

Neighbours

A part of the community since 1978

Winter 2006



Darlington recognized for environmental stewardship

Darlington Nuclear has been recognized once again for its strong stewardship of the environment, its partnerships and habitat education programs at our 1,000-acre plus site and within the surrounding community.

Last November, Darlington was recertified by the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) both as a certified habitat, based on meeting the WHC standards of land stewardship, and as a 'Certified Corporate Lands for Learning' site.

The Wildlife Habitat Council is an international non-profit, non-lobbying group of corporations, conservation organizations, and individuals dedicated to protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat. Created in 1988, WHC helps large landowners, particularly corporations, manage their unused lands in an ecologically sensitive manner for the benefit of wildlife. WHC also works to broaden understanding of wildlife values.

Darlington's commitment and efforts in these areas earned the recertification of a Certified Habitat. The Corporate Lands for Learning certification is based on the use of land to educate the community, employees, and youth about the environment, conservation, stewardship, and safety.

In addition to the recertification, Darlington was also one of only four organizations nominated by the council for the very prestigious "Corporate Habitat of the Year" award. As recognized leaders in this area, staff members from Darlington Nuclear were asked to present our program at a workshop during the WHC annual symposium in Baltimore, Maryland.

In their presentation, Beverly Forget of Darlington Public Affairs and Susan Bragg from Darlington's Environment Department outlined the many programs Darlington partners on with local corporate citizens, environmental groups, community members and schools. They highlighted the accomplishments that have been achieved through the work of these partnerships.

The Darlington Nuclear site is now host to almost 900 species of plants and animals and includes a 7.5 km public hiking trail. Darlington staff provides on-site public programming and leadership in tree planting, bird habitat and other environmental initiatives with its community partners.

"We are very fortunate to have so many involved and caring partners in this community who share Darlington Nuclear's values in the area of environmental stewardship and education," says Darlington Public Affairs Manager Vanessa Hughes. "Together we can help protect our local wildlife diversity and habitat while ensuring our local youth are prepared to be tomorrow's environmental leaders."

in this issue

Our powerful spirit of giving

pg. 2

**Investing in the health
of Durham residents**

pg. 2

**Strong performance by
OPG's nuclear fleet**

pg. 3

March Break Madness

pg. 4



Decommissioning and waste funding set aside

OPG has set aside the full amount of money required for decommissioning its nuclear generating stations and 60% of the costs for long-term disposal of its used fuel.

"As the generator of nuclear wastes, OPG believes having the necessary decommissioning and waste management funds collected and set aside is the right thing to do," said Jim Hankinson, OPG's President and CEO. "Setting aside funds today takes the burden off future generations."

Since its inception in 1999, OPG has set aside about \$400 million per year in segregated funds to ensure the necessary funds to cover the future costs for decommissioning and nuclear waste management are in place. A

Decommissioning Fund and a Used Fuel Fund are held by an independent third party custodian. At the end of December 2005, the net asset value of the segregated funds was approximately \$6.8 billion.

In determining the long-term costs for decommissioning its nuclear generating stations and disposing of its nuclear waste, OPG has drawn on considerable international experience and has employed recognized independent third party consultants to validate assumptions and estimates. OPG regularly submits the evaluations to its regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), for review and acceptance.

OPG remains committed to fully funding both funds.



Darlington employees Kim Doyle and Jane Gray surround Durham Regional Police Constable Martin Franssen as they load non-perishable food and toys donated in our December drive.

Our Powerful Spirit

Darlington Nuclear employees have a strong tradition of contributing to the Durham community and families in need of a little extra help, both during the holiday season and throughout the year.

In 2005, Darlington employees gave \$335,000 to charities of their choice through the OPG Employee Charity Campaign, which allows employees to contribute to their favourite charity organizations through one-time donation or automatic pay withdrawals, plus other fundraising efforts.

Employees at Darlington went all out to ensure families in need throughout Durham were provided some assistance this past holiday season. Lead by Darlington's Kim Doyle, volunteer employees collected over \$5,000 in just a few hours on a cold and snowy December morning. The money was used to buy items for youth of all ages. Employees also donated non-perishable food items.

In total, it took 6 vans to collect all the toys and food donated by Darlington employees.



A message from Gregory Smith 2005 - A Great Year for Darlington

In 2005 Darlington Nuclear moved closer to achieving our goal: to be among the best nuclear

generating stations in the world. In terms of safety, reliability, and cost control the past year was a great one for Darlington.

Safety is a top priority at OPG and this is evident in Darlington's excellent 2005 safety record. We bettered our internal targets and achieved top quartile performance compared to similar organizations. In May, OPG became the first and only electrical utility in Ontario to achieve the Electrical & Utilities Safety Association (E&USA) gold award.

The people of Ontario expect Darlington to operate reliably. Key measures of reliability are forced loss rate and capability factor. Darlington's 2005 forced loss rate of 1.31 per cent was the best it has ever been. Our capability factor (per cent of time we were capable of achieving 100 per cent output) was the best of any nuclear station in Canada in 2005 – making Darlington the best performing nuclear station in Canada for the past two years.

Reliable operation of OPG's nuclear plants also has a downward influence on electricity prices. The average weighted electricity price in Ontario for 2005 was 7.21 cents per kilowatt hour. By comparison OPG's price for nuclear power, 4.95 cents per kilowatt hour, is 31 per cent lower. Last year, we achieved our financial targets and helped to keep overall costs under control.

Darlington staff made a positive contribution to the community through their participation in many agencies and events. Our staff gave \$335,000 to worthy organizations through our employee charity campaign.

Although we had a very good year it does not deter us from the vision of becoming one of the world's best nuclear generating stations. If you drive by the station you will see a large stone Inukshuk at the entrance. This is the symbol we use to remind us of the journey we are on to achieve that vision.

Last of all I want to assure you that all of us at Darlington understand that operating Darlington Nuclear in your community is a privilege - not a right. You have my commitment that we will work to continue earning that privilege throughout 2006.

Gregory Smith
Senior Vice President
Darlington Nuclear

OPG invests in healthcare for Durham residents and employees



Helen Brenner, Lakeridge Health Corporation, Pat McNeil, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and Jim Lavelle, vice-chair of the LHW Foundation Board visit Mark Harris (seated) during one of Mr. Harris' twice-weekly dialysis treatment sessions at Lakeridge Health Whitby.

Ontario Power Generation has announced a \$60,000 contribution, over two years, to the Lakeridge Health Regional Dialysis Program as part of its continuing commitment to healthcare in Durham Region.

"As one of Durham Region's largest employers, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is committed to supporting access to vital services close to home for our employees and the communities in which we operate," says Pat McNeil, Senior Vice President Nuclear Strategy and Support.

"This contribution is an investment. The high-calibre employees we hope to attract look for quality of service in healthcare and education when considering where they will work and live with their families," McNeil adds.

The contribution to the hospital was announced Feb. 1 at the Lakeridge Health Whitby dialysis treatment centre. The program provides dialysis treatment, close to home, for 250 patients, with 400 more currently in pre-clinic assessment.

"Working from its Lakeridge Health Whitby location, the program provides dialysis service to residents across Durham, allowing patients to live productive, meaningful lives while receiving the care they require," says Barry Mount, Chair, Lakeridge Health Whitby Foundation. "We couldn't do this without the commitment of our community partners like OPG."

Ontario Power Generation is proud to support this campaign alongside our community partners like the Town of Whitby, other businesses and service organizations.

Darlington Recertified to ISO 14001 Standard

An external audit of Darlington Nuclear's environmental management system (EMS) late last year, has resulted in our recertification to the ISO 14001 standard.

ISO 14001 certification is based on an international set of benchmarks used to measure our environmental performance and the processes we use to achieve them.

Darlington's Senior VP Gregory Smith is very proud of the accomplishment. "In 1997, Darlington was the first electricity

generating facility in North America to be ISO 14001 certified. We set the standard for the continent and for OPG, as the rest of our facilities have since earned their certification.

"Achieving recertification each year means the auditors recognize our efforts to continuously improve our environmental initiatives and commitment. Most importantly, it is a continued demonstration of our employees' ongoing commitment to operate Darlington in a manner which exemplifies environmental excellence. It is what our neighbours have come to expect of us and we will give them nothing less," said Smith.

Darlington Nuclear and all OPG generating stations maintain ISO 14001 certification as part of our commitment to sustainability.

Output increases at nuclear sites

Pickering B and Darlington nuclear stations were the top performers in 2005 as OPG's nuclear production increased over 2004.

OPG's nuclear production for the year totalled 45 terawatt hours (TWh), an increase of 6.4 percent over 2004. This represented 41.5 percent of OPG's total 2005 generation.

Production from Darlington Nuclear's four units in 2005 was 27.49TWh, up 3.77 percent over 2004's 26.49TWh. Darlington accounted for 61 per cent of OPG's nuclear production in 2005.

Year-end results show that electricity output from Pickering B was up significantly in 2005. Its four reactors produced a total of 13.75TWh - almost a third of OPG's nuclear production for the year, and represented an increase in output of 10 per cent from its 2004 total.

Pickering A also registered a production increase in 2005. Total output was 3.55TWh, an increase of 9.51 percent compared to 2004. However, the output was below projections based on the return of Unit 1 to service in the fall of 2005. Unit 4 had to be removed from service during the second quarter to carry out inspection of the feeder tubes that carry heavy water from the reactors to the steam generators.

A terawatt hour is the equivalent of one billion kilowatt hours. The average home uses between 800 and 1,000 kilowatt hours a month.

WE HAVE A STORY WE'D LIKE TO SHARE...

As one of the area's leading employers we're involved in many activities and programs in our community. Some of our employees are leaders in their field of expertise. We are excited about what they do at work and in the community.

We can provide a speaker for your next professional association, service club or industry seminar. Whether it's a specialized area, technical subject or a general interest topic, we have an interesting speaker for your group - free of charge.

To learn about our speakers program "The Podium", planned events and our nuclear operations, call us at (905) 623-7122.



putting our energy to good use
www.opg.com

ONTARIO POWER
GENERATION

March Break **MADNESS** 2006

Looking for something fun to do with your family during March Break? Join Darlington Nuclear for great family fun. There is something for everyone! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

FREE

Monday March 13, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

SIGNS OF SPRING

Darlington Waterfront Trail

Dress warmly. Explore the trails looking for signs of spring. Nature activities with **Friends of Second Marsh**. Horse-drawn wagon rides. Yummy treats around the campfire.

Tuesday March 14 & Thursday March 16, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FUN ON THE FARM

WindReach Farm

Enjoy a day on the farm with your family. Walk along the nature paths, meet the animals, visit the stables and farm museum, make a craft with **Friends of Second Marsh**, enjoy a wagon ride and much more. Dress Warmly.

A \$5 donation to WindReach would be greatly appreciated. WindReach is a charitable organization that offers a working farm experience specially-designed to enrich the lives of persons with disabilities. Fully wheelchair accessible.



Skating Party

Wednesday March 15, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Darlington Sports Centre Pad A

Sharpen your blades, lace up your skates, put on your helmet and take a spin around the ice. **Darlington Sports Centre** is located at 2276 Taunton Rd. in Hampton, west of Hwy # 57 on the north side.

FREE

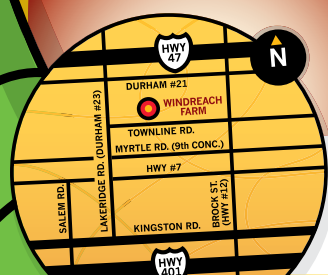
Friday March 17, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

EARLY SETTLERS

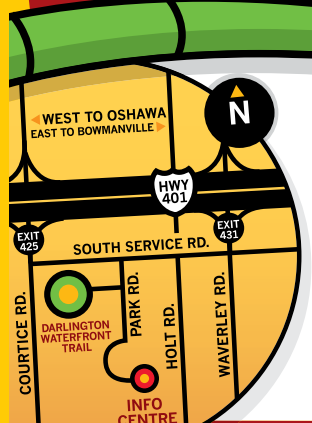
Purple Woods Conservation Area

Maple Syrup Festival

Enjoy a fun day of activities with the **Pickering Museum Village**. Rope-making, candle-dipping and baked beans around a campfire. Dress warmly. Note: \$5 per family park admission fee to Purple Woods. All OPG sponsored activities are **FREE**.



ONTARIO POWER GENERATION



ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

For more information on our March Break program, as well as other Darlington Nuclear Information Centre events, please call **905.623.7122** or e-mail darlingtonnuclear@opg.com.



Olympic-sized Support: Big Brothers and Sisters of Clarington's Executive Director Lisa McNee-Baker (left) accepts the hand-off of support from OPG's Cate Martin and Beverly Forget.

Start a friendship that could last a lifetime

Our children are our future, which is why Ontario Power Generation is proud to be the lead sponsor of the Bowl for Kids Sake, for the seventh year in a row.

Our sponsorship role is just another part of our philosophy of putting our energy to good use in the communities of Durham.

Big Brothers and Sisters not only depends on funds raised through these events, but more importantly, the involvement and interaction of committed volunteers.

In Durham there are many Little Brothers and Sisters who are in need of a Big Brother or Sister match or an in-school mentor. If you would like to share some personal time with a child, you may have something special to offer. A valuable friendship and bond may develop that could last a lifetime.

Big Brothers and Sisters of Clarington
905-623-6646

Big Brothers and Sisters of Ajax-Pickering
905-831-3777

Neighbours

Darlington Neighbours is published for the neighbours of Ontario Power Generation at Darlington Nuclear.

Mailing Address:
Ontario Power Generation
Darlington Nuclear
Box 4000
Bowmanville, Ontario
L1C 3Z8
www.opg.com

For more information contact:
Vanessa Hughes
(905) 623-6670 ext. 7443

Internet E-mail:
vanessa.hughes@opg.com

ONTARIO POWER GENERATION