

Neighbours

A part of the community since 1978 • Volume 5 • Number 1 • Winter 2002



Welcome Wagon's Linda Roberts visits new resident Kris Morrison

Welcoming New Neighbours

For most neighbours, starting a conversation is as easy as leaning on the fence. That's tough for Darlington Nuclear to match, so we launched a new initiative last fall and reaction has been positive.

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Fun family activities planned!!

We partnered with Welcome Wagon to introduce ourselves to all new Darlington and Oshawa residents and open the door to more exchanges of information. Each new family receives a specially designed portfolio which includes a "Welcome to the Neighbourhood" letter, brochures about our station and Waterfront Trail, and other timely information. We've also included a calling card to encourage new residents to phone with any questions they might have.

Early reports from Welcome Wagon staff about reactions from new residents are very positive. So far, they've paid visits to about 800 homes.

Ecological Effects Review of Darlington Nuclear now available

A summary of an Ecological Effects Review of the potential effects of Darlington Nuclear on the natural environment has just been published.

The purpose of the Darlington Nuclear Ecological Effects Review (DNEER) was to evaluate and predict any potentially significant adverse ecological effects of Darlington Nuclear from historical (construction) and on-going (operational) activities, and to provide

recommendations for monitoring or mitigating these effects.

The review focused on plants, animals and ecosystems. The method used was an ecological risk assessment – a scientific approach to identifying potential ecological risks from human-caused changes. It is based on a step-by-step process for screening out unlikely risks. The review sequence included:

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Site Vice President

We are in for some exciting times at Ontario Power Generation and Darlington Nuclear as we head toward the opening of the Ontario electricity market this spring. As a large electricity generator, OPG will compete with other electricity companies both in and outside the province to supply Ontario's needs. The discipline of a competitive environment should lead electricity companies to reduce costs, develop new products and services and provide better customer service. Our nuclear stations at Darlington and Pickering will play a major role in OPG's competitiveness.

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OPG recently completed a corporate structure review, the results of which were announced to our employees and community stakeholders in January. We are working closely with our employee groups to ensure we have an effective and efficient organization as we move toward the market opening. Of particular interest to the Durham area is a decision to move nuclear support staff from the OPG head office in Toronto to a location closer to the Darlington and Pickering stations. The exact location and timing of this move are not yet finalized, although some staff relocations will take place this year.

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Despite some operational and maintenance challenges that negatively impacted on our electricity production in 2001, our station did enjoy some significant accomplishments last year. Thanks to the efforts of everyone on site, we have achieved a safer workplace. We recently passed 2 million hours worked without a lost time accident. Programs are in place to maintain this excellent safety performance.

On the environmental front, Darlington maintained its ISO 14001 certification after an external audit of our environmental management system. Retention of ISO certification demonstrates that we meet the stringent requirements of this international standard, and that we are committed to achieve excellence when it comes to our environmental performance.

Our employees continued to show strong support of local charities last year as evidenced by results of the annual Charity Drive at Darlington. Through individual donations and pledges, as well as special events, about \$250,000 was raised for a wide range of health, social, youth, seniors, and community organizations in the area. The largest portion - \$58,000 - was directed to the United Way of Oshawa-Whitby-Clarington. OPG also made a donation of nearly \$30,000 to the local United Way.

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In closing, we look forward to the many challenges 2002 will bring and are confident the dedicated, skilled and professional staff at Darlington will be up to the task ahead. For more information about our operation, or if you would like a speaker to address your community group, please call 1-800-461-0034 or visit our Information Centre.

Ecological Effects Review *(continued from page one)*

- Reviewing results of past environmental monitoring;
- Consulting with stakeholders on valued site ecological components;
- Screening to determine the key facility interactions, target biological species and habitats;
- Developing a conceptual model to link emissions to environmental exposures; and
- Characterizing ecological risk and the level of scientific certainty.

Briefly, the review results demonstrated the effectiveness of Darlington's unique condenser cooling water system in minimizing physical and temperature changes to the nearshore lake environment and adult fish populations. No ecological impacts were predicted due to temperature effects. Intake water withdrawals included larval sculpin and aquatic invertebrate plankton, but the ecological significance was uncertain. There were no likely effects from emissions of radionuclides or chemicals. Physical changes to the site during construction likely caused adverse ecological effects due to lake infilling, landfilling, and removal of bluffs and seepage valleys.

There are opportunities at Darlington Nuclear to enhance terrestrial wildlife habitat, the report says. Biodiversity performance monitoring should continue and the core habitat areas should be maintained and connected to off-site natural corridors.

Recommended follow up actions include:

- Enhancing animal habitat and biomonitoring under the site biodiversity management plan;
- Monitoring cooling water intake withdrawals of aquatic organisms;
- Investigating feasible indicator organisms for routine radionuclide monitoring;
- Revising this assessment every three years with the addition of new data.

All of the recommendations have been incorporated into future environmental work programs at Darlington Nuclear. If you would like a copy of the DNEER summary, please contact the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre, Box 4000, Bowmanville, ON L1C 3Z8; call toll free 1-800-461-0034; or email: darlingtonnuclear@opg.com

NUCLEAR PERFORMANCE MONTHLY REPORT CARD now available for December 2001

Ontario Power Generation has issued its monthly report cards for Dec. 31, 2001. These report cards benchmark the performance of OPG's nuclear operations against nuclear industry standards, focusing on public and employee safety and environmental and production performance.

The report cards are made available to a wide range of groups, including stakeholders in communities in which OPG's nuclear generating stations are located, and the media.

The material is also available at the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre, on the Ontario Power Generation Web site www.opg.com and by "Fax-on-Demand" by calling 1-800-238-7718 and asking for story code - 10420.

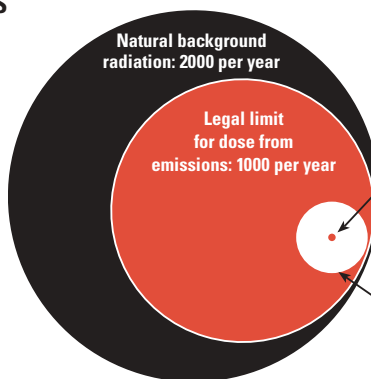


RADIATION INDEX — FOURTH QUARTER 2001 RESULTS

The radiation doses due to emissions are for the most exposed persons living near the Darlington Nuclear site. They would typically apply to persons living just outside the site boundary who are at their residence 24 hours a day, who drink local water, and eat local fish and produce. The doses were calculated using actual data from routine analysis of air, water, fish and vegetation samples, as well as site emission data.

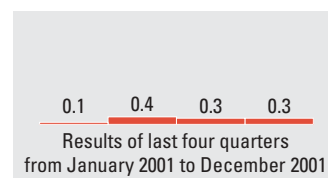
Most persons would actually receive less than the doses indicated because they have different eating habits or live farther away from the station. Radiation doses decrease significantly as the distance from the station increases.

Since the pathway for liquid emissions is less dominant, more than 90% of the radiation dose received from the stations was due to air emissions.



Radiation dose due to emissions from Darlington Nuclear:

Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2001:	0.3
Total for 2001:	1.1



Dose from a single chest x-ray: about 70.0

Dose is reported in microsieverts (μSv), an international unit used to measure radiation dose

Information is prepared by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
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OPG boosts security at nuclear plants

Following the terrorist attacks in the United States last Sept. 11, OPG has bolstered security at its nuclear facilities.

"At OPG, an important priority is and always has been the continued security of our local communities and our employees," says Dominic Iafrate, Site Vice President, Darlington Nuclear.

"From the beginning, security, safety and strength have been key considerations at our facilities. Engineered and built from the foundation up for maximum physical strength, Darlington also incorporates an

extensive range of security features - some visible and some unseen."

While no direct threat was received in Ontario, OPG took immediate action to step up security at its nuclear stations.

And on Oct. 19, 2001, OPG's regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) ordered additional measures to further heighten the security level of Canada's nuclear stations, including improved security screening and enhanced inspection of people and vehicles entering the site.

Another key measure is the on-site presence, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, of specially-trained armed personnel. OPG and Durham Regional Police

have entered into a multi-year security service agreement, which has been praised as a "win-win" scenario.

"Ontario Power Generation is getting a great team of highly-skilled officers, and we will be expanding our tactical capacity without burdening regional ratepayers," says Durham Regional Police Chief Kevin McAlpine. The agreement does not impact the number of police officers on regular duty in Durham Region.

Since the first reactor unit went online in 1990, Darlington Nuclear has had a detailed plan for handling emergencies and practises a comprehensive emergency plan throughout the year, closely coordinating its efforts with municipal, provincial and federal emergency authorities.



Not Just Bowling For Dollars

Early in February, Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Clarington kicked off their annual Bowl For Kids' Sake. Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is proud to be their major partner again this year.

OPG employees, Penny Waghorne and Don Terry were at Liberty Bowl in Bowmanville to help welcome students from Mother Teresa Elementary School in Courtice as they arrived to launch the event. "It's just a great cause and a great organization for us to partner with," says Don. "Penny is a member of their Board of Directors and I'm a Big Brother

In the community

Mentor, so we've experienced the impact of their programs first hand."

OPG supports the fundraising event through a donation from its Corporate Citizenship Program. Employee teams also help out by hitting the lanes —last year they raised more than \$3,000.

For more information on Big Brothers & Sisters of Clarington and their programming, please phone 905-623-6646 or visit their Web site at www.sharetheadventure.com.

New Grade 3 science programs

Darlington Nuclear and Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) will be partners in two exciting, educational programs for Clarington schools beginning in April.

Marvellous Magnets is a half-day program developed to support the Grade 3 science curriculum and is delivered at no cost by

Ontario Power Generation staff. Students discover the many uses of magnets through five challenging activity stations. The program can be delivered in the classroom or at our Information Centre.

Classes visiting our site for the program can add a half-day curriculum-based outdoor science program delivered by CLOCA staff. Students can expend some energy as they enjoy experiencing the environment along the Darlington Waterfront Trail. They will learn how plants grow from seed to maturity while investigating a variety of plant life. They will also use dip nets to learn about life in the large pond on site. CLOCA offers this program at a cost of \$3 per student.

To find out more about these programs, teachers should phone Darlington Public Affairs at 905-623-7122 or CLOCA at 905-263-8201.

(continued on page 4)

In the community (continued)

Walk-a-thon for youth

The Darlington Waterfront Trail will be site of the Eastview Boys' and Girls' Club annual walk-a-thon on Saturday, April 27.

The event, sponsored by Ontario Power Generation, Darlington Nuclear, begins at 9:00 a.m., rain or shine, at the Solina Road soccer fields (east of Courtice Road, south of Highway 401). All proceeds will go to the Eastview Boys' and Girls' Club.

More information and sponsor sheets are available at the Darlington Information Centre (1-800-461-0034) or Eastview Boys' and Girls' Club (905-728-5121).

Spring Water Awareness

Thanks to a new partnership between Ontario Power Generation and the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA), students in Bowmanville and Courtice will have a chance to participate in a Spring Water Awareness safety program for the first time.

This timely program will be delivered in Grade 4 classrooms by GRCA staff during March. Students will learn that spring time is dangerous around water and ice, know what areas in their neighbourhoods to avoid, know what to do if an accident occurs, and feel empowered to watch and warn others who may be in dangerous areas. The highlight of the

program is an experiment which sees students submerge their hands in icy water for 30 seconds.

As an added bonus, each participating classroom will have an opportunity through a random draw to win a two-day residential visit at the Ganaraska Forest Centre or a one-day outdoor science day on Darlington Nuclear's section of the Waterfront Trail.

For more information about the great outdoor programs offered by GRCA, including the Ganaraska Forest Centre, please phone 905-797-2721 or visit their Web site at www.grca.on.ca.

Used nuclear fuel dry storage EA open houses to be held in April

The second of three rounds of public Open Houses will be held in April to explain the proposed used nuclear fuel dry storage project and Environmental Assessment (EA) at Darlington Nuclear. OPG staff and consultants will be on hand to answer questions and to hear your comments on the project and the EA. Everyone is welcome.

The dates and locations of the open houses are as follows:

Wed. April 17, Courtice Faith United Church, 1778 Nash Rd.

Thurs. April 18, Oshawa Royal Canadian Legion, 471 Simcoe St. S.

Tues. April 23, Port Hope Lion's Recreation Centre, Gifford St., between Pine St. and Bramley St.

Wed. April 24, Bowmanville Clarington Beech Centre, 26 Beech Ave.

Thurs. April 25, Port Perry Scugog Community Centre, 1655 Reach St.

All EA Open Houses will be held from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. We hope you can drop by and make your views known.

For further information, please call us at 1-888-413-2226 or write to us at: Darlington Nuclear, c/o Megan Hearne - DUFDSP, Box 4000, Holt Road South, Bowmanville, ON L1C 3Z8 or visit our Web site at: www.opg.com/DarLEA

March Break FREE OPG activities...

Monday March 11

Signs of Spring - 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All activities will be on the Darlington Waterfront Trail (Park Road Access). **Dress Warmly!**

- Hike the trails
- Signs of Spring exploration with Nature Trails Unlimited
- Animal Scavenger Hunt with Friends of Second Marsh
- Horse-drawn Wagon Rides
- Hot chocolate and yummy treats around a camp fire!

Tuesday March 12, Wednesday March 13 and Thursday March 14

Maple Time Fun* - 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All activities will be at the Purple Woods Conservation Area Maple Syrup Festival (Simcoe Street North at Coates Road). **Dress Warmly!**

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

- Nature Crafts with Friends of Second Marsh

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- Maple Taffy Making and Tasting

*Note: \$5.00 per family entrance fee to Purple Woods Conservation Area Maple Syrup Festival.



Friday March 15

Drive for Green - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All activities will be at the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre.

Ideal for inventive young minds in Grades 4 - 8

The future is upon us; come learn more about the Drive for Green Power.

- Solar race vehicle from Queen's University
- Electrical vehicle from Courtice Secondary School
- Power Portfolio - tattoos and Power Pick game
- OPG's Green Power projects
- Engineers Are Everyday Heroes

Neighbours

Darlington Neighbours

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