

August 11, 2017

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Dear Ms. Frigault,

On behalf of the Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI), I would like to express our support for Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) planned Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF) at their Chalk River site. This project is major part of CNL's plans for the revitalization of the Chalk River Laboratories which is an important asset for the Canadian nuclear industry and for many OCNI member companies.

The Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI), is the leading and trusted voice of the Canadian nuclear supply chain actively promoting the production of safe, clean, and reliable nuclear electricity. Founded in 1979, OCNI is an association of more than 220 leading Canadian suppliers to the nuclear industry in Canada and abroad.

OCNI member companies collectively employ more than 12,000 highly skilled and specialized people who manufacture major equipment and components and provide engineering services and support to the 19 operating CANDU nuclear power plants in Canada as well as to CANDU and LWR plants in offshore markets. OCNI companies also work on medical and other safe applications of nuclear technology. OCNI companies have successfully commercialized innovative products and services that were initially conceived and tested at the Chalk River Laboratories. CNL has developed and maintained the Canadian nuclear technology platform that has underpinned the Canadian nuclear industry for more than 60 years. As a direct result of the Canadian government investment in the Chalk River Laboratories, nuclear power now provides more than 60% of Ontario's electrical energy and contributes over \$6.6 B/year to the Canadian economy with export sales over \$1.2 B/year.

The proposed NSDF project at the Chalk River site will be a state of the art long term solution for waste materials accumulated over more than 65 years of site operations. This waste is now held in interim storage. Much of this waste will consist of decommissioned buildings and infrastructure which served as the backbone of the Canadian nuclear industry since its inception. These facilities were integral in the development of both CANDU technology and ground-breaking medical treatment technology - both of which have impacted and improved the lives of millions.

The NSDF will also contain small quantities of waste from other Government of Canada nuclear decommissioning activities along with waste from other Canadian sources, such as hospitals and universities. The NSDF will enable CNL to meet its obligation, as the Chalk River Site licensee, to responsibly manage the site's long-term waste liabilities arising from its program to reduce radiological risks to workers, the public and the environment.

We have examined CNL's Environmental Impact Statement and are confident that CNL has proposed the best possible solution to meet its waste management obligations factoring environmental, logistical, and geographic considerations. We believe that the experienced and skilled team at CNL, complemented and supported by world-leading international experts, is competent and ready to build and manage the NSDF.

CNL has been proactively engaging with members of the community through a series of public information sessions that have informed citizens on the nature and scope of the project. CNL staff have endeavored to answer all questions and address all concerns of local residents. In addition, CNL has engaged with indigenous communities and considered their asserted rights, historical or traditional practices and land claims. CNL's commitment to transparency and fulsome engagement in the EIS process have been exemplary.

We encourage the timely approval of this project thereby enabling CNL to undertake its site revitalization plans and to expand its leadership role as Canada's center for science and nuclear innovation. The ambitious plan proposed for the iconic Chalk River Laboratories will be a model demonstration of how innovation and economic growth can work in tandem with improving environmental performance.

OCNI looks forward to participating the CNSC Hearing on this project in 2018.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Ron Oberth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Ron Oberth  
President and CEO