

## Integrating the lessons from Japan into the OPG Darlington New Nuclear Project

Lessons learned from Japan will be incorporated into the environmental assessment, planning and design for OPG's new nuclear units at Darlington.

Even prior to the events in Japan, a key decision at this stage of the project was a determination of whether the site is suitable for a new nuclear power plant given seismic and other geological conditions. As part of the site preparation licence, OPG had to undertake extensive studies to confirm site suitability, including

- A seismic hazard assessment;
- A flood hazard assessment, which looked at the potential for tsunamis; and
- Extreme weather assessment, including floods, tornadoes, etc.

The studies have confirmed that the site is suitable. The Environmental Assessment public hearings process will test that work.

Secondly, OPG and Ontario are in the early stages of the approvals process for a new nuclear plant, a process which is precautionary and adaptive:

- It is lengthy – it will be almost 15 years from the decision to start the process to when a new plant could be operational at Darlington.
- Multiple approvals are required - during that time there are many decisions that need to be made, three separate licences required from the CNSC, other approvals sought, and public hearings when all of the information is scrutinized in an open and transparent fashion.
- New information is constantly brought forward and incorporated into these decisions and approvals steps, continuous learning is a cornerstone of the nuclear industry.

Once the facts regarding the events in Japan are known – that information will be brought into the decision steps noted earlier – they will be considered in subsequent design work and licensing steps.

## OPG response to the Japan nuclear events

Though the situation is still evolving, OPG and other organizations have formed working groups worldwide to review what we already know about what occurred in Japan.

OPG and Bruce Power also committed to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) that they will review actions implemented to ensure that they are robust and that they capture any lessons learned from the event. Both organizations will set up a joint committee to review the experience from Fukushima Daiichi. Teams have been formed within OPG Nuclear to start this work immediately. There will be much more information to learn over the coming weeks and months, and those lessons will be applied to nuclear operations.