be complete this spring and the project closed out by early fall –on budget and on time.

## OPG Seeks Five-Year Licence Renewal for Pickering A

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has applied for a five-year operating licence renewal for Pickering A and Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) site staff have recommended it be granted.

Currently, Pickering A operates under a five-year licence which will come to an end later this year. Pickering B and Darlington Nuclear also operate under five-year licences.

"We operate in a way that ensures the safety of employees and the public, as well as protection of the environment," says Pickering A Senior Vice President Glenn Jager. "We believe our demonstrated behaviours and programs warrant a five-year licence renewal."

CNSC staff have submitted a commission member document (CMD) to the

Commission, recommending their approval of a five-year licence for Pickering A as well.

"The CNSC evaluate us in 14 Safety and Control areas," says Jager. "In all of these important areas, we continue to meet or exceed performance expectations."

At hearings in Ottawa on February 17 and in Pickering on May 21, the Commission will review the CNSC staff recommendation, OPG's submission, and submissions from interested stakeholders and the public to aid in their decision. Written expressions of support and intervener comments must be submitted to the CNSC by April 21.

For more information, please visit the CNSC website at [www.cnscccsn.gc.ca](http://www.cnscccsn.gc.ca) or contact Don Terry, Public Affairs Manager, Pickering Nuclear, at [don.terry@opg.com](mailto:don.terry@opg.com) or 905-839-1151 ext. 5966.



**A message from  
Glenn Jager,  
Senior  
Vice-President  
of Pickering A**

In January, I returned to Pickering Nuclear to

serve as Senior Vice President for Pickering A.

Please let me introduce myself. I've held a variety of nuclear leadership positions during my 28-year career with Ontario Power Generation and also spent time with the World Association of Nuclear Operators. My last role was Deputy Vice President for Darlington Nuclear and I'm proud of the safety and production performance we achieved there.

As Senior Vice President at Pickering A, I am committed to maintaining the safety-first culture and continuing the improvement of the station's performance, as well as transparency for our community in operations and communications. Last year, Pickering A employees worked more than 3 million hours without a lost-time injury. Unit 1 recorded its best performance in more than 30 years, but unfortunately Unit 4 produced less electricity than the year before due to unplanned maintenance.

We have a busy year ahead. We have begun the process of renewing Pickering A's five-year operating licence with our nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. We are nearing completion of the Safe Storage Project for Units 2 and 3 -on budget and on time. We are in the final preparatory stages for a Vacuum Building Outage in April, which requires us to shut down all six operating reactors at Pickering Nuclear. For more details on each of these initiatives, see the separate stories elsewhere on this page.

I look forward to sharing our successes and our challenges with you.

Glenn Jager



# OPG Honoured for Environmental Leadership in Durham

In December, the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) held their bi-annual Watershed Awards and Environmental Expo.

OPG employees were pleased to participate in the expo to highlight our environmental activities and water safety

initiatives in Durham Region and across the province. Not only did we participate, but OPG's Darlington and Pickering Nuclear were honoured with a CLOCA Watershed Award recognizing our ongoing support and participation in the Durham Children's Groundwater Festival.



Ontario Power Generation and its employees were proud to be recognized with the Corporate Citizenship Award at the recent annual campaign wrap-up event for the United Way of Ajax-Pickering-Uxbridge. And we were doubly pleased when one of our employee's efforts were recognized with an award.

Each year, OPG loans

an employee (as an employee developmental opportunity and a community citizenship gesture) to our local United Way to support their campaign efforts. Jamie Barker did such a wonderful job this year that Campaign Chair Kevin Modeste recognized her with one of his two Chair's Select awards.

OPG employees contributed almost \$66,000 to our local United Way's fundraising campaign this year. OPG employee volunteers include: Board of Directors Chair – Paul Truong, Special Events Committee Member – Laura Miller, and past Campaign Chair Don Terry.

Congratulations to staff, volunteers, and community donors for helping raise more than \$1.7 million in support of a better community.

While the latest United Way Campaign has drawn to a close, it's never too late to contribute with financial or volunteer support. Please visit [www.uwayapu.org](http://www.uwayapu.org) or phone 905-686-0606 and learn how to make it your Way.



Ontario Power Generation and its employees are proud to be part of the Bowl for Kids' Sake in support of Big Brothers & Sisters of Ajax-Pickering again this year. It's a great event that helps improve the lives of young people in our community.

"Big Brothers & Sisters programs change the lives of just not young people, but also their adult mentors," said Don Terry, Honourary Chair and a former Big Brother of the Year. "The programs are simple, but tremendously powerful."

You can help by bowling on March 24 with the support of sponsorships from your

family, friends, and co-workers. Put together a team to make it even more fun. There are prizes to be won, but ultimately there's no better prize than knowing you have helped a great community cause.

For more information on Bowl for Kids' Sake, year-round programs, and volunteer opportunities, please visit [www.bbandsofap.com](http://www.bbandsofap.com), send an e-mail to [info@bbandsofap.com](mailto:info@bbandsofap.com) or phone 905-831-3777.

## A Snapshot of Highlights from Pickering and OPG in 2009

- Pickering A employees worked more than 3 million hours without a lost-time injury and Pickering B employees worked for more than 5.5 million hours without a lost-time accident..
- OPG earned Gold Award from Electrical Utility and Safety Association --5h year in a row.
- Pickering Nuclear produced 21 terawatt hours of electricity, meeting 15 per cent of Ontario's electricity needs.
- Unit 1 at Pickering had its best production performance in more than 30 years.
- Pickering B's production was up significantly from previous year, supported in part by returning Unit 6 to service two days ahead of schedule from its successful fall outage.
- OPG produced almost two-thirds of the province's electricity and almost 90 per cent of that power was produced with virtually no smog or greenhouse gas emissions.
- OPG was awarded the highest honour achievable from the Wildlife Habitat Council for a company-wide history of excellence in biodiversity.
- OPG submitted the "Environmental Impact Statement" and the Application for "Licence to Prepare Site" for New Nuclear at Darlington.



# MARCH BREAK MADNESS 2010



PICKERING NUCLEAR INFORMATION CENTRE  
(10 A.M. OR 1 P.M.)

MONDAY, MARCH 15

**IT'S A DATE,  
EVEN IF IT IS CLOUDY!**

- KICK BACK, ENJOY THE MOVIE AND PUT THOSE INVENTOR WHEELS INTO MOTION.
- TWO SHOWINGS OF THE POPULAR FAMILY MOVIE "CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS".
- MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 100.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

## SPLISH, SPLASH I WAS TAKING A SWIM



LOTS OF SPLASHING, LOTS OF LAUGHING – AND GREAT EXERCISE FOR ALL. PICKERING RECREATION COMPLEX, 1867 VALLEYFARM ROAD. WE VALUE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE FAMILY FUN, FAMILY FITNESS AND OUR WATER SAFETY MESSAGE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

ADMISSION IS FREE DURING PROGRAM HOURS.  
MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 300.

PICKERING RECREATION COMPLEX  
(7 – 9 P.M.)

## SPECIAL LEGO CREATION GENERATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 TO SATURDAY, MARCH 20



PICKERING NUCLEAR  
INFORMATION CENTRE  
(10 TO 12 PM. – 1 TO 3 PM.)  
MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 400



CALLING ALL LEGO ENTHUSIASTS!  
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THAN-LIFE EIGHT-FOOT STAR WARS HERO – YODA!



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THEIR CREATIVITY!

CHILDREN MUST BE  
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ON OUR MARCH BREAK  
PROGRAM, PLEASE CALL  
THE PICKERING NUCLEAR  
COMMUNITY INFORMATION  
LINE AT 905-837-7272.



*Neighbours*

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**ONTARIO POWER  
GENERATION**



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# Moving To Planning Phase For Darlington Refurbishment



Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has announced an investment strategy for its nuclear generating stations in Durham Region.

First, the detailed planning phase for the mid-life refurbishment of the Darlington Nuclear generating station will proceed, with construction expected to start in about 2016.

“The business decision to move forward with an investment in Darlington comes after very positive outcomes of initial studies on the plant’s condition and continued strong operating performance,” says Bill Robinson, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Refurbishment, Projects and Support.

The next phase of the process will include an Environmental Assessment and an Integrated Safety Review leading to a plan that will define the scope, cost and schedule of the refurbishment project.

OPG will also invest an additional \$300 million in continued operation of our Pickering B station for about 10 years. Following this, we will begin the longer-term decommissioning process as refurbishment for the Pickering B station will not be pursued. The first step in this process is to layup the reactors and place them into safe storage; a major project requiring many highly-skilled and trained individuals.

OPG continues to proceed with work that supports the construction and operation of a new nuclear station located at the Darlington site. The Environmental Assessment and site licence work for a potential new build will continue in parallel with the above investment activities.

Staff currently working at Pickering Nuclear will have future opportunities with the Pickering safe storage project, Darlington refurbishment and operations, and, at potential new build at Darlington.

Extensive safety, environmental and equipment reliability studies conducted at the station concluded the Pickering plant can continue to operate safely and reliably to meet the province’s energy needs through to 2020. OPG has indicated to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, that later this year, it will file a Continued Operation Plan that takes Pickering B to its end of operations.

“OPG is committed to continued business investment in Durham Region to meet the electricity production needs of Ontarians,” said Tom Mitchell, OPG’s President and CEO. “Investing in refurbishment at Darlington and continuing operation at Pickering B provide the best value for the people of Ontario.”

## Our Continued Community Commitment

We appreciate the support of our host community that allows us to operate our nuclear generating stations. We understand that it is a privilege and not a right to do so. With that in mind, we are committed to:

- ✓ Continue our focus on excellence in operating our stations with safety as our overriding priority.
- ✓ Continue our investment for inspection and maintenance of our reactor systems; meeting or bettering all regulatory expectations – an additional \$300 million over the next 10 years at Pickering B.
- ✓ Continue to communicate in an open and transparent manner.
- ✓ Continue to be a positive economic driver in our communities through our operations, projects, and leadership in business building organizations.
- ✓ Continue to be a leader in community building through our Corporate Citizenship Program and employee volunteerism.
- ✓ Continued community involvement during the extensive project work for safe lay up and safe storage of the reactors and decommissioning of the Pickering stations.



## A Message from Wayne Robbins, Chief Nuclear Officer

Our announced investment strategy for Ontario Power Generation's current nuclear assets is the right decision for our company and our employees'

future. More importantly as the people's power company, we are taking these steps because they are in the best interest for electricity consumers in Ontario.

The positive decision on continuing the detailed planning phase for mid-life refurbishment of Darlington was made possible by the strong results of initial studies on the station's condition and its operating performance. It's important to note that design modifications and operations of our Darlington station was based on our experiences at Pickering Nuclear. This experience contributed in no small measure to that success.

The decision not to refurbish Pickering is an emotional one for many – particularly for those of us that spent part of our careers at

that station. Pickering Nuclear's generating stations have been workhorses for the people of Ontario since 1971, producing 672 terawatt hours so far in their lifetime. That's enough energy to power the entire province for more than four years.

Our highly-skilled employees are passionate about their work and the contributions OPG make to the lives of Ontarians by supplying safe, clean, reliable, and cost-effective electricity.

It's that passion, along with a shared commitment to excellence that make me confident that our neighbours in Durham Region and the people of Ontario can count on a successful Darlington refurbishment. Equally, the Pickering stations will continue to operate safely and effectively through to their very last day of service.

In closing, I thank you for continued strong community support that we consider our licence to operate. And I thank our employees for their continued contributions in powering Ontario.



## Energy Minister Supports Nuclear Investment Strategy

Minister of Energy and Infrastructure for Ontario, Brad Duguid has expressed his support on two fronts for Ontario Power Generation's investment strategy for current nuclear assets.

"As Ontario's generating company, OPG's nuclear and hydro fleets are the backbone of the provincial electricity system," said Duguid.

"I support this business investment strategy as it aligns with the government's vision for a clean energy future."

"It is also respectful of employees and it will ensure continued economic benefits to the people of Durham Region and Ontario," added Duguid.

The minister has also confirmed his commitment to bring new nuclear units to Durham's region Darlington site.



## Key To Darlington Refurbishment Success

As the head of the successful Return to Service Project for Pickering Unit 1, Bill Robinson understands what's required for the Darlington Refurbishment project to be successful.

"The key is having a clear understanding of the scope and cost of the work we need to do, well before we start construction," said Robinson, Executive Vice President Nuclear Refurbishment, Projects and Support.

In planning the Darlington refurbishment, Ontario Power Generation will build on the accomplishments and lessons learned during the Pickering A return to service and the Pickering safe storage project as well as from benchmarking other projects within the industry internationally. Pickering Unit 1 had its best year of production in more than 30 years in 2009. As well, the safe storage project for Units 2 and 3 is currently tracking on budget and on time for completion this year.

This phase of the Darlington refurbishment will also reflect the same thorough process undertaken for the Pickering B Environmental Assessment and Integrated Safety Review.

## Pickering Nuclear's Contributions:

We appreciate the support of our host community that allows us to operate our nuclear generating stations. We understand that it is a privilege and not a right to do so. With that in mind, we are committed to:

- ✓ Pickering A and B stations have produced 672 terawatt hours in their lifetime. That's enough energy to power the entire province for more than four years.
- ✓ In 2009, the Pickering B station produced a record amount of energy (about 15 terawatt hours) at a cost to the consumers of 4.8 cents per kilowatt hour. That compares very well with other sources of electricity.
- ✓ In 2009, Pickering Unit 1 had its best year of production in more than 30 years.
- ✓ Contributes to Ontario Power Generation being one of largest employers in Durham Region with highly educated and skilled opportunities now and in the future.
- ✓ Strong economic driver in our communities through our operations, projects, and leadership in community building organizations.
- ✓ Invests more than \$200,000 annually in community partnerships to enhance educational opportunities for youth, environmental stewardship, and community building.
- ✓ Employees across Durham Region donated countless volunteer hours, and more than \$900,000 to charities and community organizations through annual charity campaign in 2009.