

Neighbours

A proud part of the community since 1978

Summer 2007



Celebrating our Community Partnerships

Ontario Power Generation is very proud of the partnerships we have with many environmental, educational and community groups in Durham Region and across Ontario. At Darlington, our annual Scout Tree Planting took on special significance as this year marks the 100th Anniversary of the Scouting Movement world-wide. To celebrate this milestone, ten large white pines were planted in addition to 1,500 seedlings. Almost 200 youth from the Lakeshore Ridge Area of the White Pine Council enjoyed a sun filled morning of tree planting.

During our 12-year partnership, scouts, cubs and beavers have planted more than 24,000 trees, shrubs and seedlings on the Darlington site. Darlington's Director of Work Management Andy Schwabe (far right), brought his shovel to help out.

Durham Region Health Department study concludes nuclear communities no impact to health

Findings from a recent study by the Durham Region Health Department conclude a healthy relationship between Ontario Power Generation's Durham nuclear plants and the host communities they operate in.

The Health Department has recently issued an update to their 1996 report on radiation and health in Durham Region.

'Radiation and Health in Durham Region 2007' is a descriptive study that examined rates of various cancers and congenital anomalies and

stillbirths in areas surrounding the Pickering and Darlington Nuclear stations.

This study concluded that "disease rates in Ajax-Pickering and Clarington did not indicate a pattern to suggest that the Pickering NGS and the Darlington NGS were causing health effects in the population. Many of the same patterns were shown in Simcoe County in particular and some in Halton Region. Given the extremely low levels of radiation exposure from the stations, it would be unlikely that any effects would occur." The report noted there are communities, including Toronto, where background radiation levels are actually higher than those found in Pickering and Clarington due to other sources of radiation in those communities.

A copy of this report is available from the Durham Region Health department website: www.region.durham.on.ca.

Questions about the study or requests for presentations on 'Radiation and Health in Durham Region' can be made through health@region.durham.on.ca.

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Celebrating the "Power Within" our Employees



OPG is committed to recognizing employee excellence. Each year, employee achievements are honoured province-wide through the OPG's Power Within Achievement Awards. Employees are encouraged to nominate their colleagues in special recognition of their originality, determination, perseverance, innovation and commitment to excellence in categories such as Leadership, Health and Safety, Environment, Community Service, and Business Excellence.

The employees of OPG Darlington Nuclear are proud of two of our own employees who have been honoured with a 2006 Power Within award.

Janet and the WiN Durham team help to educate women across Durham Region and beyond about career opportunities within the nuclear industry, through outreach activities and mentoring opportunities.

Goodwill Ambassador: Tao (Thomas) Qu, Senior Officer, Nuclear Performance Improvements

Thomas is a dedicated community leader, serving as Chairman of the Chinese Professionals Associations of Canada (CPAC) and championing the recognition of foreign-trained professionals in Canada. Thomas led the effort that culminated with the passage of Ontario's



Power Within award winners from Darlington Nuclear: Janet Donegan (left) and Thomas Qu (right) pictured with Darlington's Senior Vice President Wayne Robbins.

Global Success: Janet Donegan, Section Manager, Maintenance Programs

Janet is an active volunteer with "Women in Nuclear (WiN)." WiN Global is an international group with over six thousand members, made up mostly of women working in the nuclear industry in over 60 countries around the world. Janet is a member of the executive of WiN's Durham chapter. In 2006, record-breaking attendance was recorded at the WiN Global conference held in Waterloo, Ontario, thanks to the efforts of Janet and her team.

According to Darlington's Senior Vice President Wayne Robbins, "Janet was instrumental in the development of the conference and an active participant during the conference."

new bill 124, the Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act, 2006, and organized the

first and largest community forum with representatives from 34 organizations.

Thomas also led the organization of the "The Same Song Concert" at Toronto's Rogers Centre in January 2006, an event that attracted over 21,000 people and was praised by Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty as a "shining example of the goodwill that bring two nations closer together."

"Thomas is a leader in the community and has been a primary driver in major community cultural events and relief efforts. He is dedicated to helping many people in need, especially newcomers to our country."

Congratulations to Janet and Thomas.

A message from Wayne Robbins



It is hard to believe 2007 is nearing the half-way mark, although Darlington employees have already accomplished a tremendous amount.

I am very proud of our entire Darlington team and the station performance so far, particularly the achievements in the area of employee safety. Recently we surpassed two million hours worked without a lost-time accident, which places us in the top quartile of the international nuclear industry and is a clear demonstration of the commitment to safety at Darlington and OPG.

It's all about performance, but our most important performance measure is not how many terawatts of electricity we produce. It is that all employees go home safely to our family and friends, every day of the year. Our staff build safety into every task, every day. I invite you to read more about our operational achievements on page one of this newsletter.

In May Unit 4 was returned to service following a successful planned maintenance outage - with a strong safety record and ahead of schedule. Improved outage performance is one of the key priorities for us in 2007. Well-executed outages are important for ensuring the plant runs safely and reliably during the peak demand periods. Performing maintenance outages on schedule and within budget is equally important for OPG's bottom line.

While we have enjoyed strong station performance this year, we never stop striving to be among the world's best nuclear generating stations, operating at the highest levels of safety, efficiency, reliability, cost-effectiveness and environmental responsibility. We do this through our operating experience program, by hosting industry experts and peer groups from around the world to share our experiences and learn from their expertise.

We owe it to our local community residents to operate our station in this manner, to the residents of Ontario, and also to each other - our fellow employees at Darlington Nuclear.

I look forward to the opportunity to meet you in the community.

Wayne Robbins
Senior Vice President
Darlington Nuclear

Successful Unit 4 Outage Highlights Strong Station Performance

The skill, teamwork, and unwavering focus on safety by Darlington's employees have resulted in strong station performance to date in 2007. The station has met or bettered the targets set in the areas of safety, efficiency, and reliability - in many cases to world-class industry levels.

Our most important performance measure is safety - for both the public and our employees. Recently, Darlington employees surpassed two million hours working safely without a lost-time accident. Achieving this important milestone demonstrates OPG's commitment to workplace safety and the importance our employees place on building safety into each and every task, every day. This milestone places Darlington in the top quartile of safety performance in the international nuclear industry.

Net electricity generation (the amount of electricity we produce) to the end of May was 11.02 TWh, which is better than target. Darlington has also achieved excellent performance in reliability, which is tracked by measuring our Forced Loss Rate. This number increases any time we are short one megawatt of what we expect to produce, and is affected by unplanned production losses. A lower number is better for this indicator, and to-date this year Darlington is operating with a Forced Loss Rate of less than one per cent. This compares favourably with some of the best reactors in the world.

Another important measure is how well we execute our planned maintenance outages. Outages are important to maintain station equipment to high standards ensuring it will operate safely and reliably until the next planned outage. Darlington employees successfully completed a major maintenance outage on Unit 4 - safely, on schedule and on budget.

The two-month outage involved almost 17,000 tasks, 28,511 inspections, replacement of back-up power batteries and breakers, turbine/generator maintenance, and the reconfiguration of 480 fuel channels. This intense period of work activity also required an additional 400 skilled workers to assist in performing the work. With maintenance work behind us on this unit, it is ready for the peak demands of the summer period.

Safe and Secure at OPG's Nuclear Facilities

Security Enhancements at Darlington Nuclear

As part of the ongoing enhancements to security, OPG has begun work on a new barrier system around the protected area of Darlington Nuclear. While unlikely to be visible by community members, the enhanced fencing is aimed at deterring and thwarting any plans of unwarranted intrusion, which is one of our regulator's requirements in its Nuclear Security Regulations.

The first phase in 2007 will involve the installation of razor mesh wire and razor wire pyramid bundles, which will follow the existing taut wire fence around the protected area. Enhanced lighting, detection equipment, and additional cameras are scheduled for installation in 2008. These changes will complement the existing on-site armed response team who are also dedicated to the safety and security of the plant.

"The razor wire portion of the fence will be physically isolated and inaccessible to staff and the public, thus eliminating any risk to personal safety," says Stan Harvey, OPG Vice President of Nuclear Security.

Work on this enhanced physical barrier system has also started at Pickering Nuclear. New signage has recently been added around both the Darlington and Pickering sites which ensures that everyone understands the presence of a 24/7 armed response force on both sites to ensure the safety of the plants. Increased security measures are for the protection of our staff, the community and the integrity of the station.

OPG applies to bring the Darlington Waste Management Facility into Service

Public participation in the licensing hearing is encouraged

With construction of the Darlington Waste Management Facility nearing completion and commissioning of the new facility ongoing, OPG has applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for an operating licence. The operating licence will allow OPG to bring the facility into service.

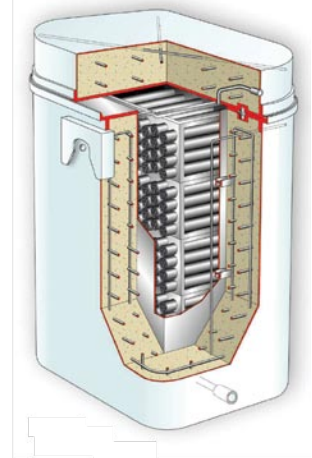
The CNSC will hold a two-day public hearing to consider OPG's application. Hearing Day One was held on June 22 and Day Two is planned for September 12, 2007. Both hearings are scheduled to be held at the CNSC Public Hearing Room, 14th floor, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario. The public is invited to comment on OPG's application on Hearing Day Two. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission by August 13, 2007 at the address below.

Secretariat, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

280 Slater Street, P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9
Email: interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca

When the Darlington Waste Management Facility goes into operation, the first storage building

will be capable of storing about 500 dry storage containers (DSCs), each holding 384 used nuclear fuel bundles.



Dry storage containers are extremely robust and provide an effective barrier against radiation. Each DSC is made of reinforced high-density concrete approximately 510 mm (20 inches) thick and is lined inside and outside with 12.7 mm (half-inch) thick steel plate. DSCs are engineered to last at least 50 years and will provide safe, interim storage for Darlington's used fuel while long-term management programs are put in place.



Tuesdays on the trail



Tuesday, July 3: **Eco Games**

Learn about wildlife while playing some exciting nature games with experts from Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. Then make a cool craft.

Tuesday, July 10: **Pirates on the Trail**

Join the hunt for pirate treasure, hear stories of swash-buckling adventure and make a fun pirate craft with the buccaneers of the Clarington Public Library.

Tuesday, July 17: **Artist's Date**

Mark this date on your calendar, pack your lawn chair and, with a local artist from the Clarington Visual Arts Centre, discover how you can turn a black and white sketch into a colourful masterpiece.

Tuesday, July 24: **The Good, the Bad & the Bugly**

Investigate the small world of insects with Inspector "B. Tull", go on a bug hunt and play a game with experts from Darlington Provincial Park. Then make a craft.

Tuesday, July 31: **Boots and Bugs**

Wear your boots as you dip nets into the pond. Discover life in the water with experts from Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority. Then make a craft.

Tuesday, August 7: **Birds of Prey**

Meet a live bird of prey and learn about this species at risk, the theory of flight, habitat and what you can do to help from the Canadian Peregrine Foundation. Then make a craft with Darlington Provincial Park.

Tuesday, August 14: **"What's Bugging You?" Scavenger Hunt**

Learn to follow a map and compass while searching for hidden treasure boxes that will test your knowledge about insects with experts from Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority.

Tuesday, August 21: **Plein Air Painting**

... is painting in the open air. Join an artist from the Clarington Visual Arts Centre to "see it, simplify it, then state it" with coloured & graphite pencils by focusing on colour and value.

Join us for Tuesdays on the Trail

Looking for something fun to do with your family this summer? For eight Tuesdays in July and August join us for fun and educational activities on the Darlington Waterfront Trail (Park Rd. entrance). All activities are **free** and can be enjoyed by all ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Due to the nature of program activities, day care groups cannot be accommodated. Join us at 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. Activities are approximately two hours in duration.

For more information about summer programs, please call the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre at 905-623-7122.

Ontario Power Generation nuclear plants make safe neighbours

At Ontario Power Generation, safety is always our first priority.

OPG meets all regulatory requirements of Canada's nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, and in fact, has set voluntary targets for its operations that are much lower than even those set by the regulator.

For example, OPG has stringent controls on our release of radiation to the environment. Using the ALARA (As low as reasonably achievable) approach, OPG has maintained radiation release levels that are a small

fraction of the regulatory limit – less than one percent. This includes the amount of tritium released from our plants.

Although the Ontario regulatory limit for tritium drinking water levels is 7,000 Becquerels per litre, OPG has set its own internal target at just 100 Bq/l. In 2006, water tested at the closest municipal water treatment plants to our stations measured between five to seven Bq/l, a trace amount. In fact, OPG routinely samples (daily) at local municipal water treatment plants and the results are consistently below our internal target of 100 Bq/l.

As part of our on-going community radiation monitoring, OPG regularly tests drinking water in the vicinity of our nuclear facilities and our results are reviewed by a number of agencies, including the Durham Health Department.

For more information on OPG's commitment to the environment, visit our website at www.opg.com.

To request a presentation on this topic for your community group, call Darlington Nuclear at 905-623-7122.

Neighbours



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GENERATION**