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## **REFURBISHMENT AND OPERATION OF DARLINGTON WILL CREATE \$89.9 BILLION IN ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

*Conference Board of Canada cites refurbishment as a critical source of job creation*

**Toronto** - Refurbishing Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington Nuclear Generating Station, which starts tomorrow, will create important long-term economic benefits for workers and companies across Ontario, according to [a detailed study](#) by the Conference Board of Canada.

The study says the [economic benefits](#) of the project and the 30 plus years of operations following project completion will total \$89.9 billion.

"The boost to economic activity would have far-reaching and long-term effects on the Ontario economy," said Pedro Antunes, Executive Director and Deputy Chief Economist, the Conference Board of Canada. "The operational expenditures associated with the Darlington Station through 2055 will lift employment by roughly 555,000 person-years in Ontario over the life of the station, with Darlington serving as a critical source of job creation for Ontarians, both within and outside the utilities industry."

The economic benefits are in addition to the 30 plus years of electricity that is free of greenhouse gas and smog causing emissions. A study conducted by Intrinsic Environmental Science, which was released last week, showed continued operations of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station will remove the equivalent of two million cars from Ontario's roads annually.

"These reports show clearly that nuclear power will continue to play a major role in Ontario's future economic and environmental success," said Jeff Lyash, OPG's President and CEO.

The Darlington Nuclear Generating Station provides about 20 per cent of the power used in Ontario, or about one in five homes and businesses. OPG is also planning to continue to operate its Pickering Nuclear Generating Station until 2024. The recent Speech from the Throne indicated this will save Ontario's electricity customers \$600 million and will also provide a clean energy source during the Darlington Refurbishment.

### **KEY FINDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE BOARD REPORT**

- The combination of refurbishment work and operations would lift employment by 704,112 person-years.
- The ongoing operation of Darlington Nuclear is expected to boost personal income in Ontario by an average of \$1.6 billion per year from 2017 to 2055, or by a total of \$61.4 billion.
- Household consumption will increase by \$39.7 billion, which would be spent on shelter, food, clothing, vehicles and other household items.

- Corporate profits before tax would increase by \$7.0 billion over the same 39-year period, which would increase business investment by an additional \$3.3 billion.
- Higher labour income, increased corporate profits, and the purchase of supplies, raw materials, and services would all contribute to increased government tax revenues.
- The ongoing operation of Darlington Nuclear is projected to result in a \$9.3 billion increase to provincial government revenues.
- The federal government would collect \$13.8 billion in revenue, while local municipalities in Ontario would collect \$356 million.

## **ABOUT OPG**

OPG provides about half of the electricity used in Ontario and more than 99 per cent of the power it produces has no greenhouse gas or smog causing emissions. OPG's power is priced 40 per cent lower than other generators, which helps moderate customer bills.

- [Continued Operation of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station: An Impact Analysis on Ontario's Economy](#)
- [Investing In Ontario – Continued Operations of Darlington Reactors](#)

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