



ONTARIO
CLEAN AIR
ALLIANCE

November 1, 2016

VIA EMAIL: dshields@pickering.ca

Ms. Debbie Shields
Clerk
City of Pickering
One The Esplanade
Pickering L1V 6K7

Dear Ms. Shields:

Re: A Plan for the Immediate Dismantling and Decommissioning of the Pickering Nuclear Station After it is Shutdown

I am writing to request that Pickering City Council pass the following motion:

"The City of Pickering requests the Government of Ontario to direct Ontario Power Generation to develop a plan to immediately dismantle and decommission the Pickering Nuclear Station after it is shutdown."

According to the International Atomic Energy Agency:

"The preferred decommissioning strategy shall be immediate dismantling."¹

According to the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD):

"The closure of a nuclear facility and its subsequent removal has a major impact on local employment and economy. Immediate dismantling is more likely associated with a smooth transition and could ease local implications. In the local public opinion immediate dismantling often has the better acceptance as deferral might result in abandonment of the facility and a failure to ensure continuing safety."

¹ International Atomic Energy Agency Safety Standard Series, No. GSR Part 6, *Decommissioning of Facilities: General Safety Requirements*, (Vienna, 2014), page 12.

And

"In the past radiological aspects, in particular the decay of radionuclides during the period of safe enclosure, were a determining factor in the selection of a decommissioning strategy. In the meantime, techniques are available and have been successfully applied for immediate dismantling of nuclear facilities without compromising radiological safety."

And

"The availability of an operator and of qualified staff influences the decommissioning strategy. Over long periods of time operators may change or even disappear and qualified staff may not be available, in particular in the case of phasing out nuclear power."²

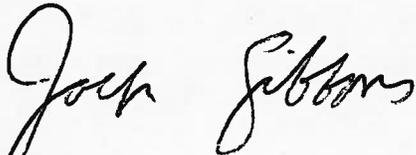
According to a report prepared for Ontario Clean Air Alliance Research by Torrie Smith Associates (attached), the immediate dismantling and decommissioning of the Pickering Nuclear Station would create "16,000 person-years of direct employment between 2016 and 2030, and more than twice this many when indirect and induced employment impacts are included".

According to Torrie Smith, the cost of immediately dismantling and decommissioning the Pickering Nuclear Station would be \$4.1 billion. This cost would be financed by Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Nuclear Decommissioning Fund which had a balance of more than \$7 billion at the beginning of 2015.

In contrast, OPG's planned approach is deferred decommissioning – the reactors are put in a state of "safe shutdown" after defueling and dewatering and are left idle for 30 years or more before final dismantlement and disposal. Under OPG's proposed approach the decaying Pickering Nuclear Station would remain on the Pickering waterfront until 2070 or beyond.

I would also like to request the opportunity to make a delegation to Pickering City Council and/or one of its Standing Committees on this matter.

Yours truly,



Jack Gibbons
Chair

² Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, Working Party on Decommissioning and Dismantling, *Selection of Strategies for Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities: A Status Report*, (February 8, 2006), page 8.