



November 1st, 2024

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St.
PO Box 1046 Stn B
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Re: Support for Ontario Power Generation's Darlington New Nuclear Project

Dear Members of the Commission,

On behalf of the Durham Business Alliance, representing the collective voice of businesses across the eight municipalities of Durham Region, I am writing to express our strong support for Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington New Nuclear Project (DNNP) and their application for a Licence to Construct a small modular reactor (SMR). Offering our support for this project is an easy choice for our group, especially given OPG's commendable safety record. This project aligns with one of the DBA's core strategic pillars, energy, which is critical to the economic prosperity and future sustainability of Durham Region and beyond.

This project represents a tremendous opportunity for Durham as the host community, driving economic benefits through the local workforce and partnerships with businesses across the region. The DNNP's construction will bring sustained demand for Durham's hotels, restaurants, and service providers, and many Project Partners have already engaged local businesses to support their work. OPG's commitment to a "Made in Ontario" approach has created and will continue to create meaningful opportunities for Durham-based enterprises. Additionally, OPG's support for local initiatives—including healthcare, hospice, and community projects—demonstrates their investment in Durham's long-term prosperity and community well-being.

Additionally, at the national level and speaking as members of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, this also an area of strategic focus for the CCC and their message that access to clean and reliable energy is key to unlocking the full potential of businesses across Canada. The growing demand for energy, coupled with the urgent need for clean energy sources, places projects like the DNNP at the forefront of ensuring that Canadian businesses remain competitive in the global economy. We believe that clean energy solutions are foundational to achieving economic resilience and growth, and OPG's leadership in this space is commendable.

Durham Region is home to a diverse range of industries that rely on a stable energy supply to drive innovation, support operations, and fuel growth. Further, speaking as CEO of the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, our proximity to OPG's existing and future generating capacity acts as a compelling driver for attracting foreign direct investment, especially in our manufacturing sector. The development of SMR technology at Darlington is a critical step toward enhancing the capacity of our region and, more broadly, all of Canada to meet the rising energy demands while adhering to strict environmental standards. This project not only supports our local economy but also positions Durham as a leader in the clean energy transition.

While the Canadian economy faces challenges, we believe that strategic investments in clean energy infrastructure will be pivotal in reinvigorating key sectors and fostering long-term economic stability. OPG's SMR project represents a forward-thinking initiative that will enable businesses to access the energy they need to innovate and thrive.

We urge the Commission to approve OPG's application, recognizing the profound impact this project will have on advancing clean energy technologies, supporting economic growth, and positioning Durham Region as a hub for innovation in Canada's clean energy landscape.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JK' with a long, sweeping underline.

Durham Business Alliance

Jason King, Chair, Durham Business Alliance, CEO Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce

Bonnie Wrightman, Co-Chair, Durham Business Alliance, CEO Clarington Board of Trade

cc.

Alli Leetham, CEO Ajax/Pickering Board of Trade

Karey-Anne Large, CEO Whitby Chamber of Commerce

Jim Norwood, President Newcastle Chamber of Commerce

Kristen Meyer-Creamer, North Durham Chamber of Commerce/Scugog Chamber of Commerce