

**DNGS Community Advisory Council**  
**Virtual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 25, 2022**  
**Highlights**

**Site Update**

Richard Geofroy presented an update on the operating status of the site units and of the refurbishment of Unit 3. He noted that the refurbishment of Unit 1 begins in February. Richard also talked about: plans to produce Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99), a medical isotope, on the site; the decision to work with GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy to deploy a small modular reactor (SMR) at Darlington; the site's production of Helium-3; and other matters.

**OPG Enterprise Emergency Management**

Stan Whatmough talked about emergency preparedness highlights from 2021 and plans for 2022. Emergency Response Organization (ERO) priorities for this year include: a full drill schedule; maintaining strong partnerships with the community and nuclear industry; external evaluations; and various organizational improvements.

**Public/Community Affairs Report**

Carrie-Anne Atkins presented an update on OPG activities in the community. OPG being the lead sponsor powering Windreach Farm's first Holiday Festival of Lights Drive-Thru; employee support for the Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Food and Toy Drive; and the Bring Back the Salmon program were among the items mentioned.

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**CAC:**

Jim Boate  
Janice Jones  
Sheila Hall  
Penny Smith

Regrets:

Shirley Crago  
Jim Cryderman  
Mary Ann Found  
Brenda Metcalf  
Mary Novak

**OPG:**

Carrie-Anne Atkins  
Richard Geofroy  
Stan Whatmough

**Hardy Stevenson and Associates:**

Francis Gillis  
Dave Hardy

**Topic #1: Land Acknowledgment, Health & Safety Moment**

Following a land acknowledgment, Senior Vice President Richard Geofroy added that OPG is committed to fostering mutually beneficial relations with Indigenous people across Ontario.

Carrie-Anne Atkins remarked that she has just finished a 12-lesson Indigenous Canada on-line course through Alberta University that explores Indigenous histories, storytelling and contemporary issues in Canada. Carrie found the course very informative. She can share a link to information about the course to any interested CAC members.

Richard noted that today marks two full years of living with COVID in Canada, and that Ontario recently recorded its one millionth case. OPG started out 2022 managing the risk of the Omicron variant. The company has extended its work-from-home policy until

further notice. OPG is hosting a vaccination clinic for employees, contractors and their immediate families at the Darlington Energy Complex. As an alternative to three-ply surgical masks, OPG is now supplying N95 and KN95 masks for on-site staff. OPG is now keeping an eye on the mental health of staff members.

## **Topic #2: Review of Minutes**

The minutes from the joint DNGS/PNGS meeting of Dec. 7, 2021 were approved without changes.

## **Topic #3: Site Update**

Richard Geofroy, Senior Vice President, Darlington Nuclear, presented a site update:

- Units 1, 2, and 4 are operating at or near full power. Unit 3 is in refurbishment.
- The refurbishment of Unit 1 begins in February. This will mark the first time in the course of the project that two units are in refurbishment at the same time.
- We are now in Day 508 of the 1,096 days of Darlington's refurbishment project, approximately 40 days ahead of schedule.
- The World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) assessment of Darlington Nuclear in the fall is expected to be rigorous.
- Later this year, Unit 2 will be retrofitted for the production of Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99), a medical isotope. The decay isotope of Mo-99 is used in approximately 80 percent of nuclear medicine procedures.
- The latter half of 2021 saw Unit 3 complete the world's first ever combined pressure and calandria tube (PT-CT) removal on a CANDU reactor. Calandria tube installation is going well, now about a quarter of the way to completion.
- Unit 2 is running well, excellent performance of a refurbished unit. OPG is looking for the same success for Unit 3 when it comes back on next year. OPG learns from each outage and applies that learning to the next.
- On Dec. 1, 2021, OPG announced that it will work with GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy to deploy a small modular reactor (SMR) at the Darlington new nuclear site, the only site building an SMR in Canada. The goal is for the SMR to be completed as early as 2028. This will be a boiling water reactor and will be smaller than CANDU reactors.

- A by-product of the Tritium Removal Facility (TRF) at Darlington is the production of Helium-3, which has important uses in supercomputing and in medical procedures.
- Through the months of January and early February, OPG is rolling out its 2022 Business Plan to Darlington employees. This will cover the company's strategy and how Darlington Nuclear fits into that strategy.

Richard responded to Council questions:

- *Did you say that the refurbishment of Unit 3 is at the half way point?*  
No, I meant the whole refurbishment project is at the half way point. Units 1 and 4 remain to be refurbished.
- *When did you say Unit 1 is going into refurbishment?*  
In February, just weeks away.
- *Where on the property will the SMR be located?*  
It will be east of Holt Road and south of Service Line.

Richard also updated the CAC on a development at Pickering Nuclear:

- On Dec. 16, OPG sent a formal letter of intent to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regarding Pickering operations to the end of 2025 that would require Commission approval. In 2018, the CNSC had granted the station a 10-year licence permitting commercial operations to the end of 2024. OPG is seeking to sequentially bring Pickering Units 5, 6, 7, and 8 out of service over the course of 2025. (Pickering Units 1 and 4 will be sequentially brought out of service in 2024, as permitted by the current operating licence.) The OPG proposal to extend the commercial life of Units 5 – 8 into 2025 is in response to a request from Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), who require the extension as they arrange for replacement sources of power during 2025.

#### **Topic #4: OPG Enterprise Emergency Management**

Stan Whatmough, Section Manager Emergency Preparedness, talked about Emergency Preparedness (EP) highlights from 2021 and plans for 2022 (Appendix 1).

- Stan noted that, at OPG in 2021, Nuclear Emergency Preparedness integrated corporate Emergency Management to create Enterprise Emergency Management. This integration allowed enhanced oversight for business continuity, crisis management (e.g., Covid) and the power grid.

- Other initiatives during the year included: a number of drills and exercises; distribution of 285,000 Potassium Iodide (KI) pills; innovation to increase mobile and satellite phone capability; and COVID protocols within the Emergency Response Organization (ERO).
- The WANO (World Association of Nuclear Operators) evaluation of Pickering Nuclear recognized Enterprise Emergency Management’s “remote evaluation” of drills as an industry leading strength, allowing OPG to maintain ERO proficiency in spite of drills being virtual. Elements of the ERO approach include screen sharing, use of a blue tooth head set and a video camera that takes in the whole room where the drill is taking place. This finding came at a time when the industry as a whole saw a decline in proficiency of drills due to drills being virtual.
- Stan then talked about 2022 priorities, including continued implementation of a full drill schedule (five at Darlington and six at Pickering) through the year. Exercise Unified Command will be headquartered at Darlington Feb. 23 – 25. Additional 2022 priorities: maintaining strong partnerships with the community and nuclear industry; external evaluations; technology upgrades; improving organizational agility; supporting new nuclear build at Darlington (SMR); and streamlining levels of Emergency Response Organization staffing and facilities.

Carrie-Anne showed a video on the Exercise Unified Command, which is available on the OPG website. **[Carrie-Anne, could you please insert the link to the video.]** She noted that the virtual drill, coming up at Darlington in February, is based on a simulated nuclear emergency at the station. A public communications focus group will be held on Day 2 of the drill (Thursday, Feb. 24). The focus group will be held remotely, with a Teams Meeting link available to participants all day. CAC members are cordially invited to join the focus group. For further details, please contact [carrie-anne.atkins@opg.com](mailto:carrie-anne.atkins@opg.com).

## **Topic #5: Public/Community Affairs Report**

Carrie-Anne Atkins, Manager Corporate Relations and Communications, presented an update on OPG activities in the community:

- OPG was the lead sponsor powering Windreach Farm’s first Holiday Festival of Lights Drive-Thru event from Friday, Dec. 10 through Tuesday, Dec. 14. Festive booths with lots of lights were situated around the farm for the drive-thru.
- Throughout November and December, over 6,000 people experienced an outdoor, magical walk-through event at the Durham Region Kids Safety Village, located in Whitby.
- OPG employees at Darlington and Pickering generously support the Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Food and Toy Drive through annual gate collections and gift donations. This year the employees donated the most toys

and non-perishable goods in the history of OPG's campaign. With the support of the Darlington and Pickering stations and other organizations across the nuclear fleet, OPG was able to raise over \$10,000 to directly support this drive. (Richard Whatmough suggested sharing OPG's heartwarming pictures of the Toy Drive with the CAC.)

- On Dec. 14, OPG received a certificate of appreciation from the Pickering Rotary Club for partnering with the club last June on the Great Lakes cleanup initiative, which collected over 500 pounds of trash from the lake.
- On Jan. 21, OPG representatives shared information with the William Treaty First Nation on: submission to CNSC on a Cobalt-60 licence amendment; Darlington Waste Management Facility re-licencing application to the CNSC; and Pickering 25, Pickering End of Commercial Operations.
- On Jan. 20, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) kicked off a 10-week virtual Bring Back the Salmon program. OPG has been a leading partner of the program since 2011.
- Building on the success of last year's Virtual Power Kids program, plans are well underway for the return of the program this year. This past summer, the program reached 70,000 school kids and other members of the public over five weeks.

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## **Topic #6: General Questions**

There were several further questions from the CAC:

- *June is Official Bike Month in Durham Region. Clarington Mayor Foster will be making an announcement about this year's event. Is OPG involved?*  
Carrie-Anne: That's a good suggestion that I can take back to OPG.
- *Are there any updates about the new OPG building in Clarington?*  
Richard: I will bring back information on that at the next CAC meeting.

## **Topic #7: Concluding Remarks**

Richard said that he is always interested in feedback from the CAC; for example, are OPG presentations at the right level of detail? He thanked Council members for their attendance and participation.

## **Topic #8: CNSC News**

For selected news items from the CNSC, please see Appendix 2.

### **Forthcoming Meetings**

#### **Darlington Community Advisory Council (Virtual)**

Tuesday, February 22, 2022  
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

#### **Joint Darlington/Pickering Community Advisory Councils**

Tuesday, April 19, 2022  
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm