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Pickering B Refurbishment Study - Summary

The Pickering B Nuclear Generating Station has four CANDU reactors which have been producing electricity for more than 25 years.

Since 2006, OPG has been undertaking a very thorough analysis of the environmental, safety and economic impacts associated with potentially refurbishing Pickering B. Two of the regulatory processes completed were the Environmental Assessment and the Integrated Safety Review.

Environmental Assessment

On January 26, 2009, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) concluded the refurbishment and continued operation of Pickering B is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, taking into account the identified mitigation measures.

The CNSC's decision reflects the results of a comprehensive environmental impact study that was conducted, having generated more than 4,000 pages of documentation. OPG's study involved extensive stakeholder input from the community, elected officials, and many local, provincial and federal agencies to ensure we completed the most thorough EA possible.

Integrated Safety Review

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has completed the final Integrated Safety Review (ISR) report for the Pickering B station.

The report concluded that the existing Pickering B station demonstrates a high level of compliance with modern codes and standards. The objective of the ISR was to determine, by means of a comprehensive assessment of Pickering B Station, the following:

- Extent to which the plant conforms to modern high-level safety goals and requirements;
- Extent to which the licensing basis remains valid;
- Adequacy and effectiveness of the arrangements that are in place to maintain plant safety for long-term operation;
- Design and operational improvements required to address gaps with respect to modern safety requirements identified by the ISR process.

OPG established the objectives and requirements for the ISR in consideration of the requirements of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

The 20-volume ISR report, completed over a three-year period and spanning more than 5,000 pages, is a comprehensive assessment of plant design, condition and operation.

For More Information, Contact:

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