

WINTER 2015

A proud part of the community since 1978

DARLINGTON NUCLEAR

Neighbours Newsletter

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OPG'S DARLINGTON ENERGY COMPLEX WOWS THOUSANDS

Darlington Nuclear welcomed about 3,500 awestruck and appreciative visitors to the world-class nuclear refurbishment training facility in November. The public was invited to see the full scale mock-up of a nuclear reactor being used for training and tool development. Stay tuned for another opportunity to visit the facility later this year.

OPG Darlington and Courtice High School Nominated for Community Partner Award

OPG's biodiversity efforts were recognized at the 26th Annual Wildlife Habitat Council Symposium, where Darlington was recertified for Wildlife at Work and Corporate Lands for Learning programs. Darlington's partnership with Courtice Secondary School was selected as a finalist in the Community Partner of the Year Award, recognizing our strong collaboration on conservation and stewardship education projects.



Left to right: Margret O'Gorman, Wildlife Habitat Council President, Beverly Forget, Corporate Relations Darlington, Meredith Crouch, Environment Operations Support Darlington.

ONTARIOPOWER
GENERATION



SVP Message, Brian Duncan

The Darlington Nuclear Information Centre was officially opened nearly thirty years ago by Ontario Premier Bill Davis, and welcomed over 10,000 visitors in its first year of operation. Since then, our information centre has

remained an integral part of the community, and has hosted a wide range of visitors for tours, events and activities. Imagine our delight when over 3,500 recently attended our latest open house to view the relocated information centre and training and mock-up facility. The feedback was impressive and for those who missed it, the information centre is open Mondays through Fridays. We're also planning another mock-up facility tour later this year.

At the open house I had the opportunity to meet a few of our local retirees, and to revisit our nuclear history through their stories. Nearly sixty years ago, many of them played a role in helping Canada become one of the first countries in the world to produce nuclear power.

We could not have predicted that nuclear energy would become such a critical piece of the climate change solution. Next to hydro power, nuclear energy is the largest source of low-carbon electricity in the world, generating zero greenhouse gas emissions during operation.

Refurbishment of Darlington's four reactors will allow us to continue being part of the climate change solution by producing more than 20 per cent of Ontario's electricity. This fall, OPG will be applying for a renewed operating licence that would see us through to the end of refurbishment. The hearings on relicensing will be held locally this November, and public involvement is a key part of the hearing process. If you are interested in participating please contact the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (see link to the right).

As always, if you have questions about our operations, or are part of a community group that would like to receive a station update, our Information Centre staff would be pleased to assist. I hope you find the rest of the newsletter informative, and we look forward seeing you out on the waterfront trail now that spring has finally arrived.

Brian Duncan,
Senior Vice President,
Darlington Nuclear

Construction around Darlington Nuclear: Update

This spring, the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) will continue construction work on the Holt Road/401 interchange and the realignment of South Service Road required by the Highway 407 East Project. To ensure the safety of trail and soccer field users, there may be intermittent temporary closures of Darlington's portion of the Waterfront Trail. Once reinstated the trail will be designed and

constructed to current municipal standards affording barrier-free access to users.

OPG has been working closely with the MTO, the Municipality of Clarington and the Darlington Soccer Club to minimize the impact to recreational and trail users. Should you have any questions, please contact our information line at (905) 623-7122 or DarlingtonNuclear@opg.com.

Darlington Nuclear Licence Renewal

OPG has submitted an application to renew the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station power reactor operating licence to 2028. This licence term would cover the time required to complete the refurbishment of all four Darlington reactor units. It would also be the first step in a new licensing framework being developed by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), one that allows longer term licences consistent with international practice.

As per their practice, the CNSC has announced a two-part public hearing will be held in the summer and fall of 2015 to consider OPG's licence renewal application. The public hearing will be webcast on the CNSC website. The Commission encourages members of the public to participate in the process via written and oral submissions.

Visit <http://www.opg.com/generating-power/nuclear/stations/darlington-nuclear/Pages/Darlington-Nuclear-Licence-Renewal.aspx> for information about the hearing and to review documents supporting the application.

Update on OPG's Deep Geologic Repository Project

A decision on OPG's proposed DGR Project for Low and Intermediate Level Waste is expected by May, 2015. The public hearing took place last September giving participants – including members of the public, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and OPG - the opportunity to thoroughly review and provide comments on new information requests issued by the Joint Review Panel (JRP) following the first set of hearings in October 2013.

The JRP has reviewed the closing remarks and determined it has all of the necessary information. The public registry was closed on Nov. 18, 2014 and no further information will be accepted. The JRP will now prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) report no later than May 6, 2015. The JRP will submit its EA report to the federal Minister of the Environment outlining its conclusions, rationale and recommendations.

The federal Minister of the Environment will then have 120 days to render a decision. The JRP's report will be available to the public around the time that it is submitted to the federal Minister. Visit <http://opgdgr.com> for more information.

Regulator's Annual Report: Nuclear Plants Operated Safely

Darlington Nuclear Achieves Top Canadian Ranking for Fifth Year in a Row

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has given Darlington station its highest rating for the fifth year straight.

Darlington Nuclear received an overall integrated rating of “fully satisfactory,” with all other Canadian Nuclear power plants (including Pickering Nuclear) receiving a rating of “satisfactory.”

The rating by the regulator follows on the heels of Darlington’s recent excellent peer evaluation, and maintains Darlington’s standing as among the top performing nuclear plants in the world.

“Safety is paramount to our operations and we continue to focus on operational excellence and continuous improvement,” said Glenn Jager, OPG’s Chief Nuclear Officer. “This assessment demonstrates the commitment to a culture of safety by the staff and management at our nuclear sites.”

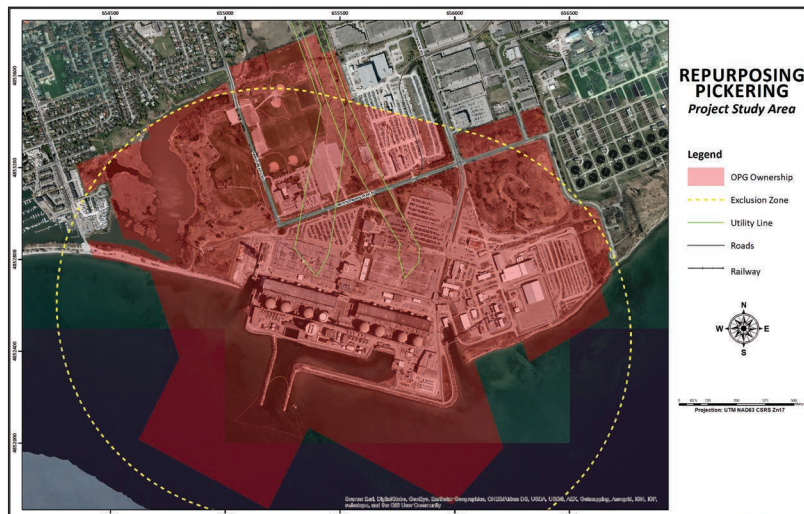
Each year, the CNSC releases a report on the safety performance of Canada’s nuclear stations. The report assesses how well plant operators are meeting regulatory requirements and program expectations. These reports are part of a rigorous industry safety culture and demonstrate a high degree of transparency.

To view the CNSC 2013 Integrated Safety Assessment, visit the CNSC’s website at: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/reactors/power-plants/safety-performance-reports/index.cfm>

STAY CLEAR STAY SAFE

As spring arrives, OPG is reminding people of the dangers around hydroelectric stations and dams with changing weather conditions.

Obey the warning signs, and respect fences, booms and barriers. They are there for your safety. Learn more about safety around hydroelectric stations and dams by visiting www.stayclearstaysafe.ca.



Repurposing Pickering – Project study area

however some existing structures and areas of the site will be immediately available for other uses, with the potential to continue providing economic benefits to OPG, the City of Pickering, Durham Region, and Ontario. To that end, OPG has launched “Repurposing Pickering” - a study to explore the possibilities. As part of the study, we are seeking input from many different groups, including the community. Visit OPG’s Repurposing Pickering website to learn more about the study and to submit your ideas.

Planning for the future

Pickering Nuclear is planning for the future. As outlined in Ontario’s Long Term Energy Plan and OPG’s current business plan, the Pickering station is expected to stop generating electricity around the year 2020. This follows OPG’s decision in 2010 not to refurbish the Pickering station and instead invest significantly in the safe and reliable continued operation of the reactors through to the end of the station’s operating life.

Since then, a lot of work has been underway to prepare, determining the technical activities that must take place as well as the impacts these changes will have on OPG, our employees, and the local community.

After commercial operations cease, the station will be placed in a “safe storage” state and eventually decommissioned. The full process will take decades

THUNDER BAY GENERATING STATION NOW FUELLED BY ADVANCED BIOMASS



The conversion from coal to advanced biomass at OPG's Thunder Bay Generating Station is complete ahead of schedule and under budget. The station has been converted to use advanced biomass, a renewable, clean and dispatchable fuel.

"Using advanced biomass to generate renewable electricity is a new area of development for the electricity industry," said OPG President and CEO Tom Mitchell. "OPG is pleased to be at the forefront of this exciting new and innovative technology."

The advanced biomass pellets used at the Thunder Bay station are made from lumber mill sawdust.

Advanced biomass has similar handling and storage characteristics to coal. It contains about 75 per cent less nitrogen oxide than coal emissions and virtually no sulphur dioxide.

"Ontario is a leader in building a clean energy system, and the completion of the conversion to use advanced biomass at Thunder Bay is key to building a cleaner future for the people of our province," said Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy. "Congratulations to OPG for their commitment to this initiative and recognizing the long-term benefits cleaner electricity generation will bring to the people of Ontario."

'MAKE A CONNECTION' with your local farmers



OPG is a proud supporter of Durham Region Farm Connections, recipient of the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence. Over 150 farmers donate their time, produce and farm animals each year to help educate their neighbours about agriculture.

More than one thousand local residents recently attended their annual Open House to meet farmers and their livestock from across Durham Region and to participate in hands-on farming demonstrations.

Visit durhamfarmconnections.ca for more information on the event, virtual farm tours, educational materials and more.

OPG's Lower Mattagami hydroelectric project in service

Ahead of schedule and on budget

Northern Ontario's largest hydroelectric project in 50 years is now fully in service thanks to a unique partnership between the Moose Cree First Nation and OPG. Six new units on the Lower Mattagami River will add 438 megawatts of greenhouse gas-free electricity – or enough capacity to meet nearly three times the peak demand of Thunder Bay.

As part of the Amisk-oo-Skow agreement, the Moose Cree First Nation will own a 25 per cent equity stake in the project. Moose Cree businesses have also been awarded over \$300 million worth of sub-contracts since the project began four years ago. At peak construction, 1,800 people worked on the project including over 250 First Nation and Métis workers.



Neighbours



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