
News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CNSC Announces Decision on Environmental Assessment Guidelines for the Proposed Refurbishment and Continued Operation of the Pickering B Nuclear Generating Station

Following a public hearing held on January 24, 2007 in Ottawa, Ontario, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) announced today its approval of guidelines for an environmental assessment of a proposal by Ontario Power Generation Inc. to refurbish the Pickering B Nuclear Generating Station Units 5, 6, 7 and 8 with a view of extending their operating lives until 2060. Pickering B is located in the City of Pickering, Ontario.

The environmental assessment is required, and will be conducted, under the provisions of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. The Commission decided that it will not, at this time, refer the project to the federal Minister of the Environment for referral to a mediator or review panel.

In accordance with the approved Environmental Assessment Guidelines (EA Guidelines), CNSC staff will prepare an Environmental Assessment Screening Report (Screening Report) for the Commission's consideration at a future public hearing. If the Commission concludes from the Screening Report that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, taking into account the appropriate mitigation measures, the Commission may proceed with a consideration of the related licence application.

During the public hearing on the Environmental Assessment Guidelines, the Commission considered written submissions and oral presentations from CNSC staff, Ontario Power Generation Inc. and 64 intervenors.

The *Record of Proceedings, including Reasons for Decision* is available upon request by contacting the Secretariat at the coordinates below. Transcripts of the hearing are available on the CNSC Web site at www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca, or by contacting the CNSC.

The CNSC regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment and to respect Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

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