

DARLINGTON NEW NUCLEAR POWER PLANT PROJECT

JOINT REVIEW PANEL

PROJET DE NOUVELLE CENTRALE NUCLÉAIRE DE DARLINGTON

LA COMMISSION D'EXAMEN CONJOINT

HEARING HELD AT

Hope Fellowship Church
Assembly Hall
1685 Bloor Street
Courtice, ON, L1E 2N1

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

**Volume 2
REVISED**

JOINT REVIEW PANEL

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1 Courtice, Ontario

2

3 --- Upon commencing on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at
4 9:01 a.m.

5 --- STATEMENT BY CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM:

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
7 very much.

8 I believe you've had your time.
9 We'll start the proceedings and I would ask that
10 you move a little bit to one side or the other so
11 that we can -- this proceeding may start.

12 I think we've given ample time for
13 photo ops. If you're not prepared to move, we'll
14 adjourn the hearings until such time as we can
15 proceed in an orderly manner and a fair manner.

16 With that, we'll take a short
17 adjournment until we can proceed in an orderly
18 manner.

19 Thank you.

20 --- Upon recessing at 09:01 a.m.

21 --- Upon resuming at 12:44 p.m.

22 --- STATEMENT BY MR. DENIS SAUMURE:

23 MR. SAUMURE: Good afternoon, my
24 name is Denis Saumure, Legal Counsel for the Joint
25 Review Panel.

1 I will now read a statement as
2 directed by the panel chair.

3 Ontario Power Generation has
4 applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
5 to seek approval to prepare a site for the
6 construction and operation of nuclear power
7 reactors on the existing Darlington nuclear site
8 within the municipality of Clarington, Ontario.

9 An agreement to establish a Joint
10 Review Panel for the new nuclear power plant
11 project by OPG has been signed between the Minister
12 of the Environment and the Nuclear Safety
13 Commission on January 2009 which constitutes a
14 panel of the Commission under Section 22 of the
15 *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.

16 The Joint Review Panel has a panel
17 of the commission under Section 22 of the NSCA, has
18 the powers of a court of record described in
19 Section 20 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.

20 Public hearings to review the
21 proposed project have been scheduled to take place
22 from March 21st to April 8th, 2011. The Canadian
23 Nuclear Safety Commission has leased the premises
24 at Hope Fellowship Church located at 1685 Bloor
25 Street, Municipality of Clarington, Ontario, to

1 hold the said public hearings.

2 Subsection 20-6 of the NSCA
3 empowers the Joint Review Panel to take such
4 measures as it considers necessary to maintain
5 order during the proceedings before it and in
6 particular when they limit the participation in the
7 proceedings of/or eject from the proceedings any
8 person who disrupts the proceedings and where the
9 person is ejected, continue the proceedings in the
10 person's absence.

11 Subsection 20-7 of the *Nuclear*
12 *Safety and Control Act* states that a peace officer
13 shall provide such assistance as a member of the
14 Commission may request for the purpose of
15 maintaining order during the proceedings before the
16 Commission.

17 The Joint Review Panel hereby
18 requests that the Durham Regional Police take the
19 proper actions to maintain order during the
20 proceedings and eject from the proceedings any
21 person that refuse to cooperate and are disrupting
22 the proceedings.

23 Those refusing to leave the
24 premises as requested will be removed as per the
25 *Trespass to Property Act* and related criminal code

1 statutes. And the document is signed by Mr. Alan
2 Graham.

3 We now ask everyone to leave the
4 room.

5 On vous demanderait à tous de bien
6 vouloir quitter la sale.

7 --- Upon recessing at 12:47 p.m.

8 --- Upon resuming at 2:02 p.m.

9 --- OPENING REMARKS:

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Well, good
11 afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

12 Thank you -- I thank everyone
13 first of all for their patience in helping us
14 getting through this situation. It was regrettable
15 that such actions were necessary to provide an
16 orderly process to proceed.

17 As a panel, we respect the points
18 of view of every person and the process is set out
19 to have everyone's views heard and the points of
20 view seen.

21 Yesterday, we ruled that the
22 hearings would proceed. And rules are rules. This
23 hearing will proceed in an orderly, fair and
24 courteous manner. We have set aside three weeks
25 for interventions and for participants.

1 Many have taken the time out of
2 their very busy schedules to be here and we all
3 must respect that fact. Whether we proceed here or
4 in another venue, we are going to proceed.

5 We have also indicated that the
6 record will not be closed until such time as the
7 panel is satisfied that it has sufficient
8 information to make a recommendation.

9 And with that, I will turn my co-
10 chair here to -- co-manager -- just got promoted,
11 co-manager to read introductory of the process
12 which we're going to follow this afternoon which is
13 going to be altered slightly to accommodate one of
14 the interveners -- or one of the presenters who has
15 other arrangements.

16 MS. MYLES: Thank you, Mr. Graham.

17 Good afternoon everyone, I'm Debra
18 Myles, I'm one of the co-managers for the panel.

19 I'd just like to address a few
20 administrative issues before we get going, the
21 first thing the agenda. So we've had a bit of a
22 late start today so we hope to get through the
23 entire agenda as it was -- revised agenda as it was
24 laid-out.

25 We're going to switch one of the

1 presenters, as Mr. Graham mentioned, and that would
2 be the presentation from the Canadian Environmental
3 Assessment Agency, we're going to have that first.

4 And that will be followed by the
5 three presentations that were requested by the
6 panel as a result of the situation in Japan. And
7 then the rest of the agenda today will roll out as
8 it was laid-out in the agenda.

9 We will proceed this afternoon for
10 approximately three and a half or so hours and
11 break for dinner and then reconvene at seven
12 o'clock tonight.

13 I hope that's agreeable and we
14 appreciate everyone's flexibility.

15 A few other administrative
16 matters, we have simultaneous translation of this
17 proceeding and all proceedings. The headsets are
18 available just at the back of the room, French on
19 channel 2 and English on channel 1.

20 To make the transcripts as
21 meaningful as possible, please identify yourself
22 before speaking.

23 The written transcript that's
24 being created for these proceedings will reflect
25 the official language of the speaker. The audio

1 files and the transcripts will be posted on the
2 Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry internet
3 site for the project.

4 If you're scheduled to make a
5 presentation at this session, I'm sure that you're
6 already here and have been here for a while. Just
7 please check in with Julie at the back of the room
8 to -- so that she knows that you're here and
9 prepared to make your presentation.

10 We'll have to -- the Chair will
11 decide as the proceedings go along today where the
12 opportunities for questions will be. Normally
13 they're at the end of each presentation.

14 If you do have a question that you
15 would like to put the Chair for a presenter, please
16 speak with Julie again and she will take your name
17 down and let us know about that.

18 Okay. That's about all I have to
19 say on administrative matters right now.

20 So Mr. Graham?

21 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
22 very much, Debra.

23 We'll now proceed. And I believe
24 the first presenter this afternoon is going to be
25 CEAA.

1 with some of the observations I intend to offer to
2 you this afternoon.

3 I also took note of your remarks
4 yesterday and your desire that presenters do not
5 systematically read their written submissions, so I
6 don't intend to do that today.

7 Environmental assessment is a
8 planning tool that is used across the world to
9 identify, assess and mitigate the environmental
10 effects of a project before decisions are made in
11 the context of the *Canadian Environmental*
12 *Assessment Act*, and I'll refer to it under the
13 acronym of CEAA for now.

14 EA is used as a tool to inform
15 federal decision-makers, known as "responsible
16 authorities" under the Act, about the anticipated
17 environmental effects of a project. These federal
18 decision-makers can then make their respective
19 decisions knowing the environmental implications
20 and understanding what is necessary to prevent
21 significant adverse environmental effects to occur.

22 In the context of the Darlington
23 New Nuclear Power Plant Project, the responsible
24 authorities having regulatory decisions to make in
25 relation to the project are the Canadian Nuclear

1 Safety Commission, the Department of Fisheries and
2 Oceans, Transport Canada and the Canadian
3 Transportation Agency.

4 CEAA provides for three types of
5 environmental assessments; screenings,
6 comprehensive studies and assessment by review
7 panels. And only a very small number of projects
8 are referred by the Minister of the Environment for
9 an assessment by a review panel.

10 This decision under the Act is
11 based on the potential of the project to cause
12 significant adverse environmental effects or on the
13 level of public concerns associated with such
14 environmental effects.

15 The Darlington New Nuclear Power
16 Plant Project was referred by the Minister of the
17 Environment for an assessment by a review panel in
18 March 2008. A year later, more or less, the
19 Minister of the Environment and the President of
20 the CNSC signed an agreement to establish a Joint
21 Review Panel. And in October 2009, your panel was
22 formally established.

23 The mandate you received from the
24 Minister of the Environment is contained in the
25 Joint Review Panel Agreement. An EA by a review

1 panel and that ties to some of points, Mr. Chair,
2 you were making yesterday.

3 An EA by a review panel such as
4 this one is a two-phase process. There is the
5 information-gathering phase and that is followed by
6 a second phase known as the reporting phase.

7 The first phase, the information-
8 gathering phase, includes the preparation and
9 review of the environmental impact statement, the
10 written submission that you received earlier this
11 year and, equally important, these public hearings
12 that have started yesterday.

13 As you noted in your decision
14 yesterday evening, prior to ending the first phase
15 and move to the reporting phase, you as the panel
16 will have to be satisfied you have obtained the
17 information required for the environmental
18 assessment having regard to the requirements of the
19 CEAA and having regard as well to your terms of
20 reference that are included in the Joint Review
21 Panel Agreement.

22 More precisely, you will have to
23 be satisfied that you have adequate information to,
24 first, conclude as to whether the project is likely
25 to cause significant adverse environmental effects

1 and, second, recommend what mitigation measures are
2 required to prevent any such adverse effects to
3 occur.

4 It's important to keep in mind
5 that as a planning tool, environmental assessment
6 and CEAA do not require identifying every technical
7 detail of the proposed mitigation measures. But
8 sufficient information about these proposed
9 measures is required to ensure that they are
10 technically and economically feasible and to be
11 satisfied that the residual environmental effects
12 are not likely to be significant.

13 Public hearings are a very
14 important step in the environmental assessment
15 process, one in which you will receive additional
16 scientific and technical expert information.

17 And, equally important, one in
18 which you will hear the views of the public and
19 various organizations, including Aboriginal
20 organizations, regarding the project and its
21 anticipated environmental effects.

22 The determination that you will
23 have to make regarding the adequacy of the
24 information you received prior to put an end to the
25 information-gathering phase and move to the

1 reporting one is a very important one and, I would
2 add, a very difficult one in the current context,
3 having in mind the situation in Japan.

4 Over the next three weeks, you
5 will hear diverging views on this issue. Some who
6 will appear before you being firmly of the opinion
7 that you have enough information to move to the
8 next phase. Others, and you already heard
9 yesterday from some of them, will have an equally
10 firm view that you do not have enough information.

11 If, ultimately, you are satisfied
12 that you have all the information you need, you
13 will then be in a position to move to the reporting
14 phase.

15 If, on the other hand, you are of
16 the view that you don't have sufficient
17 information, it will be your responsibility, as you
18 pointed out clearly, Mr. Chair, yesterday, to
19 ensure you obtain the missing information before
20 moving to the reporting phase.

21 And, as you indicated yesterday,
22 it will be, if you are in that situation, for the
23 panel to then determine whether there should be
24 additional opportunity to file written submissions
25 and whether there should be additional opportunity

1 for public hearings. That will be your
2 determination that you will have to make at that
3 point.

4 With respect to our agency, the
5 agency is a federal body established under the
6 CEAA. The agency provides advice and assistance to
7 the Minister of the Environment in performing the
8 duties and functions conferred on the Minister by
9 the Act.

10 The role of the agency in the
11 context of an assessment by a review panel is not
12 -- and it is an important point -- it is not to act
13 as an expert for the real authority to provide
14 scientific or technical advice to the review panel
15 during the hearings.

16 This federal scientific and
17 technical expertise resides in those various
18 federal authorities that will appear before you
19 over the next days, in particular, the staff of the
20 CNSC, officials from Environment Canada, from
21 Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources
22 Canada, Transport Canada, the Canadian
23 Transportation Agency and Health Canada.

24 The role of our agency in the
25 context of an assessment by a review panel includes

1 the three following functions that are described in
2 our written submission, so I will just mention what
3 they are rather than repeating what's in my written
4 submission.

5 These three functions are:
6 providing administrative support to the review
7 panel; administering a participant-funding program
8 to support public and Aboriginal participation in
9 the panel process; and publishing from time to time
10 a guidance and material to facilitate the conduct
11 of the environmental assessments.

12 So, again, I will not repeat the
13 details that are in my written submission with
14 respect to these three particular functions.

15 But, in conclusion, the agency
16 supports the environmental assessment that you are
17 conducting in each of these three areas. Federal
18 authorities and others that will appear before you
19 throughout the hearings will provide you with their
20 project-specific expertise and information with
21 respect to the project.

22 Our agency and the Minister of the
23 Environment are really looking forward for
24 reviewing the important conclusions and
25 recommendations that you will make upon completion

1 of the environmental assessment.

2 With that, Mr. Chair, I wish you
3 all the best. And I'm obviously available to
4 address any questions you may have for me.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
6 very much Mr. Leboeuf.

7 I will open the floor now to my
8 panel of colleagues and I believe, Madame Beaudet,
9 you will be first.

10 --- QUESTIONS BY THE PANEL:

11 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman.

13 Alors, merci d'avoir fait la
14 presentation en anglais. On m'avait dit que se
15 serais en français, donc je cherchais les
16 traductions ce matin pour les différents mots. Je
17 pense que pour tout le monde, il serait préférable
18 de poursuivre la conversation en anglais, je sais
19 qu'on a des bons traducteurs, mais pour pas perdre
20 les nuances sur les définitions.

21 Alors -- my first point is about
22 the significant residual effects. I know that CEAA
23 has raised a few times the program and the
24 methodology that was used in the environmental
25 impact assessment, and so I looked through the

1 different documents that we had to see why it was
2 such, and I will explain myself.

3 For CEAA it appears that you
4 defined the significance of an adverse effect with
5 four points: The magnitude, the geographic extent,
6 the duration, and the degree to which the adverse
7 environmental effects are reverseable or
8 irreversible.

9 The confusion was that OPG had
10 added to this probability of occurrence. And when
11 we looked in the guidelines, this point was added
12 there. When we looked into CEAA's review documents
13 from -- from their personal -- it's called Staff
14 Review Guide, and the number is SRG2.01-EIS-11NNNN-
15 018.2 for the record, and it talks about
16 environmental impact statement modeling.

17 It has also there, on the last
18 page, there's no page numbers, that the reviewer
19 should describe the residual adverse environmental
20 effects in terms of likelihood and significance.
21 And the last point is probability of occurrence.

22 For CEAA, and this is my question,
23 I think the significance of an effect doesn't
24 include the probability or likelihood that the
25 effect will occur; am I correct?

1 MR. LEBOEUF: There -- there could
2 be different way to ultimately make a determination
3 as to whether an adverse environmental effects is
4 significant and likely. The one that is proposed
5 in the agency's guidance material is to look at it
6 by asking essentially three questions. The first
7 -- and this guidance material is referenced in my
8 written submission.

9 The first is to determine whether
10 the environmental effects is adverse. The second
11 one is to determine whether -- assuming the effect
12 is adverse, whether the adverse effect is
13 significant. And the third is to determine if this
14 adverse -- significant adverse effects is likely to
15 occur. So this is really a three-step process, and
16 it may be that the different methodology may allow
17 to achieve the same result, but the one that the
18 agency has been promoting over the years for
19 guidance material is to look at it asking yourself
20 these three following questions -- these three
21 questions.

22 MEMBER BEAUDET: But in the last
23 point, when you determine the significance, do you
24 include as well the likelihood, because if you look
25 at an event, for instance, that is beyond design

1 basis, it's one in a million times. If you look at
2 the impact of -- of an accident, then, you know, it
3 may be significant. But if it happens one in a
4 million time, then it loses its significance.

5 MR. LEBOEUF: Yeah. And in the
6 case high impact or very significant environmental
7 effects, when it's time to determine what are these
8 impacts are likely to occur. And our guidance
9 material, and you will see that, recommends in the
10 absence of absolute certainty, that those effects
11 are likely to occur, to take a prudent approach,
12 and in case of doubt about the likelihood of these
13 effects to occur, be more prudent than the
14 opposite, and identify mitigation measures in such
15 cases.

16 MEMBER BEAUDET: Yeah, that's my
17 second point. Depending on the significance of the
18 effect, the mitigation measures or the follow-up
19 program is different. And so for you what would be
20 the benchmark to establish -- to what extent you
21 have to insist the mitigation measures or what
22 should include the -- the follow-up program if the
23 likelihood of an adverse significant effect is very
24 rare?

25 MR. LEBOEUF: Well, I think you

1 account implementation of any
2 mitigation measures, that the
3 responsible authority
4 considers appropriate, the
5 project is likely to cause
6 significant adverse
7 environmental effects that
8 cannot be justified in the
9 circumstances."

10 And that's what you were meaning
11 just now, in the way you prepare your mitigation
12 measures.

13 Unendate is to decide or not if
14 this project is causing environmental effects or we
15 can say it does, but with certain circumstances the
16 project can go ahead, or it can not go ahead.

17 MR. LEBOEUF: Your -- your mandate
18 as a panel wearing your CEAA hat, is to make a
19 conclusion as to whether the project is likely to
20 cause significant adverse environmental effects,
21 taking into account mitigation measures that you
22 would propose. If your conclusion is that the
23 project is not likely to cause significant adverse
24 environmental effects, and that the responsible
25 authorities accept your recommendation, then the

1 project will be allowed to proceed.

2 If your conclusion is that the
3 project is likely to cause significant adverse
4 environmental effects, that cannot be mitigated,
5 then what Section 37 provides for is a mechanism
6 for the responsible authorities to determine first
7 if they agree with your recommendation and
8 conclusions, and second, if they do determine if
9 any such significant adverse environmental effects
10 that cannot be mitigated are justified in the
11 circumstances. This determination would be made by
12 the responsible authorities with the agreement of
13 the governing counsel, which is something that is
14 provided for in subsection 37(1.1) of the Act.

15 MEMBER BEAUDET: What I have seen
16 so far in -- in CEAA reports, the determination of
17 a significant adverse environmental effect is
18 always a qualitative judgment. There are different
19 tables, as -- as you are aware, you know, high,
20 low, moderate and you have a full table with
21 different aspect. The magnitude, the geographical
22 extent, et cetera, that finally helps you to
23 determine if it's significant -- I mean, if it's an
24 adverse effect or not.

25 For you, do you have any comments

1 on that? I mean, this must be every time there's a
2 mandate that the panel can have some struggle as to
3 determine -- because there's no quantitative data
4 in that judgment, so are you doing any research of
5 that? Do you have any comments, what -- are we
6 progressing on this?

7 MR. LEBOEUF: I don't -- I don't
8 remember the exact words that I used at the time,
9 but a judge in the Federal Court of Appeal about
10 12, 15 years ago referring to that notion of
11 significance as it is used in CEAA, saying that by
12 definition, reasonable people will always disagree
13 on whether an impact is significant or not. This
14 is, at the end of the day, a relatively subjective
15 determination.

16 Our guidance material provides
17 that when -- when it is possible to do so, this
18 assessment should be done using a quantitative
19 approach. But when data to proceed in that way are
20 not available, then it is appropriate to proceed by
21 way of a qualitative approach as you noted in many
22 reports.

23 MS. BEAUDET: If I may, Mr.
24 Chairman, I'd like to ask CNSC more details about
25 how they function especially with this document

1 which is a Staff Review Guide. Is there any
2 document or guidance that are given to the
3 proponent when they prepared the EIS?

4 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Ms. Thompson,
5 do you want to -- or Patsy Thompson, do you want to
6 answer that?

7 MS. THOMPSON: Yes. Patsy
8 Thompson for the record. Essentially the CNSC has
9 done over 40 environmental assessments since the
10 *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* was revised
11 in 2003. We have developed essentially the Staff
12 Review Guide that Madam Beaudet just referred to.
13 It was drafted based on the experience of CNSC
14 staff had developed over the course of doing
15 environmental assessments and using the agency
16 guidance.

17 Many of the environmental
18 assessments that have been done, have been done for
19 modifications to existing sites or for projects
20 where the project was defined in terms of the --
21 the technology and -- and the activities. What we
22 found is that with the improvements in -- in the
23 science of ecological risk assessments and the
24 determination of environmental effects, that we've
25 been able to use the quantitative risk assessment

1 methods to be able to define in numerical values or
2 using information on, for example, populations of
3 fish, to be able to define criteria that would be
4 used for, for example, magnitude geographical
5 extent, duration of impacts and the reversibility
6 because the assessments are done for while the
7 plant is operating and then when decommissioning
8 and later so that we have a sense of whether the
9 environmental impacts would change over time.

10 And so the Staff Review Guide is
11 based on essentially the expertise that CNSC has
12 developed over time. Many of the environmental
13 assessments or some of the environmental
14 assessments that we've done have been comprehensive
15 study reports that have been submitted to the
16 Minister of Environment and have been found to be
17 acceptable by the Minister for decision-making.

18 In terms of the -- the likelihood
19 of -- of a significant environmental effect, many
20 of the assessments that are being done for
21 accidents and malfunctions for nuclear facilities,
22 are based on essentially detailed safety analysis
23 and -- and the safety methods are quite well-
24 developed and -- so that we are able to identify
25 categories of accidents with probabilities of

1 occurrence. And we have integrated this
2 information into guidance for significance.

3 We do make that -- that guidance
4 available to proponents, but not -- probably not
5 always in -- in written guidance; we try to
6 incorporate in the -- in the guidelines that are
7 being drafted and then are used by the proponents.

8 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
9 Ms. Thompson.

10 MEMBER BEAUDET: I have one more
11 question. When we had our technical meeting in
12 June with OPG, they referred to an environmental
13 impact assessment they did for the refurbishment of
14 Pickering, and I went back to the CNSC document and
15 further contacts of -- for the determination of
16 significance, the permeability is included in the
17 criteria that you're supposed to use to determine
18 the significance. As you say, and correct me if
19 I'm wrong, most of the EIS that were done were for
20 refurbishing or -- very few for new nuclear. I think
21 we are the first one. And so I would like to hear
22 what you're going to do now with -- if they're new
23 projects. I mean, the significance has to be
24 determined first before the likelihood of having
25 them. You have to see what would be the

1 consequences -- what would be the appropriate
2 mitigation measures or follow-up before you
3 determine the likelihood or not of the event?

4 MS. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.

5 You're right. We have done or are
6 in the process of doing assessments for new
7 projects, for example, new uranium mine projects.
8 I think one of the -- the challenges that OPG's
9 proposal for the new reactors at Darlington pose
10 was the lack of information on the final reactor --
11 the reactor technology that would be chosen. And
12 essentially, to be able to determine the
13 significance in this kind of project, we requested
14 that OPG develop potential emissions to the
15 environment using industry practices with proven
16 mitigation measures. So the -- the information that
17 is provided in the EIS and the technical support
18 documents are not just, for example, releases to
19 the environment or bounding releases to the
20 environment. There is technical background
21 information that was available to make a
22 determination of whether the mitigation measures
23 were real or fictional essentially so that we could
24 have a judgment on -- are the projected releases
25 something that we can rely on for EA purposes.

1 So there -- there are descriptions
2 of mitigation measures and safety systems at a high
3 level granted, but they're based on engineering and
4 scientific analyses that have been done on existing
5 designs and what is normal for new -- new reactor
6 designs.

7 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you. I'm
8 not saying OPG is wrong here. I think they
9 followed the guidelines; they followed everything,
10 what I'm saying is there's a doubt as to how the
11 significance of the effects were determined. Thank
12 you.

13 MS. THOMPSON: Thank you, Monsieur
14 Leboeuf.

15 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
16 Madam Beaudet. Mr. Pereira?

17 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you, Mr.
18 Chairman. I just have one question. In your panel
19 member document you describe two funding envelopes,
20 the regular funding envelope and the Aboriginal
21 funding envelope and you provide some figures as to
22 how much was awarded in each of those envelopes.
23 Could you indicate whether the envelopes are fully
24 used or whether there was additional demand;
25 whether there's been more appeals for funding and

1 how were those -- were those demands satisfied to
2 the satisfaction of participants?

3 MR. LEBOEUF: I do not have with
4 me the numbers in terms of the initial funding
5 request that were submitted to the agency. That's
6 information, however, I could easily find and
7 submit to -- to the panel if you're interested in
8 having this information.

9 It is important to keep in mind
10 that the purpose of our participant funding program
11 is not to provide full financial support to cover
12 all aspects of the financial implications of
13 participants in the process. We hope to provide
14 them some support to participate in the process.
15 So it is not intended to cover everything, but to
16 assist in their participation in the process.

17 But I will identify what the
18 initial funding request was and I will get back to
19 the panel with that information.

20 MEMBER PEREIRA: Just a general
21 comment then, with these programs do you -- and in
22 CEAA's experiences, are these -- do these generally
23 meet the needs of -- of applicants or is there
24 satisfaction with what CEAA does in these programs?

25 MR. LEBOEUF: That's our

1 understanding, yes. We conducted an evaluation of
2 our program last year and overall the level of
3 satisfaction was very high. Not surprisingly we
4 heard from many that the amounts allocated were not
5 enough in their perspective.

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
7 Mr. Pereira. I think we'll introduce this as
8 undertaking number four for the record to have this
9 information provided to the panel.

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: And -- before
11 we wind this one up, I'll ask OPG do you have any
12 questions to CEAA on this matter.

13 MR. SWEETNAM: Albert Sweetnam for
14 the record. We have no questions.

15 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.
16 In the essence of getting -- trying to -- maybe not
17 get back on schedule, but at least trying to get as
18 much heard today as possible, do any of the
19 interveners want to have one question? If you do,
20 there's a microphone at the back of the room and I
21 would entertain several questions -- several
22 different interveners if you keep it very succinct.

23 --- QUESTIONS BY THE INTERVENERS:

24 MR. MATTSON: Yes, very succinct.
25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning.

1 Just one question; the funding
2 provided through CEAA is -- the applications for
3 funding and the actual awards and what the money is
4 to be paid for is online; is it not, sir?

5 MR. LEBOEUF: Yes, it is.

6 MR. MATTSON: Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
8 very much. With that information probably
9 undertaking number 4 is not necessary if it is
10 online.

11 MR. MATTSON: But not the amount
12 though; the initial amount.

13 MR. LEBOEUF: If it is sufficient
14 I'm giving you the procedures to just access this
15 online.

16 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Is it the
17 amount each one has been awarded?

18 MR. MATTSON: Yes.

19 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Plus the
20 request ---

21 MR. MATTSON: Yes.

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: --- that they
23 put in, say -- and what percentage?

24 MR. MATTSON: Yes.

25 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: That seems

1 fine. Is that satisfactory Mr. Pereira?

2 MR. PEREIRA: I will review and
3 confirm that everything's there. If it's not all
4 there, I will submit additional information.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay, well,
6 we'll just note understanding (sic) number 4 and
7 leave it on the record and then if the Secretariat
8 want to remove it then afterwards we can.

9 That concludes your participation
10 for today. I want to thank you very much for
11 presenting before us this morning -- this
12 afternoon, I guess. And like Mr. Mattson, I've
13 still got morning on the mind.

14 Anyway, I want to thank you very
15 much and safe travels to your next meeting. Thank
16 you very much.

17 MR. LEBOEUF: Thanks a lot.

18 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Before we go
19 into the next agenda item, in my notes for this
20 morning, we had -- undertaking number 3 was the
21 report that OPG had given -- the understanding they
22 would produce regarding questions from Madame
23 Beaudet yesterday. And we have been giving that
24 information. So we will take that off the record
25 as one of the undertakings that is now complete.

1 Is that satisfactory Madame
2 Beaudet?

3 MEMBER BEAUDET: I'll have
4 questions. But I think the agenda this afternoon
5 is ---

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Yes.

7 MEMBER BEAUDET: --- full enough.
8 We'll take another day.

9 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Just to
10 forewarn to have some answers.

11 Thank you.

12 Now, we will go into the next
13 group of presenters or next presenters. And this
14 is the one where we're having the seismic
15 information provided.

16 And do you want to read this or
17 what? Okay.

18 Okay, yes, I guess the way we're
19 going to handle this is that I'm going to call on
20 Barclay Howden and in light of the events of the
21 last 12 days in Japan, the Joint Review Panel
22 determined that it would be beneficial to have a
23 brief decision -- discussion, pardon me, and
24 presentation regarding seismic issues as they
25 relate to Canada and the Darlington site in

1 particular.

2 Today's agenda has been adjusted
3 to allow time for these discussions. And we're
4 going to begin with NR Canada, but I think Barclay
5 Howden from CNSC, the floor is yours to introduce
6 the people involved to do the presentation.

7 Thank you very much.

8 MR. HOWDEN: Thank you. Good
9 afternoon, Mr. Chair and members of the panel.

10 For the record, my name is Barclay
11 Howden. I'm with the Canadian Nuclear Safety
12 Commission. Behind me today is Dr. Patsy Thompson
13 also with the CNSC. And at the front table is Dr.
14 David Scott, Director of the Geological Survey of
15 Canada, Northern Division.

16 With us to present to you today
17 are Dr. Maurice Lamontagne also at the front table,
18 a seismic specialist, from the Geological Survey of
19 Canada within NRCAN. Next to me on my left, Mr.
20 Gerry Frappier, Director General of Assessment and
21 Analysis at the CNSC and to my far left, Dr. David
22 Newland, Director of New Major Facilities Licensing
23 Division at the CNSC.

24 Today Dr. Lamontagne is going to
25 provide a presentation on seismicity in Canada.

1 Mr. Frappier is going to present information on the
2 events in Japan. And Dr. Newland will be providing
3 you with our view on how these events relate to the
4 environmental assessment and the licence to prepare
5 a site for the new Darlington project.

6 At the end these gentlemen will be
7 prepared to respond directly to questions from the
8 panel supported by our staff.

9 First of all, I'd like to turn the
10 floor over to Dr. David Scott to introduce the
11 Geological Survey of Canada and Dr. Lamontagne.

12 MR. SCOTT: David Scott, for the
13 record. Good afternoon Mr. President and members
14 of the panel and members of the public.

15 Natural Resources Canada is
16 pleased to participate in this Joint Review Panel
17 process today.

18 The Geological Survey of Canada
19 which is a part of Natural Resources Canada has a
20 mandate and a long history of creating geoscience
21 knowledge of Canada's landmass and providing this
22 information to the public to support decision-
23 making processes.

24 As per the panel's request, my
25 colleague, Maurice Lamontagne, will share with you

1 his knowledge in a presentation on earthquakes in
2 Canada with an emphasis on seismicity in eastern
3 Canada.

4 Dr. Lamontagne is well qualified
5 to provide this information to you as he's Senior
6 Research Scientist at Natural Resources Canada.
7 His academic credentials include a Bachelor of
8 Engineering degree from the University of Laval and
9 graduate degrees in geophysics including a Masters
10 degree from the University of Western Ontario and a
11 Doctoral degree from Carleton University. His
12 graduate research studies focused on the seismicity
13 of eastern Canada.

14 Dr. Lamontagne has 25 years of
15 service with the Geological Survey of Canada and is
16 recognized across Canada and internationally as an
17 expert in the seismicity of eastern Canada. I
18 present to you Dr. Maurice Lamontagne.

19 --- PRESENTATION BY DR. LAMONTAGNE:

20 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Good afternoon.
21 My name is Maurice Lamontagne and I will present --
22 my presentation is on earthquakes in Canada.

23 Okay, I'll start with what is an
24 earthquake? Well, we start with like two blocks of
25 rocks. And in general these two blocks of rocks

1 can be fractured by what is called "faults" that
2 can be quite old and they are in general pre-
3 existent in the earth's crust.

4 And then with time and because in
5 the earth's crust you have stresses that
6 accumulate; these stresses if they are sufficiently
7 strong, they will slowly deform the rocks, but not
8 so much in something we can easily measure, but
9 they will deform the rocks.

10 And then when they exceed the
11 resistance of the fault, it leads to an earthquake
12 which is really a slip on a fault surface. And
13 when this occurs, this releases a series of seismic
14 waves.

15 In this case, we're seeing the P
16 waves which travel very fast in the earth's crust
17 and across the whole globe, in fact. And they're
18 followed by the S waves or secondary waves.
19 Secondary waves have lateral motion and they are
20 those that cause damage.

21 And when the slip is sufficiently
22 strong then these waves can actually cause damage.
23 If the slip is sufficiently large, the slip, as you
24 can notice, we used to have a continuous layer here
25 that has been displaced out of the fault surface.

1 If it's sufficiently strong, then the rupture can
2 reach the surface and that can induce additional
3 damage or if it's under the ocean, it can actually
4 trigger a tsunami. So that's the basic.

5 We very often hear about
6 earthquake magnitude or the magnitude on the
7 Richter scale. It's certainly a number, but it's
8 an important number because it refers to the actual
9 rupture that occurs.

10 So when we are talking about a
11 magnitude 5 earthquake versus a magnitude 9
12 earthquake, it's very different physically. And
13 how is it different?

14 Well, in this figure, you can see
15 that what is shown in yellow here represents the
16 actual rupture surface. That's the surface on the
17 fault plane that actually ruptured. The bigger or
18 the larger the rupture surface, the larger the
19 earthquake. So if I use a 3D model like this one
20 so we're talking about rupture, that's the entire
21 plane that slips. And when I was saying that it's
22 the actual surface, in a real earthquake, it will
23 be only a portion that will rupture.

24 In the case of a magnitude 5, it's
25 about a diameter of 1 kilometre that will rupture.

1 In the case of a magnitude 9 -- I have to reverse
2 it to something like that -- we're talking about
3 rupture plane that has many hundreds of kilometres
4 of surface.

5 We're talking, in the case of
6 Japan, for example, they're still working on the
7 model, but we're talking about 600 to 700
8 kilometres by about 100-kilometre. So magnitude 5,
9 1 kilometre and magnitude 9 is just huge. Okay, so
10 that's very important.

11 What does that mean? That means
12 that when you have a magnitude 9 it will start
13 rupturing, but it will not be all like that over
14 900 or, let's say, 600, 700 kilometres.

15 It will start rupturing and then
16 it will slowly progress, and what does that imply?
17 That implies that once it starts rupturing, it will
18 send its seismic waves, it will continue rupturing,
19 rupturing, and then at any place it ruptures, it
20 sends new seismic waves.

21 The seismic waves can pile up,
22 making the ground vibrations stronger. Not only
23 stronger, they will last longer and, in the case of
24 Japan, the entire rupture lasted between two and
25 three minutes. And, naturally, the ground

1 vibrations were intense, but they were actually
2 very long.

3 In the case of a magnitude 5, so
4 it's only 1 kilometre, and it's only a few seconds
5 at the most over which there will be rupture.
6 Naturally, the intensity of the vibrations will be
7 much less and the duration will be also much less.

8 And this is what I show in here,
9 and you can see that what we call the hypocentre is
10 actually where the rupture actually starts. And
11 then after a while then, the rupture will have
12 ruptured the surface in yellow.

13 What we call the epicentre is
14 actually the point on a map where the rupture
15 started and you can see it's a fault line on the
16 surface. In this case, the rupture did not reach
17 the surface, therefore, there's nothing on the
18 surface that will be seen.

19 In the case of a magnitude 5
20 because it's only 1 kilometre, if the hypocentre is
21 sufficiently deep, then there won't be anything
22 seen at the surface. We will know that it occurred
23 because the ground vibrations would have been
24 recorded at the surface.

25 In case of the magnitude 9 in

1 Japan, the rupture was many hundreds of kilometres.
2 And what we call the rupture, the displacement on
3 the fault -- that is to say, the amount of
4 displacement of one block in respect to the other -
5 - was in the -- probably between 10 and 15 metres.

6 And when this rupture of 10 to 15
7 metres reached the bottom of the ocean, it pushed
8 all the whole -- thousands of metres of water on
9 top and that triggered the tsunami that caused the
10 damage we saw.

11 But for a magnitude 5, at maybe --
12 let's say at 10, 15 kilometres of depth, that's not
13 something that's possible because the rupture is
14 very small and then the rupture doesn't reach the
15 surface.

16 The next one. So for the
17 earthquake magnitude, we saw that depends on the
18 size of the reactivated fault surface. For what
19 you call large subduction-related earthquakes, the
20 magnitude can reach -- and can exceed, in fact --
21 magnitude 8. And, in fact, almost all of these
22 magnitude 8-plus earthquakes occur at what we call
23 plate boundaries. We will see that in a minute.

24 Earthquakes below magnitude 2.5
25 are too small to be felt but they can be detected

1 by seismograph stations. When you get into
2 magnitude 4s and greater, the ground vibrations
3 will be recorded by seismographs but, in addition,
4 it can be felt over fairly large areas.

5 Last week we had an event near
6 Hawkesbury in Ontario, a 4.3, and it was felt to a
7 distance of about 100 kilometres.

8 If you are near the epicentre,
9 magnitude 5 is about the minimum magnitude to make
10 light objects fall, if you're very close to the
11 epicentre. And when you get slightly above
12 magnitude 5 at around 5.5, it can start causing
13 some damage to chimneys, for example, that are very
14 brittle in general and they can be damaged in an
15 earthquake.

16 In the history of Canada,
17 historically, the largest event is estimated to be
18 magnitude 7. I don't quite like that .0 here,
19 because it's an historical earthquake. It was in
20 1663, it was in the Charlevoix region near Quebec
21 City and the magnitude is only estimated from the
22 written descriptions of that earthquake, so that's
23 why it's an estimate.

24 Almost all earthquakes are weaker
25 than magnitude 5s in eastern Canada. That is to

1 say on a yearly basis the average is maybe 2 or 3
2 magnitude 4s then you go by steps of 10. Every
3 time you down one, they need to -- so we can expect
4 about 30 magnitude 3 -- between 3 and 4, and then
5 many more between 2 and 3.

6 And then almost all earthquakes
7 are weaker than magnitude 5, which is below the
8 threshold that might cause damage to engineering
9 facilities.

10 If we look at the global picture
11 of earthquakes, and you recognize the global
12 picture with the topography, and if we plot all the
13 -- for a 20-year period -- of all the earthquakes
14 of magnitude greater or equal to 0, this is more or
15 less what you would see.

16 We would see that they don't occur
17 at random over the entire globe; they concentrate
18 in certain areas. And, in fact, it's even more
19 striking if you go to magnitude greater or equal to
20 7.7 represented by these yellow circles here.

21 You can see that they occur mainly
22 around the Pacific, and it's related mainly to what
23 we call the plate boundaries. That's where the
24 tectonic plates collide or have relative motions to
25 each other.

1 Okay, you can notice also that
2 when -- for this 20-year period, we only had 1
3 earthquake; I think it was in 1989. So that was in
4 the Ungava Peninsula of Quebec, but for any 20-year
5 period this will be pretty much the image you would
6 be getting.

7 And I was saying that it's related
8 to plate tectonics, and what you see here are the
9 major plates on the globe. So the globe, more or
10 less the outer shell of the earth, is broken into
11 these large plates that have the dimensions of
12 continents really. And what I have shown with
13 arrows are the relative motions of these plates in
14 respect to each other.

15 So we can notice that in Japan,
16 for example, the two plates are converging towards
17 each other whereas in some places like the San
18 Andreas fault that is very well-known, you can see
19 that the two plates slide past each other.

20 And then under the ocean in some
21 places you will actually push the two plates away
22 from each other, and that will lead to volcanic
23 activity.

24 But you can see that around the
25 Pacific where we had most of these earthquakes in

1 yellow, the magnitude 7.7 and greater, that's where
2 most of the subduction earthquakes are actually;
3 that's where most of the bigger ones are actually.

4 In offshore British Columbia, we
5 are in the situation where we have all three
6 possibilities in a sense. We have what you call
7 spreading centres, we have subduction zones, and we
8 also have strike-slip environment, as we're going
9 to see in a minute.

10 But in eastern Canada, we're right
11 in the middle of the North American Plate. That's
12 why we would call our earthquakes intra-plate, that
13 is to say, within a plate.

14 On a global scale, many set-ups of
15 all the energy released by earthquakes is on plate
16 boundaries. That leaves only about 3 percent of
17 the energy released for these intra-plate
18 earthquakes. And the reason is that the energy is
19 really released in these big earthquakes. Smaller
20 ones of magnitude 5 or 6, they release very little
21 energy compared with these magnitude 8 and greater.

22 These plate boundaries hinted that
23 they were of three types. So we have here the type
24 of margin which could be divergent, and you can see
25 that the two plates are moving away from each

1 other. That's what we see under the Atlantic
2 Ocean, for example, very small earthquakes, in
3 general magnitude 5 maybe up to 6, but not any
4 greater.

5 If I go all the way to the right,
6 the transform environment where two plates slide
7 past each other, that would be the San Andreas
8 fault.

9 And then we have the convergent
10 zones, where you have one plate sliding under the
11 other, giving rise to earthquakes. And in this
12 environment, the earthquakes can go from the
13 surface, that is to say 0 kilometres of depth, down
14 to 670 kilometres of depth.

15 When the rupture we're talking
16 about is fairly shallow, say in the top 50
17 kilometres, then it can lead to a tsunami. And
18 that's where most of the big tsunamis are
19 happening.

20 So if I go with another 3-D model,
21 I would have the Pacific Plate on this hand, that
22 would be Japan, and then the plate of the Pacific
23 would slide. It will take time to build up the
24 strength, but then eventually it will go down all
25 of a sudden. And when this happens, the crossing

1 fairly dense.

2 That can vary with the years;
3 sometimes we'll identify parts of it for special
4 studies. And that's what you see in, for example,
5 near Yellowknife. And that's what we had in
6 southern Ontario for a little while.

7 The seismograph network is such
8 that it can detect earthquakes that are even
9 smaller than those that can be felt by people. And
10 all this information goes into what we call the
11 "Canadian National Earthquake Catalogue" that is
12 online and available to anyone.

13 And it's an authoritative
14 inventory of earthquake locations, magnitude,
15 depths, felt reports and so on. It's based on
16 written historical accounts, that's for the older
17 earthquakes so when we didn't have instruments to
18 record them. And then after about 1900, we started
19 having instruments to actually detect them.

20 NRCan seismograph network can
21 detect all earthquakes rated a magnitude 3 anywhere
22 in the Canadian territory and again, 1, 2, 3,
23 wouldn't cause damage but it could be felt if you
24 were very close to the epicentre.

25 There's some populated areas that

1 denser station network allows us to detect
2 earthquakes as small as magnitude 1 on the Richter
3 scale, so very tiny ones. And even in some areas
4 it can be as small as 0 on the Richter scale which
5 is very small.

6 If the earthquake can be felt, we
7 can record and measure it, there's no doubt about
8 that.

9 This map shows -- it's our record
10 of the magnitude 6 and greater earthquakes in
11 Canada and smaller events that were notable. That
12 was an exercise we did a few years ago for the
13 Atlas of Canada that has a special map on
14 earthquakes in Canada.

15 So as you can see, there's a lot
16 of activity on the west coast and again this is
17 related to plate tectonics when we were saying.
18 And then in the east, you will notice some dots.
19 Most of them -- if they are greater than 6, you see
20 they would be 1921 -- 1929, excuse me, that was the
21 Grand Banks earthquake, magnitude 7.2 that caused a
22 slump -- that generated a tsunami that went onshore
23 and killed people in the Burin Peninsula in
24 Newfoundland.

25 So it's not so much a rupture,

1 there was no rupture; it's the slump that induced
2 the tsunami.

3 In Charlevoix, like I was saying
4 previously, we had a magnitude 7 in 1663 and a
5 magnitude 6 in 1925. Magnitude 6 was in 1935 here
6 in Témiscamingue as we will see later.

7 But these earthquakes were not
8 necessarily major; they were listed there because
9 they had some impact on houses for example.

10 Historically we've never had a
11 collapse of a building in Canada but we've had
12 history of damage to chimneys, masonry buildings
13 and so on. And that's why as soon as I was saying
14 some damage to chimneys; they would enter in this
15 database of earthquakes with impact.

16 And as you can see, most of them
17 are concentrated along the Saint Lawrence and also
18 we have some ones that are somewhat isolated.

19 This one was on the U.S. side, it
20 was in 1929, an earthquake slightly more than a
21 magnitude 5 on the Richter scale, it was near
22 Attica, New York.

23 I wanted to show you about -- in
24 1700, we had a large earthquake and we know about
25 this one because it triggered a tsunami that could

1 be dated. And we know this is a mega thrust
2 earthquake offshore B.C. similar to what they had
3 in Japan last week.

4 And we also expect eventually an
5 earthquake of that size offshore B.C. Naturally
6 the return period is about 500 years, so it takes a
7 long time to accumulate this energy.

8 And then in 1949, we had a
9 magnitude 8.2 in the Queen Charlottes along a fault
10 plane that is subvertical like that, a bit like the
11 San Andreas Fault.

12 If we look at earthquakes in
13 eastern Canada, earthquakes that can be felt in
14 eastern Canada are fairly rare, only a few every
15 year.

16 They occur mainly in well-defined
17 zones, characterized by many tons of small --
18 smaller than 1, 2, 3 earthquakes annually. So most
19 of them occur in fairly well-defined zones, they
20 don't occur at random.

21 Most earthquakes that have caused
22 any damage have occurred in these known seismic
23 active zones and we will see them in a minute.

24 Most earthquakes occur at depths
25 between five and 25 kilometres of depth. So this

1 is well within the earth crust but that would be
2 from the mid to the upper crust.

3 And they represent reactivation of
4 old faults that exist in the pre Cambrian basement
5 or if you prefer that what we call the "Canadian
6 shield" that also is present even if it's not
7 always seen at the surface. We know it exists at
8 depth and most earthquakes occur within the
9 Canadian shield.

10 All of these -- from the history
11 of earthquakes we only know of one earthquake that
12 is known to have ever caused a false surface
13 rupture. That is to say, the rupture reached the
14 surface and it was actually visible along the fault
15 that motion had occurred. And it was in 1989 in
16 the Ungava Peninsula of Quebec.

17 And to get a surface rupture in
18 general, it has to be fairly close to magnitude 6
19 or it has to be greater than that. A magnitude 5
20 is generally too deep and too small to cause any
21 rupture.

22 Faults at the surface are not
23 necessarily seismically active, very often of
24 California we think any fault is active. But in
25 the Canadian Shield; it's not true at all. There

1 are faults everywhere in the Canadian shield
2 because it's quite an old geological environment.
3 It has faults that were created over millions and
4 even billions of years.

5 But it's not because of a fault
6 that you will necessarily get an earthquake.

7 The Canadian National Earthquake
8 Catalogue in our knowledge are the basis for the --
9 what we call the "seismic hazard maps" and that's
10 what we will see in a few minutes.

11 This is a map that shows you the
12 distribution of earthquakes, this map is fairly
13 representative of what we get on a regular basis.
14 And as you can see they are concentrated in certain
15 areas.

16 The circle -- or the ellipse
17 represents one of these concentrations which we
18 call the "western Quebec seismic zone." It's a
19 zone that has about -- between 60 and 70 small
20 earthquakes recorded every year.

21 And then, historically, you had
22 some damaging earthquakes. The damaging
23 earthquakes are not necessarily greater than 6.5, I
24 don't want people to think they're bigger than 6.5,
25 it's just that they had an impact.

1 And for example, there was 1935 in
2 Témiscamingue, 1944 near Cornwall, 1732 very close
3 to Montréal that damaged many buildings there.

4 Another zone that's quite active
5 is the Charlevoix seismic zone, this zone has known
6 five earthquakes of magnitude 6 -- between 6 and 7
7 in fact historically.

8 And then finally there's another
9 zone that we call the "lower Saint Lawrence zone."
10 A zone of concentration of activity again.

11 In Charlevoix, because we have a
12 very dense network, we record between 200 and 250
13 earthquakes every year.

14 And then in southern Ontario, you
15 can see also that there's some activity but it's
16 usually of much lower level.

17 This knowledge is integrated into
18 what we call the "seismic hazard maps" and the
19 seismic hazard maps are -- estimate a shaking that
20 the new buildings are required to withstand under
21 the National Building Code of Canada.

22 So this is the latest versions of
23 the seismic hazard maps. It shows the hazard at
24 the given period of .2 second, and you can see
25 zones in red represent an increasing hazard. The

1 bull's eye here represents a shot of our seismic
2 zone because historically it's been very active, in
3 New Orleans, also very active. But you can see
4 also or recognize the Western Quebec seismic zone
5 and then the lower St. Lawrence seismic zone.

6 And in between, you can see zones
7 of red, it's because we know that there are faults
8 that could give rise to activity there. That's why
9 the hazard is rated higher than, for example,
10 elsewhere in the Canadian Shield. And you can see
11 here a zone of low to moderate activity, and that's
12 related to this Attica Earthquake of 1929 and also
13 the low level -- low level of activity in that
14 area.

15 If we look at the map of all
16 magnitude 5 and greater for the period June 1900
17 until to date, this is the picture we would be
18 getting. We see that most of the magnitude 5s,
19 including the 1935 magnitude 6.2 earthquake, are
20 concentrated in the Western Quebec seismic zone.
21 Then we have the Attica, New York Earthquake, and
22 then a few others in Ohio. So most of them are
23 very concentrated in these recognized zones.

24 In conclusion, the large
25 earthquakes, the magnitude greater than eight, are

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
2 very much, Mr. Lamontagne. Questions? Yes, direct
3 questions to Pereira.

4 --- QUESTIONS BY THE PANEL:

5 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you, Mr.
6 Chairman. You -- you say that in the area around
7 Lake Ontario we have low to moderate seismicity, so
8 when you say that, what sort of earthquakes could
9 one expect to encounter there over a period of,
10 say, 100 years? Can you -- is that -- does that
11 translate to a range of magnitudes and excitation
12 frequencies?

13 DR. LAMONTAGNE: I have to check
14 my notes in terms of earthquakes in the area
15 because I have some statistics. Okay, yeah. I
16 have that since 1900 there were about 143
17 earthquakes that have been recorded within 100
18 kilometres of the Darlington facility. All were
19 small. The largest one within the 100 kilometres
20 was magnitude 4.1 in St. Catherines in 1954. The
21 strongest shaking experienced at Darlington in the
22 last 110 years was from several moderate but more
23 distant earthquakes that produced motions in the
24 one to two percent G range corresponding to mild
25 shaking that would be felt by some observers if you

1 were at the site.

2 The probability of a magnitude 6
3 event is less than 1 in 500 years in Southern
4 Ontario in the addressing Great Lakes Region, so
5 it's a bigger region. So that's what I have.

6 MEMBER PEREIRA: So I hear you say
7 one- to two-percent G is the range there, so in
8 terms of the Building Code --

9 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Excuse me, the
10 one- to two-percent G range was what was
11 experienced --

12 MEMBER PEREIRA: Experienced.

13 DR. LAMONTAGNE: -- in the last
14 100 years.

15 MEMBER PEREIRA: So in terms of
16 what the Building Code would -- would consider for
17 that area, what would they go with based on this
18 record? Would it be higher than two percent G?

19 DR. LAMONTAGNE: I would have to
20 double check. I'm sorry. I don't have this number
21 with me.

22 MR. PEREIRA: That's okay. Just
23 for clarification. Now, the seismic hazard map,
24 this is developed based on measurements taken over
25 a period of time. How often is that hazard map

1 updated, and on what basis would it be updated?

2 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Okay. I can tell
3 you that the previous versions, there was one in
4 1970 that was purely deterministic. It was updated
5 in 1985 using a more statistical basis, and then it
6 was finally updated or graded in 2005.

7 MR. PEREIRA: So when you say a
8 statistical basis, is that a probabilistic
9 approach?

10 DR. LAMONTAGNE: That's what I --
11 I meant. I'm sorry. I was looking for my word
12 there. Exactly.

13 MEMBER PEREIRA: And how different
14 would the -- would that be in terms of how seismic
15 tolerances is analysed? Like, right from a
16 deterministic approach to a probabilistic approach,
17 is this sort of a superior approach, or in what way
18 is the probabilistic approach different from a
19 deterministic approach in terms of what comfort the
20 public can get?

21 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Okay. It's
22 certainly considered better, and that's why most
23 seismic hazard maps now are probabilistic because
24 they -- they are better defined, and they don't
25 rely only on the historical knowledge. So you go

1 into something that's related to more or less the
2 seismicity budget, and in the case of the latest
3 version, what was interesting is that some
4 geological knowledge was integrated for the first
5 time, whereas before, it was purely seismological
6 more or less like the seismicity budget. But in
7 the 2005 version, there were -- there was this
8 knowledge that normal faults that you find along
9 the St. Lawrence Valley could lead to earthquakes
10 that are not present in the historical --
11 historical catalogue of earthquakes, and that's why
12 this 2005 version is better. And in addition, we
13 moved to lower probabilities.

14 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you. And
15 the probabilistic approach, is this an approach
16 that is used now elsewhere in the world, or is it
17 adopted by the international community? Would it
18 have been used by the Japanese, for instance?

19 DR. LAMONTAGNE: For Japan, I
20 don't have this information, I'm sorry, but I can
21 tell you that in North America, this is certainly
22 the preferred approach nowadays as a -- in the US
23 as well as in Canada.

24 MEMBER PEREIRA: In terms of the
25 area around Lake Ontario, you talk about a -- a

1 monitoring network. Could you describe what --
2 what stations we have, where do we have monitoring
3 stations around Lake Ontario and in Eastern --
4 Eastern Ontario?

5 DR. LAMONTAGNE: We have the
6 permanent network, which was augmented by a series
7 of stations around the -- we call that the Golden
8 Horseshoe more or less. That was to monitor these
9 small earthquakes and to learn more about that, and
10 they were in operation since about year 2000.

11 And the advantage of this is that
12 the earthquakes could be better located certainly,
13 and also you could detect much smaller ones from
14 which you could learn more scientifically. So it
15 was really -- it showed that it's really the
16 western part of Lake Ontario that was -- that was
17 active for these tiny ones. And there are reports
18 in the literature about that, and it was done by
19 scientists at the University of Western Ontario.

20 MEMBER PEREIRA: Now, in the
21 historical record and in what is predicted from
22 your probabilistic hazard approach, what sort of
23 damage would one expect to -- to incur in large
24 civil structures in the area around Darlington
25 based on what you've forecast for the next 100

1 years? Is there -- can you give some sort of idea?
2 I guess it depends on the type of building, but --
3 and so it's a very difficult question to answer,
4 but given what you know, can you see significant
5 damage from the historical and the predicted record
6 of -- of earthquakes.

7 DR. LAMONTAGNE: I will say that
8 because we consider the -- the likelihood of
9 certainly a magnitude six we were saying that's
10 considered fairly low, find it a bit arduous to get
11 into this.

12 If we're talking about normal
13 buildings, there's no doubt that the older ones,
14 the older buildings built of masonry that were
15 built prior to the introduction of -- of seismic
16 resistance in building codes, these are most at
17 risk. And that could be for earthquakes, I would
18 say, in the five and a half range. Then you would
19 start seeing damage, for these old buildings.
20 Nowadays, though, the newer buildings are supposed
21 to be more earthquake resistant.

22 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you, I'll
23 follow up on that issue with the CNSC when they
24 come to discuss the design for (inaudible). Thank
25 you very much.

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
2 Mr. Pereira, Madam Beaudet. I don't want to ask no
3 questions. I have one question, and I think it's
4 been a concern indicated in some -- many levels.
5 The earthquake in Japan did not cause as much
6 damage as the tsunami afterwards, and of course the
7 earthquake caused the tsunami, but is it -- is
8 there any possibility that a tsunami could be --
9 could occur in Lake Ontario and affecting along the
10 shores of Lake Ontario?

11 DR. LAMONTAGNE: I'm sorry, can --
12 can you repeat your question, please?

13 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Is there any
14 possibility, in all your models and so on, and the
15 types of earth crusts that you explained and so on,
16 could a tsunami occur followed -- an earthquake
17 followed by a tsunami, could there be a tsunami in
18 Lake Ontario?

19 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Yeah, I cannot be
20 -- I'm certainly not an expert in tsunami. I can
21 talk about the -- say the seismic input. Because
22 the earthquakes are quite small around Lake
23 Ontario, it would be very unlikely that you would
24 get the surface rupture at the bottom of the lake
25 that could give you the impulse. Naturally experts

1 in tsunamis could work from this inputting if we
2 have such an input here as what it would cause, but
3 this is outside my field of expertise, and I'm
4 sorry about that.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I guess your
6 explanation you gave with regard to faults and the
7 different type of faults around --

8 DR. LAMONTAGNE: M'hmm.

9 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: -- three --
10 three different examples. The faults in -- and of
11 course, on the Pacific are around all the Pacific
12 and especially the ring of fire and so on. Has
13 that -- are the faults in -- in this part of the
14 world, in this part of Canada, especially Lake
15 Ontario area, is -- are the faults similar or is it
16 a different type of fault?

17 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Well, certainly
18 around the Pacific and the Indian Ocean, we have
19 these subduction zones. And as we saw, they can
20 lead to very, very large earthquakes where tsunamis
21 are something that happens when -- in these
22 magnitude eight plus earthquakes.

23 Around Lake Ontario we don't
24 expect such big earthquakes because as we saw
25 previously, they're mostly in these subduction

1 zones. And Lake Ontario is certainly not a
2 subduction zone, it's well inside the plates. So
3 we don't expect the large earthquake that could
4 cause a tsunami.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay. Thank
6 you. Questions? Do you have another question?
7 Okay.

8 Before I go to interveners, I
9 guess Mr. Mattson, you are going to have a --
10 you're walking to the microphone to have a
11 question. I'll allow one question and then we go
12 to the other part of the presentation, which is
13 CNSC, but I will allow one question.

14 --- QUESTIONS BY THE INTERVENERS:

15 MR. MATTSON: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman, that's kind of you. And I just -- before
17 I get to my question, there was a clarification
18 from Member Pereira's question about the percent
19 acceleration due to gravity as a result of a six
20 Richter scale earthquake, and I didn't quite get
21 the answer to that. Was there an undertaking, Mr.
22 -- Dr. Lamontagne? That was -- what was the
23 percent acceleration due to gravity as a result of
24 a Richter scale six earthquake?

25 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Oh, okay.

1 MR. MATTSON: (inaudible) talking
2 about 1 to 2 percent.

3 DR. LAMONTANGE: Okay. It's --
4 what I was saying was that historically, for 110
5 years of monitoring, it's estimated that the
6 maximum ground acceleration for 110 years of
7 recording would be between 1 and 2 percent g, and I
8 think it's only an estimate, because to my
9 knowledge I don't think there were -- there was a
10 trigger of an instrument. So that's only an
11 estimate I think.

12 MR. MATTSON: Yeah, I was thinking
13 of the one in 500-year six Richter scale. I
14 thought that was what Member was asking you about.

15 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Okay, but this I
16 cannot answer at this time. I'm not --

17 MR. MATTSON: Could we get an
18 undertaking to that though? The one in 500 year
19 earthquake Richter scale, what the percent ground
20 acceleration would be. And I know the 110 year one
21 --

22 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Yeah.

23 MR. MATTSON: -- I think we need
24 to know the 500-year one.

25 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Okay. That

1 naturally depends on the distance you are from the
2 epicenter, and also on the focal depth, so it's not
3 only magnitude six equals ground acceleration.

4 MR. MATTSON: Okay. Could you do
5 it the same as you did if they were 1 to 2 percent?

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Just through
7 the Chair, Mr. Mattson.

8 MR. MATTSON: Oh, sorry, Mr.
9 Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: And I think
11 what I will do on this, so we don't get into a
12 debate, the panel member, Mr. Pereira, will ask the
13 question. If he was not satisfied with the answer
14 he got, then we'll do an undertaking.

15 And I guess, Mr. Pereira, were you
16 satisfied or not?

17 MEMBER PEREIRA: I am satisfied
18 with the level of this presentation. I expect the
19 CNSC staff to cover the issue when they talk about
20 the hazard spectrum use for the design of the
21 Darlington reactor, and I will be questioning him
22 on the basis for what is -- having considered for
23 the -- for the design of the Darlington reactor,
24 justification of that. So that issue will be
25 covered then.

1 MR. MATTSON: And, Mr. Chairman,
2 (inaudible) but a follow-up question.

3 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay. Mr.
4 Mattson, I think we'll cover that under CNSC when
5 they do the presentation, and then I'll give you an
6 opportunity to ask another question then. And one
7 other gentleman would ask a question, but I think
8 we'll hold those until Mr. --

9 MR. MATTSON: Mr. Chairman, I
10 think it'll be helpful on my question. That was
11 just a clarification. I didn't understand if there
12 was an undertaking or not. It helps in terms of
13 trying to --

14 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Oh, okay.

15 MR. MATTSON: -- help the board
16 and be of assistance to this -- to this discussion
17 and this environmental assessment. I only have one
18 question.

19 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay. But
20 the patience for CNSC for the undertaking.

21 MR. MATTSON: I'll get to them
22 too, I hope, if I could.

23 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay.

24 MR. MATTSON: But Dr. Lamontagne,
25 back in 1992 I was counsel at the demand supply

1 plan hearing, and there was discussions about
2 ground acceleration on Lake Ontario, and that the
3 American plants in Port Perry and Nine Mile Point
4 on the American side were built to 15 g, and the
5 Canadians were built to 3 g, and the concern was
6 that there was a potential -- I'm not sure if those
7 are factful, but there was a concern was that there
8 were two new lineaments discovered, the Niagara
9 lineament, and the Georgian Bay lineament mining
10 under Lake Ontario, and they, in fact, crossed
11 under the Darlington Nuclear Plant. And I'm
12 wondering if you have any familiarity with those
13 two lineaments, and whether or not you could inform
14 the panel if they exist or if they've been ruled
15 out. Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr.
17 Lamontagne, do you care -- are you able to answer
18 that?

19 DR. LAMONTAGNE: To my knowledge
20 OPG commissioned professors at different
21 universities to look into these problems. And I
22 think there were internal reports that were sent to
23 OPG on these topics.

24 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay. Mr.
25 Pereira, you had one follow-up question and then we

1 will go to CNSC and perhaps some of this -- some of
2 these matters may be clarified.

3 MEMBER PEREIRA: Just a
4 clarification on magnitudes and the Richter scale.
5 The numbers are quoted, perhaps you could clarify
6 as to the relative strength of earthquakes when you
7 go from five to six to seven, and so on, so sort of
8 the -- we can all understand what this means in
9 terms of severity.

10 DR. LAMONTAGNE: We all know that
11 for the general public it's the Richter scale, but
12 among scientists we know that we don't use a
13 Richter scale as traditionally defined.
14 Traditionally defined by Charles Richter in 1935 is
15 that if you have an earthquake and you're measuring
16 its vibrations at -- say at 100 kilometres, a step
17 from five to six or any step of one unit in the
18 magnitude scale means that the ground vibrations
19 will be multiplied by ten. So from five to six it
20 would be ten times greater. From six to seven it
21 would be ten times greater, but from five to seven
22 it would be 100, and so on.

23 In terms of energy, and here is
24 the confusion, is that from five to six is 30
25 times -- about 32 times the energy. So from five

1 to seven, would be 32 times 32, close to a thousand
2 times more energy released and that's why these
3 magnitude nine earthquakes are just incredible in
4 terms of the energy released. They're beyond
5 imagination compared with these magnitude fives.

6 MEMBER PEREIRA: And -- and that's
7 an important point to consider because we're in
8 this presentation now because of what happened in
9 Japan where they had a 8.7 and -- so putting that
10 in the context of this thought of -- of Ontario,
11 we're talking about hazards which are significantly
12 lower if -- if we believe what the network is
13 telling us; is that correct?

14 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Excuse me, you
15 said considerably smaller than --

16 MEMBER PEREIRA: What was
17 experienced in Japan?

18 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Oh, absolutely.
19 It's much -- the -- the level of hazard in -- in
20 Ontario is not comparable to these large subduction
21 zones that we -- we find around the Pacific.
22 There's absolutely -- if we just look at the
23 energy, like we were saying, it's -- it's many
24 thousands of times smaller when you have a
25 magnitude five.

1 MEMBER PEREIRA: And this is the
2 evidence that you get from your monitoring network
3 and your prognostic approach to hazard assessment
4 for Canada?

5 DR. LAMONTAGNE: I'm sorry. You
6 mean that it's considerably smaller in --

7 MEMBER PEREIRA: Based on your
8 measurements and your hazard spectrum?

9 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Oh, absolutely
10 these earthquakes we're measuring are very, very
11 small. In fact I -- if you are talking about the
12 magnitude two, you can get that only be setting off
13 an explosion in a quarry for example. So they are
14 very small. And magnitude five, in terms of
15 energy, that's still very small compared to a
16 magnitude nine. Magnitude nine, in fact, is quite
17 surprising, but you have to consider that it's
18 raising or lowering hundreds of kilometres of rocks
19 at the same time so the energy is such that the
20 earth is sent in a vibrating mode for days
21 afterwards. It's incredible. They're in two
22 different leagues really, the magnitude fives and
23 the magnitude nines.

24 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay, thank
25 you very much. I think perhaps to expedite this as

1 well as possible, I'll call on Mr. Barclay Howden
2 to introduce and -- introduce the topic from CNSC's
3 perspective.

4 MR. HOWDEN: Thank you, Barclay
5 Howden speaking. As I said before, I have Mr.
6 Gerry Frappier and Dr. David Newlen (phonetic) who
7 are going to present. It's a single presentation,
8 but broken into two pieces where Mr. Frappier is
9 going to talk about the events in Japan and then
10 Mr. Newlen will be providing your view -- our view
11 of the impact these may have on our view of the new
12 Darlington project. And I think we may be able to
13 answer some of the questions that have been posed
14 by the panel. So I turn it over to Mr. Frappier.

15 --- PRESENTATION BY MR. FRAPPIER:

16 MR. FRAPPIER: Thank you, Barclay.
17 Good afternoon. My name is Gerry Frappier and I'm
18 the director general, assessment and analysis at
19 the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. First of
20 all I'd like to start off that on behalf of the
21 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to offer
22 condolences to all the Japanese who lost their
23 loved ones; lost their lives due to the earthquake
24 and the subsequent -- subsequently through the
25 tsunami that -- that occurred there. I think we're

1 -- obviously as was just mentioned, an event of
2 historic proportion as far as geology goes.

3 Today we're going to spread our
4 presentation into two pieces. First of all we'll
5 talk a little bit about the Fukushima event itself
6 and then we'll talk about what we believe are the
7 implications for the Darlington new build that --
8 that we're talking about. We've already talked a
9 bit about seismicity and we'll talk about some of
10 the -- the lessons that we've learned already from
11 Japan.

12 Certainly immediately after the --
13 the event that happened in Japan, the Canadian
14 Nuclear Safety Commission activated its emergency
15 operation centre to monitor, support and learn from
16 the events happening in Japan. We have a very
17 strong linkage with other regulators, both the
18 Japanese, the Americans, the British, the French
19 and several others, as well as the linkage with the
20 International Atomic Energy Agency.

21 So the information I'm going to
22 present here is information based mainly on
23 information released by the Japanese authorities
24 who have the responsibility for managing the
25 situation including the release of information

1 details. However, it is a -- still a changing
2 event and we're not going to comment necessarily on
3 hour to hour developments at the Japanese reactor.

4 This is a picture of the Fukushima
5 site which shows the six nuclear power plants that
6 are located at that site, four which are in the
7 foreground, units one to four, and five and six are
8 -- are viewed a little bit further down the -- down
9 the coastline.

10 A little bit closer view of it,
11 the first four reactors in -- in the foreground.
12 The unit four is the closest reactor followed by
13 then three, two, one and then further in the back
14 is five and six. The high box or building that --
15 that you see a little bit to the left of those
16 pictures is the actual reactor building and then
17 the long lower buildings are the turbine halls that
18 would have turbines and generators in them.

19 This is a quick cut-away view of a
20 typical boiling water reactor similar to the one
21 that the Japanese had at -- have a Fukushima
22 Daiichi. The reactor pressure vessel is the brown
23 cylinder in the centre. There's a steel primary
24 containment which consists of the -- what's called
25 the drywell or that light bulb-shaped steel vessel

1 surrounding the reactor and extending below. And
2 then the wetwell or the torus, but basically that
3 donut-shaped, if you like, that -- there is around
4 the bottom -- ring around the bottom of the -- of
5 the reactor.

6 The secondary containment is the
7 square concrete building housing the primary
8 containment. And particular to this design is the
9 spent fuel storage pools which are located below
10 the overheard crane near the top of the -- the
11 primary containment vessel. You can see the -- the
12 arrow showing the spent fuel pool. The fuel is
13 stored there in vertical racks. I know most of the
14 people in this room have experience with CANDU
15 reactors and as you can see this is a design that
16 is very, very different than -- than the CANDU
17 design.

18 A bit of a schematic view of the
19 -- the primary containment itself. Steam may be
20 vented into the drywell. That's the -- the donut-
21 shaped torus at the bottom either from a loss of
22 coolant accident or as in Japan, by automatic or
23 manual pressure relief valve operations. That is
24 if the -- if the pressure gets too high in -- in
25 the main drywell, they can open a valve and release

1 it down into that torus. The vented steam bubbles
2 through the water in the suppression pool,
3 condensing the steam and removing little solid
4 fission products. Gaseous fission products and any
5 hydrogen that may be present if the fuel has been
6 overheating, will collect above the suppression
7 pool and both the drywell and the wetwell can be
8 vented to the secondary containment to maintain --
9 contain the pressures below limits. So clearly in
10 a severe accident situation like we have there,
11 it's important to ensure that pressure doesn't get
12 too high and so controlled venting is something
13 that needed to be done.

14 The fuel assembly again, very
15 different than CANDU facilities. Fuel is composed
16 of ceramic pellets that are enclosed in a zirconium
17 cladding which forms fuel rods that are 3.7 metres
18 long. These fuel rods are then combined into an
19 eight by eight fuel assembly matrix that's shown
20 here. As I mentioned also within the containment
21 is a -- is the spent fuel pool, a picture of which
22 is shown here. These pools continue to be of
23 concern in unit one and four and I'll talk about
24 that in a minute, but clearly the -- the pools have
25 to maintain cooling to maintain the -- the

1 integrity of the fuel.

2 I'm not going to talk too much
3 about the cause of the earthquakes because we just
4 had a much better presentation from Dr. Lamontagne
5 than I -- than I could do, but I do want to just
6 highlight a couple of things. First of all the
7 importance of differentiating between earthquakes
8 generated at the borders between seismic plates,
9 the plate tectonic ones which is the case in Japan
10 and as was mentioned in the West Coast of Canada,
11 versus intraplate earthquakes experienced here in
12 Eastern Canada which are generally much, much
13 smaller in magnitude as Dr. Lamontagne said, really
14 in a different league.

15 So to bring the earthquake
16 magnitude that we've been talking about into the
17 realm of engineering, we have to go through a -- a
18 chart that goes a little bit like this: So
19 magnitude is a measure of the energy released from
20 the earthquake and there are very many magnitude
21 scales, as was just mentioned the Richter Scale
22 being perhaps the best known, but not as useful as
23 some of the others. The potential effects on
24 facilities depends not only on the magnitude, but
25 also on the distance and the foundation of the soil

1 that -- indicating that the area around Darlington
2 is a very -- a low to medium earthquake zone. This
3 is a chart that shows all the earthquakes from
4 1985. And as you can see on the scale, there are
5 quite small earthquakes in and around Lake Ontario.

6 Let's go back to Japan and talk a
7 little bit about the Fukushima event. So just
8 prior to the event, the six units which you can see
9 here, their size in megawatt electric plus the year
10 they came into service. Years 1, 2, 3, were normal
11 operation; 4, 5, 6 were in outage at the time.
12 Unit 4 in particular was in the process of being
13 defueled.

14 The initiating event, as was just
15 mentioned, was an earthquake magnitude 9 on March
16 11th centered offshore of the Sendai region which
17 contains the capital Tokyo. The plant designed for
18 a magnitude 8.2 earthquakes so a magnitude 9 is
19 roughly about 8 times stronger in energy.

20 But most important is it was
21 followed by a very significant tsunami and
22 significant aftershocks measured in hundreds and
23 hundreds of aftershocks, some of which were over 6
24 and even over 7 so really quite earthquakes in
25 their own rights.

1 So what happened at the site? So
2 our understanding of this might change a little bit
3 as details get finalized but I think we have enough
4 to construct a bit of a story. The description is
5 general and is not intended as an accurate
6 chronology of events as they occurred but basically
7 to get the outline.

8 So an earthquake strikes and the
9 operating reactors, Unit 1 and 3, immediately
10 shutdown as they were designed to do. Although the
11 fusion is zero in the reactor once it's shutdown,
12 there's still decay heat which must be removed so
13 you must continue to have cooling systems.

14 At the same time, the external
15 electric power from the grid was lost to the
16 station and diesel generators started which
17 provided backup electric power for the plant safety
18 system, again as designed.

19 After about 20 to 30 minutes, the
20 site is struck by a very large tsunami and about an
21 hour or so diesel generators stop functioning due
22 to the tsunami-induced damage.

23 At that point, cooling pumps no
24 longer operate and the reactor core cooling is
25 compromised. In the absence of pumped flow, the

1 coolant of the reactors start to boil and that
2 builds up pressure.

3 Up to -- in eight hours or so they
4 had electric power and that allowed certain
5 equipment to be maintained and in particular
6 instrumentation and control. But subsequent to
7 that, the station goes into a complete electrical
8 blackout and they have no power on site.

9 So several hours pass as the
10 primary loop water boils away eventually resulting
11 in the top of the core becoming uncovered.

12 As we mentioned, there's no chain
13 reaction going on at the time but the core is still
14 hot and needs to be cooled.

15 Without any water on it,
16 degradation will start and fuel elements will lose
17 their structural integrity. The fuel cladding
18 begins to fail resulting in release of fusion
19 products into containment and the fuel elements we
20 believe have started to partially melt or at least
21 break apart.

22 The fuel cladding and steam
23 reaction produces hydrogen, zirconium itself will
24 develop into hydrogen when exposed to air and heat.
25 And as boiling continues, steam continues to raise

1 the pressure in the primary loop of the boiling
2 water reactor.

3 Steam and hydrogen at that point
4 need to be vented to protect the containment and is
5 vented into the reactor building.

6 Hydrogen accumulates within the
7 reactor building and eventually explodes which was
8 the dramatic pictures that I'm sure most people
9 have seen.

10 So at this point the -- while the
11 timing of the core degradation at different units
12 is unclear, it is believed that Units 1, 2, and 3
13 have all suffered core damage.

14 As a result of the explosions in
15 Unit 1 and 3, reactor building collapses around the
16 containment, now this is the outside of the
17 building, the containment itself is still there.
18 At this time, the primary containment and reactor
19 pressure vessels are intact.

20 After the initial few hours and
21 through the event, severe accidents management
22 procedures were initiated beginning with getting
23 seawater injected into the primary loop to add
24 water to cool down the core.

25 Offsite electric power was brought

1 fairly hot. And again, without power, the cooling
2 for those pools starts to be suspect.

3 Radiation hazards that -- in the
4 area, impeded recovery efforts. And today -- I
5 really do mean today, so I've got to check my
6 slight update here that I have as of this morning
7 -- so this is a bit of the situation.

8 So you can see for Units 1 to 4
9 which are the ones of primary concern although I'll
10 talk about 5 and 6 in a minute, we have the -- I
11 think everybody will understand the colouring
12 codes, but green is where we're pretty good, yellow
13 is very concerned and red is severe condition.

14 The only change I would say to --
15 of significance to this chart today is a good news
16 story on Unit 2 where we talked about the offsite
17 AC power whereas we're just getting it to the
18 substation before, we now have it actually to the
19 unit and so they're starting to start up different
20 systems within Unit 2.

21 But clearly there's been some
22 damage to buildings, the water level within the
23 reactor pressure vessel is below the core. And the
24 pressure while stabilized is still not as secure as
25 we would want it.

1 Units 5 and 6 are in good shape.
2 And in fact even the yellow levels on the bottom
3 having to do with their spent fuel pool temperature
4 today is moving over to green as they have power
5 now and so their cooling systems can resume.

6 So in summary, the current
7 situation today is we are seeing some steady
8 improvements but the overall situation at the
9 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant remains very
10 serious. Contamination has been measured in the
11 locality of the plant both onsite and off.

12 The restoration of electric power
13 to Unit 2 is good news; the AC power is available
14 and electrical load checks to pumps, et cetera, is
15 currently going on. This should provide us with
16 getting the systems back in order to provide
17 adequate cooling.

18 Work on the restoration of offsite
19 power to Units 3 and 4 is also underway.

20 Seawater is still being injected
21 in the reactor pressure vessels, Units 1, 2 and 3
22 to maintain cooling.

23 The pressure in the reactor
24 vessels and the containment vessel dry well at Unit
25 3 which had been rising over the past few days has

1 now began to fall again so there's some control
2 being in place there.

3 Water is being sprayed
4 periodically into the spent fuel pools at Units 2,
5 3 and 4. We still lack solid data on what the
6 water level is in those pools or what the
7 temperature is in the spent fuel pools of the first
8 four reactors.

9 As I mentioned, following the
10 restoration of cooling unit 5 and 6 temperatures in
11 the spent fuel pools continue to decline and that's
12 good news as that'll get us back to normal.

13 So what have we learned from this
14 event that's important to this panel? The CNSC's
15 been monitoring 24-7 the Fukushima events and
16 evaluating it very closely. Here are some of the
17 key lessons learned to date.

18 We must not underestimate the
19 importance of the capability of the plant to
20 mitigate natural events such as earthquakes,
21 floods, tsunamis, tornadoes, fire events -- let's
22 say in Canada we also put extreme weather such as
23 ice storms and whatnot.

24 The capability of a plant to
25 mitigate combined natural events such as flooding

1 resulting from an earthquake or combination of
2 earthquake with an ice storm; those kinds of things
3 have to be taken into account.

4 The capability of a plant to
5 survive and to maintain integrity even with a
6 complete station blackout.

7 The capability of a plant to
8 mitigate severe accidents including loss of major
9 safety systems; for example, robust power supply
10 over a long term is important.

11 An effective severe management --
12 accident management program is needed and effective
13 emergency management -- sorry, emergency planning
14 both within the site and also with offsite -- in
15 our case, provincial authorities is absolutely key.

16 So what I'd like to do now is ask
17 Dr. Dave Newland to provide some of the insight
18 into how the implications here, what does that mean
19 with respect to what's been done so far on the
20 Darlington new build program.

21 --- PRESENTATION BY DR. NEWLAND:

22 DR. NEWLAND: Thank you Mr.
23 Frappier.

24 I'm Director of the New Major
25 Facilities Licensing Division. And what I'm going

1 to talk about are the implications of the event.

2 I will explain start, fuels
3 regarding the implications of these events in Japan
4 to the EIS, the Environmental Impact Statement
5 report and to the application for licence to
6 prepare a site.

7 First I'd note is that staff
8 needed to re-evaluate our work that had been done
9 on the suitability of the site.

10 Second, we recognize there will be
11 many lessons learned. And I would like to give the
12 panel a sense of how the CNSC intends to move
13 forward with these.

14 The CNSC has established its
15 modern requirements for the design of new nuclear
16 power plants. And we will review these to ensure
17 that lessons learned, as they are learned, will be
18 incorporated. In particular, there may be lessons
19 learned on the characterization of external events
20 and on severe accident progression and phenomena.

21 Finally, CNSC's staff will ensure
22 that the CNSC's safety goals for severe accidents
23 are met during the licensing process so that the
24 environmental impact statement is respected.

25 I would like to start with the

1 overall conclusions so that you can keep these in
2 mind as we go through the rest of the presentation.

3 CNSC's staff understands the Japan
4 event in sufficient detail to be able to draw
5 conclusions on the implications for the
6 environmental impact statement and the licence to
7 prepare a site.

8 Taking into account the lessons
9 learned to date; staff's conclusions and
10 recommendations with respect to both the
11 environmental impact statement and licence to
12 prepare a site remain unchanged.

13 There will be more detailed
14 lessons learned that could have implications for
15 design and severe accident management, to take two
16 examples, that will be taken into account at the
17 time of an application for a licence to construct.

18 So let us first discuss the
19 suitability of the site with respect to seismicity.
20 As we've heard before, earthquake of magnitude 9.0
21 is not credible for Canadian inland sites.

22 Nuclear power plants are
23 seismically designed following regulatory
24 expectations in RD-337 for which there are clear
25 acceptance criteria. We have technical

1 requirements set out in standards of the Canadian
2 Standards Association that will be updated taking
3 into account international state-of-the-art
4 information.

5 Design basis earthquake is defined
6 as the ground motion with an annual probability of
7 exceedance of less than 1 in 10,000 years. For the
8 Darlington site, given that frequency, that is a
9 peak ground acceleration of approximately 0.2.

10 All proposed designs within the
11 environmental impact statement will be anchored as
12 proposed at 0.3g. So in conclusion, staff believe
13 that the site is seismically suitable.

14 Turning now to the question of
15 tsunamis; designs must consider tsunamis and such.
16 Tsunamis are long-period gravity waves generated by
17 a sudden displacement underneath the surface of the
18 water. Darlington site is located in the Great
19 Lake region of Canada.

20 It's in a geologically stable,
21 mid-continental region where, as we have heard, the
22 rate of occurrence of earthquakes is low. At
23 inland sites, tsunamis such as those in Japan are
24 not credible and nor is a combined earthquake with
25 a tsunami event. So in conclusion from staff's

1 perspective, we believe that the site is suitable.

2 We now come to the current design
3 requirements for new nuclear power plants. And
4 although it is not directly relevant to the
5 environmental impact statement or the licence to
6 prepare a site, I would like to give some assurance
7 that these types of events that occurred in Japan
8 have already been thought about by staff in setting
9 up their requirements in RD-337.

10 So CNSC has established its modern
11 requirements in that document. It contains
12 requirements for many of the phenomena that
13 occurred at Fukushima. So for example, it contains
14 provisions for station blackouts, mitigation
15 against severe accidents, for hydrogen mitigation,
16 for external events and for fire protection.

17 CNSC staff will take lessons
18 learned from the Fukushima event into consideration
19 and will, as appropriate, update its requirements.
20 Furthermore, CNSC staff will, at the time of the
21 licence to construct, ensure that the selected
22 technology has adequate division -- design
23 provisions to address both CNSC requirements and
24 the lessons learned.

25 So the next two slides give

1 examples that illustrate in a little bit more
2 detail.

3 So with respect to designing full
4 station blackout; in Canada, current and proposed
5 plants are well provided with redundant power
6 supplies. There are emergency generators, standby
7 generators. It is recognized that those have
8 failed in the event at Fukushima.

9 Some modern designs go further and
10 have passive features that do not require power.

11 Once again, I would stress that
12 staff will review our requirements and, again, at
13 the time of a licence to construct ensure that the
14 selected technology will have adequate design
15 provisions to such types of events i.e. station
16 blackout.

17 As another example, let's consider
18 severe accidents. As I indicated last night,
19 nuclear power plants around the world and in Canada
20 are required to have specific design provisions to
21 address severe accidents.

22 CNSC has identified those explicit
23 requirements in our documentation in RD-337, so I
24 give a specific example. Design identifies the
25 equipment to be used in the management of severe

1 accidents. Confidence that this equipment will
2 perform as intended in the case of a severe
3 accident is demonstrated by environmental fire and
4 seismic assessments.

5 So that is an example of what we
6 already have in our requirements. Existing and
7 modern designs do have provisions to mitigate
8 against severe accidents. Once again, we will take
9 lessons learned from what we've seen in Japan.

10 We will review our requirements
11 once again at the time of the licence to construct;
12 we'll ensure that all that is appropriate will be
13 in place.

14 So, in summary, the scale of the
15 earthquake and resulting tsunami at Fukushima is,
16 in the view of staff, incredible for the Darlington
17 site.

18 CNSC requires that reactor designs
19 consider all natural events such as earthquakes,
20 tsunami, flooding, tornadoes, as design-basis
21 events as appropriate to the Darlington site.

22 Designs are required to consider
23 combined events where appropriate, for example,
24 flooding that could occur as a result of an
25 earthquake, again as design-basis events.

1 Station blackout, one of the worst
2 consequences of these common-cause events, must be
3 considered in the design of any new nuclear power
4 plant for Canada.

5 CNSC requires that reactor designs
6 consider severe accidents a very low probability by
7 including what we refer to as "complementary design
8 features", i.e. those features necessary and
9 specific to mitigate the consequences of severe
10 accidents. Furthermore, CNSC requires that severe
11 accident management guidelines be in place.

12 And, once again, I would stress
13 that detailed learned -- lessons learned from the
14 Fukushima event will be considered for the design
15 of any new nuclear plant project and in particular
16 for Darlington new build.

17 So here I simply reiterate the
18 three conclusions that you've seen before; I won't
19 read them again.

20 That completes the end of the
21 presentation. Thank you.

22 And I look forward to answering
23 questions that the panel and intervenors may have.

24 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
25 very much.

1 I believe now would be an
2 opportune time, we've been going about 2 hours, to
3 take a 15-minute break.

4 When we come back, we will start
5 with questions from panel members.

6 So we'll be back at 4:15. Thank
7 you.

8 --- Upon recessing at 4:00 p.m.

9 --- Upon resuming at 4:17 p.m.

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay, ladies
11 and gentleman, we'll start -- or continue on this
12 morning's agenda this afternoon, and I will go to
13 Mr. Pereira for the first questions.

14 --- QUESTIONS BY THE PANEL:

15 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman. I'll start with a few questions
17 concerning their program -- what happened in Japan.

18 We had some overview of the
19 sequence of events following the earthquake and the
20 tsunami.

21 Mr. Frappier spoke about
22 controlled venting. How far into the event did the
23 operators decide to vent, timewise?

24 MR. FRAPPIER: Gerry Frappier, for
25 the record.

1 So there was a couple of different
2 venting events, and if you give me a moment I'm
3 just going to get my page here that will tell me.

4 So by venting I assume you mean
5 venting to the atmosphere as opposed to inside the
6 containment?

7 MEMBER PEREIRA: Inside the
8 containment.

9 (SHORT PAUSE)

10 MR. FRAPPIER: Perhaps if you
11 could do another question while I just -- I know I
12 have the paper because I was expecting that. I
13 just can't find it right now.

14 MEMBER PEREIRA: And while you're
15 doing that, inside containment and then to the
16 atmosphere as well. So I'll go into another
17 question.

18 They also experienced a loss of
19 power from the grid. Is this similar to the
20 reference that Dr. Newland made to a station
21 blackout?

22 DR. NEWLAND: For the record, Dave
23 Newland.

24 No, the two are a little bit
25 different. So the loss of grid was a direct

1 consequence of the earthquake that took the grid
2 down. That meant that the plant itself no longer
3 had power from the grid directly.

4 As Mr. Frappier explained, diesel
5 generators did start up, they did function for 20
6 to 30 minutes prior to being struck by the tsunami
7 and some of them did function up to an hour.

8 Once those failed, there was still
9 other sources of power and in particular battery
10 power. And so it's not until you lose all sources
11 of power that it become a true station -- what we
12 traditionally call a "station blackout sequence".

13 MEMBER PEREIRA: So in lay terms
14 then station blackout means total loss of power to
15 the reactor -- electrical power?

16 DR. NEWLAND: Yes, exactly.

17 MEMBER PEREIRA: Another question.
18 These spent fuel pools, there was some reports, and
19 Mr. Frappier referred to them, of overheating in
20 the pools. Was that caused by a loss of coolant
21 from the pools or loss of cooling to the pools?

22 MR. FRAPPIER: Gerry Frappier, for
23 the record.

24 The spent fuel pools have a need
25 for cooling to maintain the water at the

1 temperature that you want it to be at to ensure
2 that all the spent fuel is kept cool. With the
3 loss of active cooling, the water started heating
4 up and evaporation increased.

5 When the hydrogen explosion
6 occurred, in particular in Unit 4, you basically
7 lost the top of the building over top of that pool
8 and so evaporation occurred much quicker and, of
9 course, as it's heating up there's -- it's
10 occurring faster still.

11 There's been several reports that
12 indicate that a lot of the water had gone through
13 some mechanisms, perhaps a breach in the pool of
14 some sort. That has not been confirmed and is hard
15 to see giving that we're able to refill the pool.

16 So the thinking right now is that
17 most of the pool water has -- it's been through
18 evaporation although there might have some
19 associated with the explosion and a bit of a
20 question mark at this point as to whether fuel was
21 actually exposed to air or not.

22 And perhaps just to go back to
23 your first question, sorry, so the venting into
24 containment occurred after eight hours and then
25 from the containment into the reactor building

1 itself was a few hours after that until about a
2 day.

3 MEMBER PEREIRA: You don't know
4 what the few hours later was? Was it 12 hours, 16?

5 MR. FRAPPIER: I don't have it
6 right here in front of me, no.

7 MEMBER PEREIRA: Okay, another
8 question.

9 Dr. Newland, you referred to -- in
10 considering the lessons learned, the CNSC would be
11 looking at re-examining safety goals and looking as
12 to how any changes might be made to ensure that the
13 environmental assessment stays valid.

14 Is that what you said or did you
15 say something slightly different?

16 My concern -- my interest is in a
17 remark you made about the environmental assessment.

18 DR. NEWLAND: Dave Newland, for
19 the record.

20 I don't think that is quite what I
21 said so let me attempt to clarify it.

22 What I said was that we will
23 ensure that the design will respect the safety
24 goals that we already have. Those are the safety
25 goals on which the EIS is based because we have

1 used, or rather OPG has used, safety goal-based
2 releases in order to drive the requirements for
3 offsite response.

4 And so when we get into looking at
5 the design, we would ensure that those safety goals
6 are respected both in terms of frequency and the
7 quantities of (inaudible).

8 MEMBER PEREIRA: You miss a very
9 important point because we have had a considerable
10 number of questions about the application of the
11 plant parameter envelope and the analysis of what
12 that means in terms of accidents.

13 And so your clarification is that
14 when the choice is made of technology from the
15 CNSC's point of view, you would be going back to
16 make sure that the technology choice in the reactor
17 design fits in with what was assumed for the
18 environmental assessment; is that correct?

19 DR. NEWLAND: That's -- that's
20 exactly right, and we will take into account the
21 lessons learned from Fukushima.

22 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you. One
23 of the points in Mr. Frappier's report, besides the
24 hydrogen release and the explosions resulting from
25 hydrogen and containment -- ignition of hydrogen

1 and containment, you referred to other fires in the
2 plant. Clearly fire protection is an important
3 issue in the operation of any nuclear power plant.

4 Do you have any knowledge of what
5 would have been the causes of those other fires, I
6 know the damage is pretty severe, but at this
7 stage, very early days, do you have any information
8 on the cause of those fires?

9 MR. FRAPPIER: At this stage the
10 -- the assumption for most of the fires is they
11 have to do with hydrogen and hydrogen buildup. The
12 other, more general fires that we're hearing about
13 could be from the -- especially now, with us trying
14 to put electric power back into systems and systems
15 that have been damaged, but the -- the exact cause
16 of each of them is -- is not known at this point.

17 MEMBER PEREIRA: And I'm jumping
18 around a bit. We made some references to station
19 blackout, and they got some clarification on that.
20 In your experience with power reactors in Canada,
21 we did, in 2003, have a loss of electrical power in
22 Ontario, and which I presume affected all of the
23 operating reactors, how the reactors -- the
24 reactors fared then, and what did you learn from
25 that experience in terms of what we do when you

1 build reactors.

2 DR. NEWLAND: Dave -- Dave Newland
3 for the record. You're testing my memory a bit
4 here. One of the -- one of the key lessons that we
5 did learn was for one of the units. It -- it went
6 through the events, but it was essentially without
7 any form of backup power for approximately five
8 hours. But because of natural phenomenon, that was
9 perfectly fine. There was no other -- there was no
10 damage, no damage to the fuel. It was cold, but we
11 recognized that if maybe that had gone to a lot
12 longer, or more importantly, if there had been some
13 other event at the same time, it may not have been
14 such a picky situation.

15 So we then required that each of
16 the stations take a look at what backup power they
17 have, and for Pickering A, they installed backup
18 diesel generators. That was one of the key lessons
19 learned. I think there were many others, but that
20 was one of the key ones for me.

21 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you. And
22 -- and in terms of new reactor designs, backup
23 power is something that is standard in designs now?

24 DR. NEWLAND: Yes, it is.

25 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Just on that

1 before I go to Madam Beaudet, I remember very well
2 at licencing that the backup power, there wasn't
3 adequate backup generation, OPG didn't have, and it
4 took almost a year to get the adequate diesel
5 generators in place. Is there a secondary -- was
6 there a secondary backup at that time, like
7 batteries, that kicked in before because there
8 wasn't adequate diesel generators, or was there no
9 power at all for five hours?

10 DR. NEWLAND: The -- just to
11 clarify, there were other sources of power, but
12 they weren't available in order to force the
13 circulation around the heat transport system. So
14 certainly there were at least two other classes of
15 power available for things like instrumentation and
16 for backup.

17 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Because if I
18 remember there was -- it's not just a little bit of
19 power, it's -- it's, you know, diesel generators
20 that had to be purchased and installed by OPG were
21 -- were quite large, 25 to 50 megawatt generators,
22 I believe, at the time. Is there now, and
23 following Mr. Pereira's questioning, is there now
24 -- is that now a requirement that adequate diesel
25 generators are -- are in place at all of these

1 facilities?

2 DR. NEWLAND: Dave Newland for the
3 record. I'm going to start by saying that it
4 probably depends on the design because some designs
5 do not need that backup. They -- they rely on
6 passive systems in order to remove the -- the decay
7 heat.

8 There are other systems where you
9 do require the backup. In any event, depending on
10 the design, we would require those passive safety
11 systems to be clearly demonstrated that they were
12 adequate and robust, and that if you can't do it
13 passively, then we would expect at least one
14 backup. And certainly in some of the designs they
15 are looking at what they refer to as a station
16 blackout backup source of power.

17 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Do all four
18 of the proposed types that there are before us, do
19 they all have a passive backup system? Do they all
20 have that -- that passive way of cooling?

21 DR. NEWLAND: I can't be sure.
22 Some of them will rely on active systems rather
23 than passive, and I think that that level of
24 information, I certainly don't have at my
25 fingertips, and I'm not sure that it would be in

1 the application.

2 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

3 I'll save that question for OPG later. Madam

4 Beaudet?

5 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr.

6 Chairman. I have a question for Mr. Newland and

7 then for Mr. Lamontagne.

8 We have in the presentation of

9 CNSC here, lessons learned from the Fukushima

10 event. On page 23 you say that:

11 "We must not underestimate
12 the importance of capability
13 of the plant to mitigate
14 natural events, such as
15 earthquake, floods, tsunami,
16 tornado and fire events."

17 When we look at the PMD 1.3, the
18 analysis of CNSC on page 137 and 138:

19 "We realize that for the
20 EPR there has to be more. A
21 similar evaluation has to be
22 done, has to be performed for
23 the EPR design to mitigate
24 against the issue of high-
25 spectro frequency excedents

1 of designs response spectra."

2 So CNSC has recommended that there
3 should be further analysis done.

4 And then for the Westinghouse, on
5 the next page:

6 "We had more information
7 regarding the winds, floods
8 and external hazards."

9 I know that for engineers there's
10 solution for everything, but for me, and I did ask
11 you this at the technical meeting of December 2009,
12 what's -- on what the government will choose --
13 make their choice of the technology. And I
14 remember at the time you said that it would
15 probably be -- be in the procurement documents, and
16 I went to look at them and it's exactly what is say
17 the EIS, and there's a lifetime cost of power that
18 the basis for choosing the technology.

19 The ability to meet Ontario's
20 timetable to bring new supply in 2018 and the level
21 of investment in Ontario -- by Ontario has nothing
22 to do with what we're talking about today, and I
23 know you said you will make sure when you review
24 the documents for the licence to construct that it
25 will be met.

1 But what do you base in your
2 assessment to say that everything will be met.

3 And isn't there a way that the
4 government can get some advice? Or is that our
5 responsibility to flag -- the word flag, that there
6 are still problems, and when they do choose the
7 technology -- because they will choose it after you
8 get whatever.

9 A company comes in front of you
10 for the licence to construct, is chosen before.
11 So, two things, how do you make sure that the
12 Ontario government makes the right choice? And on
13 what do you base your confidence that what we're
14 discussing today will be met?

15 MR. FRAPPIER: Gerry Frappier, for
16 the record.

17 Just so I understand where we are
18 in the licensing process, so at this point in time
19 we have some designs that have been talked about,
20 but from a licensing perspective what we have is a
21 strong set of requirements. And the requirements
22 must be met.

23 As we move into the construction
24 -- application for construction, a licence to
25 construct the nuclear power plant, we will be going

1 through in detailed review that will last several
2 years to make sure that the design as it was chosen
3 in fact meets all the requirements that we have in
4 place, detailed design requirements.

5 At this stage, we've done reviews
6 of the PPE and that the designs are credible to fit
7 within those -- that envelope, if you like, or that
8 box, and that we can see that the designs are going
9 to be able to meet those requirements.

10 But the detailed analysis of
11 whether they in fact do meet those requirements
12 will be happening in a different phase of the
13 licensing process.

14 MEMBER BEAUDET: My mandate -- the
15 agreement covers all phases on a higher level than
16 the detailed analysis you'll do, nevertheless, I
17 have to be confident -- because you have questions
18 raised with the -- in your document here.

19 It may be more simple to me to
20 give the information about fire hazards and things
21 like that. But for me it is not clear that you are
22 so far satisfied.

23 MR. FRAPPIER: Gerry Frappier, for
24 the record.

25 So those are important for us to

1 hear from you, because that's -- the process that
2 we're in right now, and over the next few days or
3 few weeks, any area that is of concern is --
4 between ourselves, as making sure we believe the
5 requirements can be met and perhaps, more
6 importantly, the OPG demonstrating to you that
7 they're going to be met, I agree with you, that is
8 a big part of what we're here for.

9 MEMBER BEAUDET: Is it in your
10 power, after the government has chosen the
11 technology, that you say it can -- certain things
12 cannot be met, they have to choose another
13 technology? Is that possible?

14 MR. FRAPPIER: Absolutely. The
15 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission will not issue a
16 licence to anybody to construct a nuclear power
17 plant that we do not believe is going to meet our
18 requirements.

19 The Ontario government, presumably
20 with advice from OPG, but from our perspective it's
21 OPG, as an applicant, is going to say they are
22 going to construct a certain design.

23 We will review that design and
24 assure it meets the requirements. If it does not,
25 then they will not get a licence to construct. And

1 that is the role that the Commission -- when I say
2 "ourselves," we provide advice to the Commission,
3 and the Commission itself will make that
4 determination.

5 MEMBER BEAUDET: We'll come back
6 later when we will evaluate the PMD of CNSC
7 regarding the definite recommendations you have
8 proposed before the licence, to prepare a site or
9 before the licence to construct.

10 I have a question for -- both
11 questions for Monsieur Lamontagne.

12 I go back to your slide,
13 earthquake distribution of eastern Canada. There's
14 no page here, so -- this one.

15 I have here from -- I think it's
16 -- it is from the Ministry of Natural Resources,
17 the southern Ontario seismic network that I got
18 from the internet, and the map here indicates also
19 the seismicity patterns for the historical
20 earthquakes seen from 1890 until 1969.

21 What I would like to know is if
22 this map also presents the historical earthquakes,
23 because here, what we can see, is there are some
24 seismic events of the magnitude of 2 to 5.4, under
25 Lake Ontario and under Lake Erie, and they are not

1 indicated here.

2 And the map here is magnitude 4.5,
3 so here 5.4, it should be included here? Is there
4 a reason for that? There must be an explanation in
5 the methodology that you've explained to my
6 colleague earlier.

7 DR. LAMONTAGNE: This map was made
8 a few years ago, but the pattern hasn't changed.
9 Probably there would be a few additional dots under
10 Lake Ontario, but that was more to show the pattern
11 of seismicity.

12 And this map includes historical
13 events that are coming from written accounts of the
14 impact of earthquakes. But, as we progress in
15 time, when had instruments, we could add these
16 smaller dots that you see.

17 So lower magnitude, so it's a mix
18 of historical earthquakes, plus instrumentally
19 recorded earthquakes. But, I agree with you, it's
20 not totally up to date.

21 MEMBER BEAUDET: Okay. I accept
22 that answer. Is it also because some of the
23 historical events cannot be verified? You don't
24 have enough data to make sure that they did happen?
25 Would that be also a reason?

1 Because if you have events --
2 let's say, in 1663, okay, there's one event.

3 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Yes.

4 MEMBER BEAUDET: Probably people
5 have talked about it ---

6 DR. LAMONTAGNE: Okay.

7 MEMBER BEAUDET: --- in letters
8 and whatever. If you have an event in 1819,
9 there's probably a newspaper talking about it.

10 How do you check the veracity of
11 what is reported in your methodology?

12 MR. LAMONTAGE: Okay.

13 There are two aspects. One is
14 called completeness of record and that varies
15 across the region we're looking at.

16 To give you an example, we're
17 pretty sure that any earthquake over this map area
18 that exceeded magnitude 6 would have been known
19 since probably 1700s.

20 But there could have been a
21 magnitude 5, say, under Lake Michigan, and we
22 wouldn't know about them -- about that one because
23 there was nobody there. Or, if there was anybody,
24 maybe he didn't write about it.

25 So that -- when we do the seismic

1 hazard maps, a completeness of record is considered
2 in the description, in what is used for seismic
3 hazard purposes.

4 In terms of veracity of the
5 descriptions, this is kind of what you call
6 historical seismology. And we -- naturally,
7 there's a lot uncertainty about the exact
8 magnitudes. They're always estimates.

9 Then we try also to look at who
10 wrote about what, and so on. So it's quite a field
11 of -- it is extremely interesting but there are
12 always some unknowns left.

13 MEMBER BEAUDET: Because you
14 realize it's important. You were talking in the
15 Pacific, the return phase, for instance, in B.C.,
16 is 500 years.

17 MR. LAMONTAGE: Yes.

18 MEMBER BEAUDET: So that there
19 could be also things that happened 500 years ago in
20 our region, and, you know, it hasn't come back.
21 That's a little bit what I'm getting at.

22 Are you aware of anything?
23 Sixteen sixty three (1663) would be the earliest
24 record that you have of anything happening in
25 western Canada?

1 DR. LAMONTAGNE: That was a --
2 there were a few smaller earthquakes that were
3 reported in the writings. But around Lake Ontario,
4 say if we say in 1625, there wasn't anybody there
5 to actually write about what was felt locally.

6 But you were talking about these
7 large earthquakes in British Columbia. That's a
8 good example of a large earthquake. It would leave
9 tracks of its occurrence.

10 For example, in the
11 sedimentological record, because it would create
12 slumps and then you could date these slumps, and in
13 British Columbia, that was done.

14 In Eastern Canada, we don't have a
15 history of these large slumps, but in some cases we
16 were able to date liquefaction features; that is to
17 say, when you have a strong shaking then the sand
18 that is saturated with water that would come to the
19 surface bearing some vegetation that you could
20 date. And to my knowledge, nothing like that has
21 been found around Lake Ontario. It has been found,
22 we're talking about Charlevoix, around Charlevoix,
23 but to my knowledge, there was nothing found around
24 Lake Ontario.

25 MEMBER BEAUDET: When you do a

1 historical assessment, and you say you base
2 yourself mainly on written records, is there a
3 field where they also try to base the analysis on
4 traditional knowledge?

5 Because there were people living
6 all around the lakes; I mean, they would know, they
7 call Mont-Tremblant in Quebec because, you know,
8 it's earthquake area. Would that be also assessed?

9 DR. LAMONTAGNE: It's been looked
10 at indirectly. There's a report by Pierre Gouin,
11 who looked at the historical earthquakes, mainly in
12 Quebec, but also in New France, for example.

13 But the problem sometimes with the
14 oral tradition is to put a date on what is
15 reported, unless the people who had the writing
16 capacity or writing possibility felt it as well.

17 On the west coast, for example,
18 there was a strong oral tradition reporting a large
19 earthquake and it's only afterwards that they could
20 relate it to this 1700 earthquake. Before that
21 they didn't know exactly the date, but from
22 geological evidence, they were able to pinpoint the
23 exact date, and then they said, yes, there's an
24 oral tradition that supports such a large
25 earthquake.

1 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

3 To wind up the seismic portion of
4 today's session we'll call on OPG for their
5 presentation.

6 Pardon me? You'll have a question
7 -- I'll entertain questions after all three have
8 finished their presentations and then you can
9 either do CNCS, Environment Canada -- or NR Canada
10 or OPG.

11 MS. McCLENAGHAN: Mr. Chairman, I
12 want to put on the record that I object to the
13 limiting us of one question to all these
14 presentations. I actually have more than one
15 question for each of the presenters.

16 We only have a few registered
17 participants here asking questions. I think these
18 are very important issues. The kinds of questions
19 we have to ask are of high importance to the
20 public. This topic is of high importance to the
21 public and it's one of the places where you
22 indicated we would be hearing about accident risk.

23 So I've heard what you said; I'd
24 like you to reconsider, and I definitely want it to
25 be noted that I object.

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I accept your
2 objection and, due to time, we'll probably be able
3 to let you have more than one question. I'm not
4 going to confine or muzzle anyone. We're going to
5 try and get everything done and treat everyone
6 fairly. I said that yesterday. We'll do that
7 again today.

8 So we're going to proceed and go
9 to ---

10 MR. MATTSON: Okay, but I would
11 also just like to put on the record, Mr. Chairman,
12 that we're entering an area that we objected to to
13 come into the hearing yesterday. You allowed it
14 in. You said to us that as this new evidence came
15 forward we had no opportunity to get any other
16 facts in other than what we're hearing.

17 And it's really important,
18 particularly since the experts spoke of just the
19 Candu, they didn't speak of the other reactors. My
20 friend, the other Member, had concerns about that,
21 and my friend said he's going to share the evidence
22 with OPG and with you.

23 And I remind you that Section 34
24 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* makes
25 it by law that you have to share it with the

1 public. And we need the opportunity to ask
2 questions of these witnesses where there's no other
3 opportunity.

4 So I just want to get that on the
5 record.

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Mattson,
7 I don't need to be lectured on the law or on the
8 rules. I'm quite aware of them and will tend to
9 really be fair, and we will.

10 The lady asked for more, if she
11 has more than one question, and we'll do our best
12 to do that and accommodate her.

13 There's a gentleman at the back
14 who had a question earlier and I'm going to
15 entertain him when the time comes as the first
16 questioner because he courteously waited until all
17 the presentation was done.

18 And we're going to go that route,
19 but I don't need to be lectured. I will be fair.

20 Now, OPG, you proceed.

21 MR. MATTSON: Mr. Chairman, I just
22 want to make sure that you and I can remain friends
23 about this, but we have to get our objections on
24 the record because without that, then we can't even
25 have this viewed in terms of whether or not ---

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: You will get
2 your objections on the record and I will be fair
3 with everyone. I said that at the outset.

4 We lost all morning and we're
5 going to try -- and we're not doing a marathon to
6 catch up by tonight or any other time. We have
7 three weeks and we're going to be fair and we're
8 going to follow up on these various questions that
9 interveners may have.

10 I know this is an important
11 subject and we will -- and I promise you that we
12 will spend the time that's necessary for my panel
13 colleagues to be able to get the right questions in
14 for our interveners today to pose questions.

15 So OPG, will you proceed please.

16 --- PRESENTATION BY MS. SWAMI AND DR. YOUNGS:

17 MS. SWAMI: Good afternoon,
18 Chairman Graham, and Panel Members Beaudet and
19 Pereira.

20 For the record, my name is Laurie
21 Swami, and I am the Director of Licensing and
22 Environment for the Darlington New Nuclear Project.
23 I am responsible for the licensing and
24 environmental assessment process.

25 With me today is Dr. Robert

1 Youngs. Dr. Youngs is the principle engineer of
2 AMEC GEOMETRIX and has established a credible
3 resume in terms of seismic hazard assessment.

4 He has a University of California
5 Berkley Masters of Science degree in geotechnical
6 engineering, as well as a PhD from the same
7 institute.

8 He will be providing an overview
9 of the work completed in support of the New Nuclear
10 Project, which OPG filed with its licence to
11 prepare the site application in September of 2009.

12 OPG has completed comprehensive
13 studies in support of these processes and we are
14 pleased to describe those for you this afternoon.

15 Dr. Youngs.

16 DR. YOUNGS: Thank you.

17 I'm Dr. Robert Youngs for the
18 record, from AMEC GEOMETRIX.

19 What I would like to do this
20 afternoon is give a brief overview of the seismic
21 hazard assessment that was conducted as a part of
22 the application and submitted to the Joint Panel
23 for the review.

24 The talks are to present an
25 objective of the probabilistic study and a brief

1 summary of the input data that was used and a brief
2 summary of the results.

3 The primary objective, it was to
4 quantify the seismic hazard at the new build site
5 in terms of the probability of occurrence of strong
6 ground motions of various levels. This is
7 necessary to provide the information needed to
8 assess the suitability of the site in terms of
9 seismic hazard for construction of a new plant and
10 to meet the regulations in place from the CNSC.

11 And the other important objective
12 was to perform this analysis following the guidance
13 provided in international standards for
14 incorporating uncertainties and alternative models
15 and hypothesis into the seismic hazard model, so to
16 address not only best estimate models, but to
17 include the effects of uncertainty in these models
18 in the results.

19 We've had a talk already this
20 afternoon on the general setting of the site, in
21 terms of seismicity, and the discussion of the
22 three basic areas where there are some
23 concentrations of earthquakes.

24 To the southwest, about 50
25 kilometres, there is an area near Niagra Falls

1 where there are some low-level activity. To the
2 east and north about 200 kilometres of the nearest
3 approach is the western Quebec seismic zone. And
4 then the 1663 Charlevoix earthquake is about 300
5 kilometres from the site.

6 There is yet another seismicity
7 map to look at. This is the seismicity map for the
8 catalogue that was put together for the project
9 analysis that I will describe in a moment.

10 An important background for this
11 assessment was a study that was commissioned in the
12 period of 1995 through 1997 by the Atomic Energy
13 Control Board of Canada, which is, as I understand
14 it, the parent organization of CNSC. The purpose
15 of this study was to evaluate the seismic hazards
16 in southern Ontario. The study was started by
17 holding a large workshop where a number of experts
18 came and discussed various sources -- potential
19 sources of earthquakes in the region and how they
20 might be used to assess seismic hazard.

21 As a follow along to that
22 workshop, a probabilistic seismic hazard model was
23 put together incorporating the various hypotheses
24 and alternative sources that were discussed in that
25 workshop in order to perform a seismic hazard

1 assessment for southern Ontario.

2 That model was submitted for
3 review and questions and comments to all the
4 participants of that workshop, the original
5 workshop and those comments were incorporated into
6 the study published in 1997 under the sponsorship
7 of AECEB.

8 The PSHA that was the seismic
9 hazard, the Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis
10 or PSHA as we call it that was conducted for the
11 new build site, used the model that was developed
12 in the 1997 ASE study with some adjustments to
13 include additional information that had become
14 available post the 1997 study.

15 There are three basic inputs to a
16 Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis; they are the
17 seismic sources, which define where earthquakes can
18 occur; the earthquake recurrence models which
19 determine how often and how big they can be and
20 then the final important step, the ground motion
21 models that translate the occurrence of an
22 earthquake in a particular location into effect at
23 your site. So those are the basic elements that
24 are needed to perform a Probabilistic Seismic
25 Hazard Analysis. And I will briefly go over those.

1 The first important element is
2 what we call seismic sources which basically
3 defines the spatial location of potential
4 earthquakes. And the model that was used for the
5 NND PSHA is basically the same model that was
6 developed for the -- it's a part of the AECB study
7 and it used two types of sources; regional sources
8 and postulated local sources.

9 These seismic sources were refined
10 using more recent information. Some of the
11 boundaries of the regional sources were adjusted
12 based on new tectonic information. And one of the
13 potential local sources, the Rouge River fault, was
14 dropped from the model because subsequent studies
15 have shown that the offsets that were observed in
16 the ground were likely caused by glacial processes
17 rather than by tectonic processes. Other than
18 that, the model was basically the same as the 1997
19 model.

20 This is a map that is showing an
21 example of the regional source zones. Basically,
22 they encompass the entire study region and they
23 allow for the occurrence of earthquakes at all
24 locations within the study region. They are used
25 to define regions of the crust that have different

1 geological characteristics that may affect how you
2 would calculate hazard from them.

3 In particular, the blue areas
4 indicate areas where the crust has been extended
5 during its long history of accreting on the eastern
6 margin of the North American plate. And those
7 extended areas, we would expect to see potentially
8 larger earthquakes than in the central craton, the
9 grey areas to the west.

10 So the differentiation between
11 these two zones has some impact on the assessment
12 of a largest size that can occur.

13 The other important sources that
14 were included in the model are potential local
15 sources. These were identified and characterized
16 as a part of the AECB study. And they represent
17 potential locations where earthquakes may be
18 concentrated based on various scientific hypotheses
19 about how the features that are observed relate to
20 earthquake activity.

21 One of them does include the
22 Niagara Pickering lineament that was mentioned
23 earlier today.

24 These sources were included in the
25 model as potential local sources of activity and

1 earthquakes were assigned to them based on the
2 observed seismicity in their vicinity. The
3 probability that these sources actually are active
4 sources was assessed using the methodology that
5 would have been developed in the -- a big study
6 conducted by Electric Power Research Institute in
7 the United States in the mid-1980s which was a
8 multi-expert study that develops the criteria for
9 assessing the potential activity of local features.

10 And that was applied to each one
11 of these to assess whether they should or should
12 not be included in the model. So they were
13 included in the model with some probability as
14 being an active source.

15 The next important step is
16 defining the earthquake recurrence rates which
17 determine -- define the rate of activity of
18 earthquakes of various sizes, basically the
19 frequency part and also the limit upper size.

20 That frequency is based on
21 assessment of the historic catalogue and the
22 instrumental catalogue that has been gathered for
23 the region, and as you can see on this -- this is
24 an example for the region that's around the site or
25 one possible regional source zone that encompasses

1 this site.

2 The black dots on here represent
3 the historical data that would be in the catalogue
4 as part of sizes and frequencies of earthquakes.
5 And the red curves represent the model that it uses
6 in hazard, and we extrapolate from the observed
7 seismicity up to the largest events we think may be
8 possible in the region.

9 So they are typically extrapolated
10 well beyond the largest observed event to include
11 the possibility of larger events in the seismic
12 hazard assessment.

13 The catalogue that we used for
14 this is the compilation of the catalogue developed
15 by the GSC, the Geological Society of Canada, and
16 the U.S. Geological Survey. Both institutions have
17 developed catalogues for seismic hazard mapping.
18 And we merged those together to do the assessment
19 for this site.

20 And then the final piece of this
21 is the assessment of the largest sizes of
22 earthquakes that could possibly occur in the
23 region, and that assessment was based on a global
24 database of the largest earthquakes we've seen in
25 similar tectonic regions, basically the largest

1 events we've seen in stable continental regions.

2 The final piece that is needed to
3 do the hazard is an assessment of ground shaking
4 which is basically a translation of an earthquake
5 occurrence at a particular distance for your site
6 into motions the site actually feels or
7 experiences.

8 And these are -- the ground motion
9 models we use are typically represented in
10 engineering terms by what we call response spectral
11 acceleration which is basically the level of
12 shaking that a simple structure would experience
13 given that an earthquake has occurred of a certain
14 peak-ground acceleration.

15 They basically give the
16 information the engineer needs to evaluate how much
17 force a particular type of earthquake would induce
18 in its structure. And so they -- they produce --
19 sorry -- this is an example of models that were
20 used in the analysis representing the ground
21 motions that a magnitude five and a half earthquake
22 might produce at a distance of 20 kilometres from
23 the site. This is just one example of the many
24 possible scenarios included in our model.

25 The ground motion models we used

1 for this analysis are results of recent research in
2 the nature of ground motions in Eastern North
3 America published by well recognized experts in
4 this field. And it includes multiple models
5 because there is uncertainty in estimation of
6 ground motion. And as part of the overall process
7 of including alternatives in our assessment, we do
8 include multiple ground motion models.

9 The final result of this
10 calculation is what we term seismic hazard which
11 has already been discussed but basically expresses
12 the annual frequency at which various levels of
13 strong ground shaking may be exceeded at your site.

14 It's basically as the -- as you
15 look at a larger ground motion level, typically we
16 would expect that the frequency at which it's
17 exceeded, it decreases which is basically because
18 the size of earthquake decreases; the bigger the
19 earthquake, the less frequent they are; the bigger
20 the ground motions, the less frequent they occur.
21 The same relationship.

22 As it's been described earlier,
23 the current Canadian and international standards
24 suggest that the ground motion exceeding frequency
25 that we should be using for evaluation of nuclear

1 power plants is 1 in 10,000 or 10 to the minus 4
2 (10^{-4}) annual frequency of exceedance.

3 So that we then take the results
4 of hazard calculations at the various structural
5 frequencies and calculate the 10 to the minus 4
6 (10^{-4}) ground motion level, connect those together
7 in a smooth curve, and we produce what we call a
8 uniform hazard response spectrum. Basically a
9 response spectrum that represents at all different
10 structural frequencies the same level of
11 probability of being exceeded.

12 And the one that we constructed
13 for the new build at Darlington site is shown by
14 the dashed black line on this figure.

15 And also shown by all the various
16 coloured lines are the design response spectra for
17 the various technologies that are under
18 consideration. And we can see from this figure
19 that the uniform hazard spectrum for the site is
20 well enveloped by the design spectra for these
21 technologies.

22 We point out that the -- in
23 particular the CANDU 6 design which is shown by the
24 brown curve, it's the design spectra for Eastern
25 hard rock, far exceeds the uniform hazard spectrum

1 in all the frequencies of importance to the
2 reactor.

3 There are a few designs that --
4 for which the uniform hazard response spectrum does
5 exceed the certified design at frequencies of about
6 25 hertz.

7 This is a common occurrence in
8 sites that are on hard, very stiff materials, but
9 studies that have been done at other locations in
10 the U.S. have shown that these small exceedances
11 are not important and they -- if they've done --
12 they can do reanalyses using different spectra to
13 show that they are not a critical importance to the
14 evaluation of the -- of the suitability of the
15 reactor technology to the site.

16 So in conclusion, the site is in
17 the area of low seismicity. The ground shaking
18 hazard is quantified by the 10 to the minus 4
19 uniform hazard response spectrum is well enveloped
20 by the certified design response spectra for a
21 number of modern technologies.

22 And from the standpoint of seismic
23 hazards, the site should be suitable for
24 construction and operation of a new reactor.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
2 very much.

3 Madam Beaudet?

4 MEMBER BEAUDET: I have no
5 questions.

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

7 Mr. Pereira?

8 MEMBER PEREIRA: I have no
9 questions.

10 --- QUESTIONS BY THE PANEL:

11 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay. We --
12 I have one question or perhaps two questions to
13 CNSC on their presentation and then we'll go to the
14 public intervenors.

15 My first question was -- pardon
16 me, my first question is to OPG and that is when
17 CNSC referred to a passive design for -- to cover
18 in cooling, do all four designs that are being
19 considered, do they all have a passive design --
20 are they all meeting the passive design?

21 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami, for the
22 record.

23 I will ask Jack Vecchiarelli to
24 provide a more detailed response if necessary.

25 However, all of the designs under

1 consideration have passive design features. They
2 are different from each other but they do include
3 passive design features.

4 MR. VECCHIARELLI: Jack
5 Vecchiarelli, for the record.

6 Each of the designs that were
7 considered for the Darlington New Nuclear Project
8 do have passive features built into them of varying
9 degrees.

10 And I believe the question was
11 posed more so in the context of if there were a
12 loss of power, offsite power.

13 And so in the case of the AP1000,
14 for example, there is a natural circulation loop
15 from the heat transport system. There's a body of
16 water which will enable a natural circulation to
17 cool the core.

18 The EC6 and ACR rely on, if there
19 was a loss of power, they would have a similar
20 natural circulation between the flow of the primary
21 coolant through the steam generators, which would
22 cool it down and then recycle it through the core
23 and you have natural buoyancy-driven flow if you'd
24 like.

25 And a similar effect occurs with

1 the EPR where, coupled by the momentum of the heat
2 transport pumps that would continue to slow --
3 continue to -- to provide some motion for the
4 fluid, that would assist in a transition towards a
5 natural circulation through the steam generators
6 for some time.

7 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Well that was
8 the other part of my question was for some time,
9 would this be a continuous flow or was it -- would
10 the whole system heat up and it would only last for
11 X number of hours?

12 In each one, is this -- would this
13 be a continuous flow of coolant or a passive flow
14 that could be counted on say for unlimited time or
15 are there time limits on that?

16 MR. VECCHIARELLI: Jack
17 Vecchiarelli, for the record.

18 The natural circulation that is
19 induced with a loss of power, would last for a
20 sufficient period of time to enable backup power
21 restoration.

22 In the case of the AP1000 it tends
23 to be quite long, as well with the EC6 and the ACR,
24 plenty of time -- hours and/or even days.

25 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

1 The other question I have; it's to
2 CNSC and there was significant discussion with
3 regard to RD-337.

4 And you did mention that it would
5 be modified after the lessons learned were all
6 incorporated and so on, and that would come back
7 and apply to the licensing application if and when
8 the go -- the go-ahead with the construction.

9 But has any part of the RD-337
10 essential to be modified before the EA process is
11 complete?

12 DR. NEWLAND: Dave Newland, for
13 the record.

14 I believe no.

15 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Okay. Those
16 were my questions.

17 And I will now open the floor to
18 interveners and I will ask Mr. Kavelor to take the
19 mic at the back so your interventions or your
20 questions are recorded and you're, I believe,
21 represent One World.

22 Someone give Mr. Kavelor help --
23 okay, very good then.

24 --- QUESTIONS BY THE INTERVENERS:

25 MR. KAVELOR: I am short, but my

1 intervention may not be short.

2 As I've listened to at least five
3 or six people, I presume if you allowed me one
4 question per presentation, I've got five or six
5 questions.

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Kavelor,
7 you go ahead with your first question and then
8 we'll look at the second one and so on.

9 MR. KAVELOR: Okay.

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Depending on
11 time.

12 MR. KAVELOR: Firstly, I want to
13 congratulate Mrs. Beaudet for saying very
14 succinctly what I couldn't think of before and that
15 she said that engineers have all the solutions.

16 Let me tell you as an engineer I'm
17 not one of them. Yes, engineers at the design
18 table are wonderfully full of confidence and can
19 design around anything. However, just here we saw
20 that we got all kinds of reviews and solutions but
21 we haven't got a clue of their cost implications.

22 One thing is very obvious, what
23 Fukushima has done is it has increased the cost of
24 nuclear power. If nothing else, that's clear.
25 What we don't know, if it is 10 percent, 20

1 percent, 50 percent or 100 percent.

2 And to say that we have a solution
3 and I haven't seen one, I would like to question
4 the solutions when they are done, not on a promise.
5 I can't question them on their promise of solution.

6 So those are some of the problems.
7 Today as perhaps you know, there is a budget coming
8 in Ottawa and it's an austerity budget. So the
9 cost implications are really important.

10 And we should also be careful to
11 note that the cost of sewer and water, power, wind
12 power are going down while the cost of nuclear
13 power is going up.

14 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Kavelor,
15 could you ask your question, please.

16 MR. KAVELOR: Yes. No, I'm just
17 stating the facts as I see them.

18 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I realize
19 that, but I mean I have three other intervenors
20 that have questions too, in fairness.

21 MR. KAVELOR: Sure. Well, okay.
22 We have also been advised that in view of the
23 seismicity that we have seen that there is a very
24 low probability of having a seismic event that can
25 cause damage to the reviewed designs.

1 Well, let me ask you, sir, one
2 question now if you like. Is -- does that probably
3 mean certainty; certainly not. If it means
4 certainty to them, it doesn't mean to me or anybody
5 with commonsense.

6 And this kind of event as just
7 admitted, is a low probability and high consequence
8 event. And low probability doesn't mean no event,
9 so you have got a high consequence event coming.

10 The data -- seismic data that we
11 have is very limited. Like again, Mrs. Beaudet
12 said, we have no data about -- 200 hundred old, 300
13 year, 500 years ago, and is it recorded and what
14 size is beyond. So again ---

15 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Can we stop
16 there and ask -- have that -- have that first
17 question answered?

18 MR. KAVELOR: Okay. Sure.

19 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: CNSC, would
20 you like to respond to that?

21 MR. HOWDEN: Barclay Howden. I'll
22 do my best to respond to this.

23 I think there's a couple of points
24 -- important points that were made. I think one is
25 from the Japanese event. There's no indication

1 that the seismicity in Ontario has changed. I
2 think that's very important.

3 Two, I think we just want to
4 re-emphasise that -- a couple of things that we
5 consider are natural phenomena, and I think we've
6 been talking a lot about seismicity, and I don't
7 think there's any new information regarding the
8 Darlington site.

9 I think what is coming out is
10 would it be a plant response to a significant event
11 and, again, Dr. Newland keeps going back to the
12 safety goals of RD-337. They're technology
13 neutral. They're site neutral. And so we can
14 always go back to those and they deal with normal
15 operation, anticipated operational occurrences,
16 design basis accidents, and severe accidents. So
17 those are starting to deal with the low
18 probability/high consequence.

19 I think the last point I want to
20 make is about the engineering solutions. When
21 people propose engineering solutions, there are
22 assumptions made and you need to be able to
23 validate the assumptions. I think in some cases,
24 the mitigation measures are well-known and I think
25 they're quite easy to do.

1 I think where the challenge is, is
2 where the mitigations are new or novel, and one of
3 the things that we drive at the CNSC is the need
4 for proponents with their vendors to be able to
5 actually have real R&D programs that actually
6 demonstrate that the assumptions are correct,
7 especially when you're talking about passive
8 features.

9 So they're not all just
10 engineering solutions that are done on paper.
11 There's a large investment that has to go behind
12 the scenes to support the assumptions, and they
13 need to be validated to the benefit of everyone.

14 The last point is as we go into
15 potentially future phases of this project, there is
16 a public process that the Commission goes through
17 for licensing that continues to encourage public
18 participation.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
21 Mr. Howden.

22 Mr. Kavelor, you can have one
23 other question for now.

24 MR. KAVELOR: Okay, thank you.

25 Today also happens to be the World

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
2 and I realize that.

3 The next intervenor that I will
4 recognize is Ms. McClenaghan of CELA.

5 MS. McCLENAGHAN: Thank you, Mr.
6 Chairman, and I have four questions, and I'll be
7 brief in respect of each.

8 The first is on the CNSC slide 11,
9 you don't need to go to it, but it says that the
10 facility is designed to withstand a ground motion
11 with a certain intensity and annual probability,
12 and it's called the design basis earthquake.

13 And my question is, what is the
14 design basis earthquake and can that be expressed
15 in magnitude terms?

16 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

17 Mr. Howden, would you like to
18 respond to that or Mr. Frappier?

19 MR. FRAPPIER: Thank you. Gerry
20 Frappier, for the record.

21 Yes, there is a design based to
22 earthquake and this is the earthquake at which the
23 plant is designed to be able to be fully
24 operational afterwards, and it's not obvious to put
25 it into seismic terms of magnitude, if you like.

1 The engineering term that's
2 important here is the peak ground acceleration that
3 it must see. And so, as we said, the peak ground
4 acceleration that is the requirement for these
5 units to meet is the .3 Gs, which is an order of
6 magnitude greater than what Dr. Lamontagne was
7 saying was sort of appropriate measurement in that
8 area.

9 As to how that translates into --
10 into the Richter Scale if you like, if that's what
11 you're looking for, then that becomes one of what
12 distance away from the plant that Richter -- that
13 earthquake event occurs, and perhaps I would ask
14 our Director of Engineering Design Assessment,
15 Andrei Blahoianu, if he wants to do that.

16 MS. McCLENAGHAN: I assume it's
17 close for the purpose of the hypothetical?

18 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Do you want
19 further explanation, Ms. McClenaghan?

20 MS. McCLENAGHAN: Yes. I'm
21 understanding, from trying to piece the information
22 together, that if there was an event -- and I
23 understand people are saying there's not likely to
24 be an event, but if there was an event let's say of
25 magnitude 6 even, far lower than the 9 that

1 occurred in Japan, very close to Darlington, my
2 understanding is that would exceed the 3 G ground
3 acceleration, and I'd just like to understand if
4 that's an appropriate conclusion to reach.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: CNSC, do you
6 want to have your expert speak to that, please?

7 MR. BLAHOIANU: For the record, my
8 name is Andrei Blahoianu. I'm Director of
9 Engineering Design Assessment Division.

10 So I would just like to quote what
11 US NRC just released. So it's coming from the "NRC
12 Frequently Asked Questions" relating to March 11,
13 2011, Japanese earthquake and tsunami.

14 Question number 9: What magnitude
15 earthquake are currently operating US nuclear
16 plants designed to? Ground motion is a function of
17 both, the magnitude of an earthquake and the
18 distance from the fault to the site. Nuclear
19 plants and, in fact, all engineering structures are
20 actually designed based on ground motion levels,
21 not earthquake magnitudes.

22 The existing nuclear plants were
23 designed based on the determination or scenario
24 earthquake basis that accounted for the largest
25 earthquake expected in the area around the plant.

1 Margin is further added to the predicted ground
2 motions to provide added robustness.

3 So this is the answer that US NRC,
4 our colleague regulators, have provided and it's
5 the right answer.

6 We could do many, many
7 speculations but, as I said, intensity, which is
8 how it's felt the earthquake at this particular
9 site, depends on the distance for the epicentre and
10 also for the hypocentre, and also of the nature of
11 the soil it encounters and potentially many other
12 things.

13 So it would be -- all this
14 extrapolation or speculations would be -- would be
15 incorrect.

16 We could say that for definitely
17 11 -- 11 and level 7 Richter earthquake, if it
18 happens in the vicinity of the site, it's something
19 that we would expect to be, okay, this was 0.3, and
20 with a slight -- with a slight amendment that could
21 be even higher than this.

22 But, again, this is very, very
23 broad affirmation and under all these circumstances
24 could be considered, but it's reasonable to believe
25 that a 7 magnitude Richter in the vicinity of the

1 site would be accommodated.

2 And one more thing if I'm allowed
3 to say, we talk about design basis earthquake. So
4 we should understand that it's not about the plant
5 capacity, which is a total of other things.

6 When we -- when we say it is
7 designed for this means the plant will work,
8 operate normally like any other design basis event.
9 That means all the safety features will be fully
10 preserved and the plant will operate as normal.

11 This is very important; it's
12 design basis. If you talk from this perspective,
13 there are lots of safety margins in engineering
14 which will ensure that the plant itself could be
15 operated, could be safely shut down, perform the
16 safety functions for earthquake even higher than
17 this because it's designed with a lot of
18 conservatives.

19 So when we say 0.3 pg was chosen
20 for this, it's a lot of plenty -- it's a lot of
21 safety margins beyond this level.

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

23 Ms. McClenaghan.

24 MS. McCLENAGHAN: Mr. Chairman,
25 I'll go on to my next question, although I don't

1 believe my question was actually answered about how
2 the design basis translates to a close earthquake
3 at Darlington in terms of magnitude.

4 Now, the question is, in
5 terms of the lessons learned and preliminary
6 lessons learned is probably a better term, but CNSC
7 has started to draw from the incidents in
8 Fukushima-Daiichi.

9 I noted on page 15, there's a
10 statement about the magnitude 9 earthquake
11 exceeding the 9 magnitude -- the 9 magnitude which
12 was experienced exceeded the 8.2 to which it had
13 been designed. And I'm suggesting, and I'm
14 wondering if CNSC would agree, that an extremely
15 important lesson to draw is that unexpected events
16 can exceed the design -- design basis. And I'm
17 wondering in particular, and the - the witness just
18 speaking spoke a little bit to this, if CNSC can
19 talk about how much conservatism and room for error
20 in terms of assumptions behind the design basis is
21 included in the licensing process?

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Frappier?

23 MR. FRAPPIER: Gerry Frappier for
24 the record. So -- so just to be clear, I think
25 Andre was clear that a magnitude 7 right at the

1 site would be acceptable. I think that we should
2 also put that in perspective to what Dr. Lamontagne
3 was mentioning earlier with respect to a magnitude
4 7 not being what we would predict for anywhere near
5 Darlington. I think the other thing is, again, to
6 try to get through the idea of design basis versus
7 what you're referring to, which would be beyond
8 design basis.

9 So when a designed-based accident
10 or a design-based earthquake, the plant will
11 continue and be able to operate, that is, the next
12 day, or perhaps it would take -- there'd be --
13 there'd be checks and things like that that were
14 done, but that plant would get back up. It would
15 run; it would produce electricity; it would -- it
16 would be able to fully function as it was before
17 the earthquake.

18 If, as you're pointing out in the
19 case of -- in Japan, that we have something that is
20 beyond what was the designed-based earthquake, then
21 we get into, what we call, either severe accidents
22 or beyond design base. At that point in time, the
23 -- there is still safety margin, as Mr. Blahoianu
24 was suggesting, that allows for earthquakes that
25 would be greater than that, and you would still be

1 able to do your -- your safety function of shutting
2 down the reactor, cooling the reactor, and
3 controlling any releases. But the reactor itself
4 may not be able to ever operate again with respect
5 to producing electricity.

6 MS. McCLENAGHAN: Okay. So I have
7 one final question, which is, on slide 32, CNSC
8 talks about requiring that reactor design considers
9 severe accidents a very low probability by
10 including complimentary design features necessary
11 to mitigate the consequences and that severe
12 accident management guidelines be in place. And
13 I'm wondering specifically about evacuation plans.

14 We heard in the OPG review last
15 evening about planning in the EIS for evacuation
16 circumferences of 10 kilometres, but I'm wondering
17 whether either CNSC requires that greater distances
18 be planned for and spelled out and whether OPG has
19 done that for this -- for this EIS, such as we've
20 seen in Japan with that -- with that particular
21 scenario where they were calling for 20 kilometres,
22 and the United States was calling even for - for
23 greater distances there.

24 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Howden or
25 Mr. Frappier?

1 MR. HOWDEN: I'll start, and Mr.
2 Frappier can add more information.

3 I think the important thing is
4 when you look at RD-337, it does account for beyond
5 design basis accidents, and within that, there
6 could be requirements for protective actions
7 offsite, and that is outlined in that.

8 With regard to protective actions
9 offsite, which could be sheltering evacuation on an
10 interim basis, that needs to be factored in, and
11 it's a requirement of the operator to work with the
12 offsite authorities, in this case Emergency
13 Management Ontario and the Region of Durham, to
14 make sure that those particular plans would be in
15 place.

16 And I think we're going to have a
17 session on that on Friday where EMO is going to be
18 here where, I think, you can explore it in quite a
19 bit of detail.

20 MS. McCLENAGHAN: All right. Thank
21 you, Mr. Chairman.

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Mattson,
23 you're next on deck.

24 MR. MATTISON: Thank you, Mr.
25 Chairman.

1 Short people -- Mr. Chairman, the
2 first question, I really would like to have it
3 written as an undertaking because it's been asked
4 three times, and it hasn't been answered.
5 And it's quite a simple question, and it's this:
6 Dr. Lamontagne talked about a 1-in-500-year 6
7 Richter scale earthquake. We need to know -- we've
8 heard about the ground acceleration. We want to
9 know, just simply, what would the ground -- maximum
10 ground acceleration be at the Darlington nuclear
11 plant proposed site with a 6 Richter scale
12 earthquake?

13 We know that they've built in
14 conservancy, acceptability. We've heard all the
15 variations. We just want to know the simple fact
16 what would be the maximum ground acceleration as a
17 result of a Richter 6 earthquake at the proposed
18 site, that's all.

19 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Can that
20 question be answered now, or do I put it as an
21 undertaking?

22 MR. FRAPPIER: If we can listen to
23 another question and I think by the time we get the
24 second question, we will be able to come back to
25 this one with the answer.

1 MR. MATTSON: We'll take it as
2 undertaking, and then --

3 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Well --

4 MR. FRAPPIER: Well, I'll take it
5 as an undertaking, and if they don't have it --

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Before --
7 before we break for supper --

8 MR. FRAPPIER: If we don't have
9 it, I don't want ---

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: No, I won't
11 forget about it.

12 MR. MATTSON: Okay.

13 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I've got a
14 good memory.

15 MR. MATTSON: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Go ahead, Mr.
17 Mattison.

18 MR. MATTSON: Thank you.

19 MR. FRAPPIER: As a matter of fact
20 -- sorry to interrupt, but -- Gerry Frappier. As a
21 matter of fact, I can give the answer right now.
22 There -- it's just I had to look at some parts.

23 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Proceed.
24 Okay.

25 MR. FRAPPIER: So I would ask

1 Andre Blahoianu.

2 MR. BLAHOIANU: Okay. So if
3 understand right, it's about a Richter -- assuming
4 that you have an earthquake magnitude 6, it's like
5 when I -- for qualification when I said site, I had
6 in mind something like 20, 25 kilometres. So for a
7 6, actually what you'll have will have, like,
8 around zero -- zero, three, G. Zero -- Zero, 27, I
9 guess. I guess zero, 27, yeah. 0.27 G.

10 MR. MATTSON: Thank you. My
11 second question is --

12 MR. BLAHOIANU: For clarification,
13 the numbers I got from all colleagues from NRCan.

14 MR. MATTSON: Thank you.

15 MR. BLAHOIANU: So they give us
16 all this information, which, of course, as I said
17 under the reservation that it's not appropriate to
18 talk about converting Richter in Mercalli Intensity
19 Scale with all the other assumption that an
20 earthquake is near vicinity, happens there. These
21 are the answers.

22 MR. MATTSON: My second question,
23 Doctor, and maybe you can answer this, from the
24 Provincial Environmental Assessment to Ontario's
25 plan in the early '90s, it's on the record that the

1 peri-nuclear power plant and the 9-mile point --
2 the 9-mile point which shares Lake Ontario and our
3 drinking water with all of us, the regulator there
4 requires the reactors be built to withstand a 1.5
5 G, almost five times what you're proposing. Can
6 you speak to that?

7 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: CNSC, or do
8 you want to assign someone to speak to that,
9 please?

10 MR. FRAPPIER: I'm not sure.
11 You're saying they wanted a 1.5 G or a .15 G?

12 MR. MATTSON: .15, several times
13 more conservative than the current proposal for the
14 new Darlington nuclear power plant.

15 MR. FRAPPIER: So could you
16 clarify that again? You're saying that they
17 require -- I'm just --

18 MR. MATTSON: Well, maybe -- well,
19 maybe, Mr. Frapper, you can just give us some --
20 you can check with the NRC, you have those
21 connections, and let us know what the reactors on
22 the other side of Lake Ontario are built to
23 withstand --

24 MR. FRAPPIER: Okay.

25 MR. MATTSON: -- for earthquake.

1 MR. FRAPPIER: Perhaps we could
2 take that as a --

3 MR. MATTSON: Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON: I'm going to assign
5 that as Undertaking Number 5.

6 MR. MATTSON: Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman.

8 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: And bring it
9 back when you -- when you get the information.

10 Mr. Mattson?

11 MR. MATTSON: And my final
12 question going directly to the Fukushima tragedy in
13 Japan, and I think it was Mr. Newland spoke about
14 the lessons learned in Japan, and he seemed fairly
15 confident that he had most of the answers, and I --
16 I just want to ask him, the fuel leak -- if there
17 is a fuel leak at the number 4 fuel pond -- and you
18 speculated that it could have been caused by an
19 explosion. I'd like to ask, could it also have been
20 caused by a leak that might have been caused by the
21 earthquake?

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I think that
23 was answered this afternoon and said it hasn't been
24 determined yet because they can't get near.

25 MR. MATTSON: That would be a good

1 answer.

2 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: My
3 understanding, that's what Mr. Frappier said, that
4 it hadn't been -- in following the line that the
5 jury is still out on that.

6 MR. MATTSON: So there's still --
7 so there's still things to learn that -- what the
8 earthquake did to that reactor and -- is that
9 correct?

10 DR. NEWLAND: Dave Newland for the
11 record. I am not confident that we know everything
12 that we know about this event. There will be a lot
13 to learn both in terms of design, external events,
14 the impact of external events on the design, severe
15 accident management, severe accident phenomena.
16 There will be a lot to learn, I agree.

17 MR. MATTSON: And Mr. Newland just
18 because you mentioned -- you never mentioned the
19 earthquake could have caused the leak in the fuel
20 pond. You mentioned explosion. You agree that it
21 could have been caused by the earthquake?

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I beg to
23 differ. My recollection was -- because I had that
24 same question -- that it could have been caused by
25 that, but ---

1 MR. MATTSON: Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: --- the
3 lessons are still to be learned and ---

4 MR. MATTSON: Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: --- when the
6 plant cools down.

7 Ms. Lloyd, you're the last one;
8 last, but not least so go ahead.

9 MS. LLOYD: Brennain Lloyd from
10 Northwatch. And I have a question for CNSC and I
11 believe two for Ontario Power Generation.

12 I'm also interested in CNSC's
13 ability to come to conclusions at this stage given
14 Tepco as of this afternoon was still not able to
15 say whether the situation has become stable.

16 Either EA as of this afternoon
17 still didn't have information on temperature or
18 water levels in three of the four cooling ponds'
19 fuel bays which are of highest concern.

20 My question for CNSC; I've gained
21 an impression from CNSC/OPG presentations of today
22 and OPG's presentation of yesterday evening that
23 the events we're so concerned about at Fukushima
24 Daiichi are not as a result solely of the
25 earthquake and the tsunami but as a combination --

1 the result of a combination of that natural event
2 initiating a series of other events which relate to
3 the engineered safety mechanisms at that facility.

4 And I'm wondering if CNSC can
5 comment or give me some sense of how they would
6 apportion cause to that effect? And particularly
7 to what degree is this a series of events -- a
8 crisis created by a natural event versus a full
9 failure of the defence in depth which OPG described
10 yesterday evening? And I'd particularly like them
11 to comment on the failures of the back-up power and
12 maybe of the back-up to the back-up power; the
13 failure to maintain cooling, the failure to
14 maintain water cover and the failure to maintain
15 containment?

16 So my interest is in how much of
17 this crisis is created by an initiating natural
18 event versus created by a series of failures of the
19 so-called defence in depth?

20 MR. FRAPPIER: Gerry Frappier, for
21 the record.

22 So let's be very clear here and I
23 hope we didn't leave the impression that we think
24 we have gotten all the lessons learned out of the
25 Japanese event.

1 There is lots and lots that's
2 going to be learned over the next few years with
3 respect to that event. And those will be
4 incorporated into requirements and facilities; both
5 new facilities and facilities that are currently in
6 place will be upgraded based on what we learn. So
7 we're certainly not saying we've learnt everything.

8 What we are saying is based on the
9 event in Japan, we believe that we -- that has not
10 changed our understanding of the seismicity of the
11 site that we're talking about at Darlington and
12 therefore with respect to a licence to prepare a
13 site, there was not really very much new there.

14 And the second part is whether the
15 environmental assessment has to be modified and
16 again, what we're saying is that we believe our
17 requirements, if they're met -- and they're going
18 to be met -- then that part will not have to change
19 either.

20 With respect to detailed
21 engineering in detailed requirements, it'll be --
22 you know, we'll be required to build such a
23 facility; that we do expect there will be lessons
24 learned and there'll be input at that time.

25 With respect to initiating event,

1 I think it's pretty clear the initiating event was
2 the earthquake itself and the -- followed by the
3 tsunami so a natural external hazard.

4 And certainly I cannot speak to
5 how well the facility was designed against those or
6 what caused the failure of multiple barriers that
7 the -- I'm sorry, I've forgotten your name, but the
8 person -- the intervenor has stated about.

9 Those will be things that will
10 become out in due time with appropriate
11 investigations. The Canadian Nuclear Safety
12 Commission's already volunteered to the IEA to send
13 some experts to participate in that. And I expect
14 that we will have some members on the international
15 team that will come to some of those conclusions.

16 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Ms. Lloyd?

17 MS. LLOYD: I didn't hear an
18 answer, but in the interest of time I'll move on to
19 my question to OPG. From OPG, today, we heard a --
20 all their presentation was about seismicity.

21 And I'm wondering if it's OPG's
22 position that seismic activity is the only sort of
23 natural based disturbance which could initiate a
24 series of malfunctions such as continue to cause
25 the crisis at Fukushima Daiichi?

1 I'm particularly interested in --
2 well, in particular, the kind of extreme natural
3 disturbances which we are subject to here in
4 Ontario and in Southern Ontario and here in Durham
5 Region and for which there is a history.

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: OPG, would
7 you like to respond?

8 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami, for the
9 record.

10 As part of the environmental
11 assessment and particularly with the licence to
12 prepare the site, we were required to assess a
13 number of external factors; seismic was one of
14 those.

15 We presented that information
16 today so that there would be an understanding of
17 the material that had been submitted for that
18 particular study.

19 However, we did look at seven
20 different nuclear safety considerations which we
21 submitted that includes extreme weather events, if
22 you would, including freezing rain as an example.

23 So there are a number of things
24 that we have considered in our licence to prepare a
25 site. They were filed with the panel at the time

1 of the original filing. And they were, of course,
2 subject to the public review process. And they did
3 meet the specifications provided to us through
4 RD-346.

5 MS. LLOYD: Well, I don't know
6 what RD-346 is without the name, but I did review
7 technical support documents for accidents and
8 malevolent acts and I found one reference to one of
9 the designs having a mention -- it was not a
10 review, but a mention with respect to tornadoes.

11 I find nothing for hurricanes;
12 some reference to a general statement by the
13 Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the U.S.
14 considering hurricanes to be an extreme weather
15 event and I think we could agree they're an extreme
16 weather event.

17 So how in particular have you
18 looked at hurricane and tornado potential for the
19 Darlington new nuclear; for all of the four designs
20 which the panel has been asked to consider in a
21 multiple-technology approach?

22 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami, for the
23 record.

24 I appreciate that the intervenor
25 would have looked to the technical support

1 documents on accidents and malfunctions. However,
2 there are other reports that were filed under the
3 licence to prepare the site.

4 I'm not sure if the intervenor
5 would have had an opportunity -- although they were
6 available on the website -- to also review those
7 documents.

8 Dr. Vecchiarelli can provide us a
9 more detailed assessment of how we, in fact, did
10 those assessments if that's helpful this evening.

11 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: To expedite
12 time, I wonder if the reference documents could be
13 given to Ms. Lloyd and if she has other questions,
14 I'll let those come as time goes on.

15 But I mean there are reams of
16 documents and I realize and appreciate you haven't
17 read them all, but I know that hurricanes and
18 tornadoes and ice storms and so on were all
19 involved. So if you could provide when we recess
20 for dinner, if we do, we will -- if you could
21 provide those to Ms. Lloyd. I think that that
22 might be a way to expedite that. So if that's all
23 right with you, Ms. Lloyd?

24 MS. LLOYD: Yes and even the
25 references and I can look at them electronically.

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Yes, the
2 references and you can follow up.

3 Do you have one other question?

4 MS. LLOYD: One last small
5 question and it's for Mr. Vecchiarelli.

6 He stated, I believe, Mr. Chair,
7 in response to one of your questions that power --
8 we would not move into crisis mode, I don't
9 remember his exact words, but we would not move
10 into crisis mode with a failure of power for hours
11 or maybe even a day.

12 Well, we're at day 11 at Fukushima
13 Daiichi and I think there is power restored to one
14 off the four reactors which are of highest concern.

15 So I wonder if you could comment
16 on the ability to stay out of crisis state for,
17 say, even a week?

18 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: OPG?

19 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami, for the
20 record.

21 I will ask Dr. Vecchiarelli to
22 respond to your questions.

23 I think that we're speculating now
24 on the events that are taking place in Japan. And
25 it's very difficult to start to speculate on the

1 issues and concerns that they were trying to
2 address in terms of restoring power to the site.

3 When we looked to the new designs
4 that are being considered for the Darlington site,
5 all of those will come as described earlier, with
6 emergency power generators that will be seismically
7 qualified and able to respond should there be a
8 seismic event.

9 I appreciate that you may think to
10 the flooding that occurred as a result of the
11 tsunami that also caused damage to those events.
12 In our assessment, we have considered flooding as
13 one of the assessments that we're going to provide
14 you later this evening.

15 And in that case we looked to
16 protecting the equipment that's necessary to
17 operate so that we would have backup power.

18 Dr. Vecchiarelli can provide you
19 more information on the exact nature of the length
20 of time for the reactor progression through an
21 event.

22 DR. VECCHIARELLI: Jack
23 Vecchiarelli, for the record.

24 So following the loss of power
25 there would be immediate shutdown of the reactor

1 units and then we are concerned about removing the
2 decay heat from the core.

3 There are large inventories of
4 water available to the core that would, through
5 natural circulation, provide considerable length of
6 time until the emergency power supply -- if we're
7 talking seismic event, emergency power supply would
8 be restored within 30 minutes.

9 The standby diesel generators kick
10 in within a few minutes in a loss of power
11 situation. But if it's a seismic event, and I
12 think that's what you're concerned about, the
13 redundant multiple backup power supplies that are
14 designed are highly reliable to restore power to
15 the plant.

16 But failing that, we do consider
17 even beyond that what other means are available to
18 provide cooling to the core. And that would
19 include other bodies of water available.

20 In some cases, for example with
21 the Calandria, with the Candu design, the entire
22 core is surrounded by a large volume of water which
23 provides a passive backup heat sink or heat
24 removable capability in case power cannot be
25 restored to the emergency core cooling system.

1 And beyond that, as I described
2 yesterday, there are other provisions -- for
3 example in the enhanced Candu 6 design, to provide
4 from a seismically qualified elevated reserve water
5 tank, water can be provided to the heat transport
6 system to this Calandria vessel which provides a
7 backup heat sink to the steam generators to
8 continue to provide cooling to the secondary side.

9 And so these are additional
10 examples, this sort of heat removal capability can
11 go on for many days.

12 And there's also complementary
13 severe accident management guidelines that would be
14 implemented. And this is something that the entire
15 industry has looked at as being implemented.

16 This makes use of any available
17 means within reason to intervene and provide
18 alternative sources of water such as we witnessed
19 in Japan.

20 So I'm confident that there would
21 be ample time for cooling of the cores before power
22 can be restored.

23 MS. LLOYD: Mr. Chair, I'm not
24 anticipating a tsunami to be the next natural
25 extreme weather event in Clarington.

1 My question, my concern, my
2 interest is how long -- and I'm -- maybe I didn't
3 make it clear, my interest, my question is how long
4 could the fuel pools, the fresh fuel pools go
5 without power before we had a crisis event due to
6 loss of power?

7 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: My
8 understanding, just to put in layman's term because
9 that's what I am, is that depending on the type of
10 reactor that is chosen, some could go as a matter
11 of many days.

12 Isn't that what you just said a
13 few moments ago?

14 The other thing is is that there
15 are other secondary power available within the
16 complex and that's diesel generator backup ---

17 MS. LLOYD: M'hm.

18 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: ---
19 batteries, but even in natural cooling that there
20 are other -- that this can last a considerable
21 length of time depending on the design. Is that
22 correct?

23 MS. LLOYD: Yeah. And I guess
24 again, Mr. Chair, my question is how much time?
25 And if Dr. Vecchiarelli can't provide that answer,

1 so be it.

2 But I want to be clear on -- I'm
3 not asking him to comment on the tsunami in
4 Clarington.

5 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I want the
6 answer also so we will get it for you.

7 MS. LLOYD: Okay, thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: There's a
9 lady sitting very patiently alongside of you.
10 Madam, do you have a question?

11 You didn't register and we'd like
12 you to register but I'm still not that hungry so
13 ---

14 MS. LACANISKY (phon.): Elga
15 Lacanisky (phon.) from Curtis, Clarington.

16 We have seen two mapping on
17 seismicity here and they are very different. And
18 we don't have enough information for Lake Ontario.

19 And I wish I would have it along
20 with me so I could quote but it says on Environment
21 Canada website that glacier -- Lake Iroquois
22 shoreline that is running parallel to Oak Ridge
23 Moraine and Lake Ontario shoreline, so it's just
24 about I would say 5 or maybe less kilometres from
25 Darlington.

1 The uplift of this Lake Iroquois
2 shoreline continues from Kingston in comparison to
3 Toronto, about 30 centimetres -- it's about like
4 this -- a century.

5 And there's not enough information
6 -- it just says one sentence. I would like to know
7 if one of those presenters -- one of them was OPG
8 and the other one -- I don't remember the name of
9 the gentleman, if they could find out and give us
10 some information on this movement?

11 Because as far as I remember in
12 1992 in my house, we had several cracks in the
13 basement foundation and it's not going to be --
14 it's not there this OPG, but still it's lying on
15 the bedrock and our chimney cracked right through.

16 So I was just wondering if it is
17 just some kind of earth movement or could it be
18 earthquake? Because OPG mentioned for the Rouge
19 and Niagara Falls, so this maybe it because this
20 Lake Iroquois shoreline is coming from Niagara
21 Falls all the way to Kingston and a little bit
22 behind.

23 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

24 Who would like to answer the
25 question? It should be OPG. One of your slides

1 was quite detailed I think on that but OPG ---

2 MS. LACANISKY (phon.): It's very
3 close from Darlington.

4 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

5 OPG would you like to respond with
6 regard the intervenor's question? And I thought
7 one of your slides had covered that but maybe I'm
8 wrong?

9 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami, for the
10 record.

11 It may be helpful to put up Slide
12 8 of our presentation, if that's possible. Dr.
13 Youngs will try to answer your question but
14 hopefully this was the graph that you were looking
15 at when you were thinking about your question?

16 MS. LACANISKY (phon.): In of
17 those two coloured, purple and red, because that
18 wouldn't be it. It's parallel with Lake Ontario
19 shoreline and it's just in between as I said, Oak
20 Ridges Moraine and Lake Iroquois shoreline.

21 DR. YOUNGS: Robert Youngs for the
22 ---

23 MS. LACANISKY (phon.): Map of
24 Durham region so this is the Lake Iroquois
25 shoreline, this is Oak Ridges Moraine and this is

1 Lake Ontario shoreline. So I would say we are just
2 about here from Darlington. It's a very short
3 distance.

4 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I'm going to
5 ask OPG to explain Slide A to you, and with that
6 then we'll adjourn for supper or for lunch or for
7 dinner, whatever it's going to be called.

8 MR. YOUNGS: This is Robert Youngs
9 for the record.

10 The phenomenon that you're
11 describing, as I understand it, is a slow uplift of
12 a large area along the lakeshore, and that may, in
13 fact, be a result of the removal of the latest ice
14 sheet that was over the area, and there is
15 noticeable uplift that is occurring along much of
16 Canada in response to that.

17 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

18 With that, this will -- we will
19 try and get -- start after supper or after dinner.
20 Being Maritime I guess it's called supper here --
21 it's called dinner.

22 But regardless, we will convene to
23 do the rest of the morning session with the
24 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission on deck with
25 their presentation. And that will be at seven

1 o'clock. Thank you very much.

2 --- Upon recessing at 5:58 p.m./

3 L'audience est suspendue à 16h58

4 --- Upon resuming at 7:00 p.m./

5 L'audience est reprise à 19h00

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: We're not
7 going to sit beyond nine o'clock. I think 12-hour
8 days are probably long enough. And in fairness of
9 all of that, when people get tired maybe we get
10 repetitious and we don't adhere to all of the
11 things that are going on.

12 So I would ask your co-operation.
13 If we don't get all the questions asked to the
14 presenters tonight, there'll be a day tomorrow.

15 So with that -- Kelly, do you have
16 something to add to this?

17 Okay, we'll start off with the
18 presentation from CNSC.

19 MR. FRAPPIER: Mr. Chair, it's
20 Gerry Frappier.

21 If you'd allow me, I didn't answer
22 Mr. Pereira's question earlier and I can take two
23 seconds to just answer it now and get it on the
24 record.

25 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Please.

1 MR. FRAPPIER: Mr. Pereira is
2 asking about venting at the units during the
3 accident that happened in Japan, so I found my
4 notes and can now give you what I have.

5 This is still a bit sketchy
6 because of the overall accident situation but Unit
7 1, as we mentioned, roughly about eight hours into
8 the event it vented into the reactor building, and
9 22 hours into the event, so about 14 hours later is
10 when they had the hydrogen explosion which then
11 vented it to the atmosphere.

12 Unit 2, it was about 47 hours
13 after the event that they had to vent and about 27
14 hours later that they again -- a hydrogen explosion
15 had to go.

16 And then Unit -- sorry, that was
17 Unit 3. And then Unit 2 it was 93 hours later
18 where they had the thing.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
21 Mr. Frappier.

22 Dr. Thompson.

23 --- PRESENTATION BY DR. THOMPSON:

24 DR. THOMPSON: Good evening,
25 monsieur le président, madame et messieurs les

1 commissaires and other interested parties.

2 My name is Dr. Patsy Thompson. Je
3 suis la directrice générale de la Direction de
4 l'évaluation et de la protection de l'environnement
5 et de la protection radiologique of the Canadian
6 Nuclear Safety Commission.

7 With me tonight and to my left Mr.
8 Brian Torrie, who is the Director of the
9 Environmental Assessment Division, and to my right,
10 Mr. Andrew McAllister, who is the assessment
11 specialist for this project. We also have members
12 of the CNSC technical review team present and
13 available to answer questions.

14 Overall CNSC staff has concluded
15 that the proposed Darlington new nuclear power
16 plant project is unlikely to cause significant
17 environmental effects, taking into consideration
18 mitigation measures and the recommendations
19 outlined in CNSC staff's panel member document 11-
20 P1.3, which was submitted to the Darlington Joint
21 Review Panel on January 31st, 2011.

22 With regards to the determination
23 of significance, I will add some information
24 perhaps to try to better answer the question that
25 was asked this afternoon. When determining

1 significance for this project staff assessed --
2 predicted effects on the various valued ecosystem
3 components and used criteria such as severity,
4 magnitude, duration, geographic extent and
5 reversibility.

6 In the specific case of accidents
7 and malfunctions, because the reactor technology
8 has not been chosen, the approach using the
9 assessment is what was called a safety goal based
10 assessment. In this type of assessment the effects
11 which are calculated as radiation dose or radiation
12 exposures to members of the public were estimated
13 for two types of release, a small release frequency
14 and a large release frequency. So the actual
15 consequences of those releases were assessed for
16 significance.

17 Therefore, in the cases of
18 accidents and malfunctions the determinations of
19 significance was not based on the probability of
20 occurrence, the assessment was in the event that
21 such release occurs what are the consequences to
22 members of the public and can they be mitigated.

23 The purpose of today's
24 presentation is to provide an overview of the
25 results of CNSC staff's review and assessment of

1 Ontario Power Generation's environmental impact
2 statement and supporting documentation for their
3 proposed new nuclear power plant project on the
4 Darlington site.

5 CNSC staff's presentation will
6 provide background information on the project,
7 background information on the CNSC, the licensing
8 process, as well as the role that staff played in
9 the Joint Review Panel process.

10 We will then summarize staff's
11 overall conclusions on the significance of
12 environmental effects of this project.

13 The remainder of our presentation
14 will focus on our key areas of interest, findings,
15 recommendations and our role as Crown consultation
16 coordinator for this project.

17 In September 2006 the CNSC
18 received a preliminary licence application from
19 Ontario Power Generation for up to four new nuclear
20 reactors. And there is a lot of details provided
21 on their project last night so I will not go to
22 more details on this, but to say that the location
23 of the project is on the existing Darlington site
24 and on the shore of Lake Ontario.

25 Again, this is a picture that has

1 been shown a couple times already. In the yellow
2 area is the existing Darlington site, and in the
3 foreground is where the proposed site is proposed
4 to be located.

5 In Canada nuclear activities and
6 facilities are federally regulated. The Canadian
7 Nuclear Safety Commission is the federal authority
8 responsible to licence nuclear facilities such as
9 nuclear power plants. The CNSC is a quasi-judicial
10 tribunal. The CNSC has a broad mandate. It's
11 mission is to protect the health, safety and
12 security of persons and the environment and to
13 respect Canada's international commitments on the
14 peaceful use of nuclear energy.

15 The CNSC established in May 2000
16 under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* replace
17 the Atomic Energy Control Board that existed under
18 the 1946 *Atomic Energy Control Act*. This gives us
19 65 years of experience as Canada's independent
20 nuclear regulator.

21 In its additions to its
22 responsibilities under the *Nuclear Safety and*
23 *Control Act* the CNSC has environmental assessment
24 responsibilities under the Canadian *Environmental*
25 *Assessment Act* which will be outlined on the next

1 slide.

2 In the case of the CNSC an
3 environmental assessment is required in relation to
4 this project under the Canadian *Environmental*
5 *Assessment Act* because the CNSC may issue a licence
6 under subsection 24-2 of the *Nuclear Safety and*
7 *Control Act*.

8 For the Darlington new nuclear
9 power plant project the licence that would be first
10 required is a licence to prepare a site. An
11 explanation of what a licence to prepare site will
12 be provided by our colleagues who might be
13 presenting later tonight and their submission is
14 Commission Member Document 11-P1.2.

15 On this slide, which is a generic
16 slide of the licensing process, I would like to
17 draw your attention to the orange box which is in
18 the middle, and it's entitled Environmental
19 Assessment.

20 An Environmental Assessment under
21 the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* is
22 intended to look at lifecycle of the project.

23 As such, one environmental
24 assessment is required. It is being conducted by
25 the Joint Review Panel, but separate licences will

1 be required for site preparation, construction,
2 operation, decommissioning and abandonment as
3 identified in the yellow box on the flowchart,
4 which I think looks greenish to me but.

5 The other key point to make from
6 this slide is the continued involvement of the
7 public, Aboriginal groups, and interested parties
8 throughout the future licensing process as depicted
9 in the blue arrows on the left side of the slide.

10 Part of this continued involvement
11 could also include the recent CNSC's participant
12 funding program which was recently established.
13 This program is to enhance Aboriginal, public and
14 stakeholder participation in the CNSC's licensing
15 process and to help stakeholders bring valuable
16 information to the Commission.

17 An important point to reiterate is
18 the CNSC's mission to protect health, safety,
19 security of persons and the environment.

20 And those responsibilities do not
21 stop at the environmental assessment stage of the
22 regulatory process, it is applied throughout the
23 lifecycle of all CNSC regulated activities,
24 including the consideration of subsequent licences
25 for the new nuclear power plant.

1 Mr. Brian Torrie will continue
2 with the staff's presentation.

3 --- PRESENTATION BY MR. TORRIE:

4 MR. TORRIE: Thank you. Good
5 evening.

6 CNSC staff perform many activities
7 during the environmental assessment undertaken by
8 the Joint Review Panel.

9 Staff reviewed environmental
10 impact statement and supporting documentation;
11 proposed information requests to the Joint Review
12 Panel; assess the sufficiency of OPG's responses to
13 information request made by the Joint Review Panel;
14 provided other support functions to the Joint
15 Review Panel, such as technical briefings that are
16 available in the Canadian Environmental Assessment
17 Registry; acted as the Crown consultation
18 coordinator on behalf of the federal government in
19 engaging and in consulting Aboriginal groups; and
20 finally, coordinated the federal government review
21 team that has participated in this Joint Review
22 Panel process.

23 CNSC's staff Panel Member
24 Document addresses CNSC staff's review of the
25 environmental impact statement and related

1 information on the Canadian Environmental
2 Assessment Registry for this project.

3 And it also provides CNSC staff
4 conclusions and recommendations for consideration
5 by the Joint Review Panel in support of the
6 environmental assessment being conducted.

7 CNSC staff's Panel Member Document
8 was structured to follow the general order in which
9 the topics are presented in the Environmental
10 Impact Statement Guidelines.

11 As mentioned at the beginning of
12 our presentation, in CNSC's staff's opinion, the
13 proposed project is unlikely to cause significant
14 environmental effects taking into account
15 mitigation measures and the recommendations
16 outlined in CNSC's staff's Panel Member Document.

17 CNSC staff is also of the opinion
18 that a well developed rigorous environmental
19 assessment fall program will be needed.

20 CNSC staff's Panel Member Document
21 in Section 2.27 lays out a proposed approach to the
22 development of this program, including recommending
23 the involvement of multi-stakeholder working groups
24 in order to scope out the follow-up program.

25 Other post-environmental

1 follow-up program accepted by the CNSC prior to
2 commencing applicable licence activities.

3 Further, CNSC staff commits to
4 continue to engage relevant federal departments in
5 the technical reviews that will support the
6 subsequent licensing stages should the project
7 proceed to licensing, for example, in reviewing a
8 detailed mitigation plan or design of a monitoring
9 program.

10 CNSC staff would like to clarify
11 some of the terminology used in our Panel Member
12 Document, more specifically, the term
13 "satisfactory" and "below expectations".

14 Satisfactory refers to a topic for
15 which there are no proposed recommendations for the
16 Joint Review Panel's consideration based on CNSC
17 staff's review and assessment of OPG's
18 environmental impact statement and related
19 information.

20 Below expectations refers to
21 deficiencies having been identified in staff's
22 review. These deficiencies generally were not of a
23 nature to alter conclusions on significance,
24 however, they warranted a recommendation for the
25 consideration of the Joint Review Panel. These

1 recommendations are intended to enhance the
2 mitigation and follow-up measures proposed by OPG.

3 With an explanation of those
4 terms, let us first examine those topics that CNSC
5 staff deemed satisfactory. We will then examine
6 those topics for which CNSC staff had
7 recommendations.

8 CNSC staff found OPG's assessment
9 of the following topics, including proposed
10 mitigation and follow-up satisfactory for
11 environmental assessment purposes: Public and
12 Aboriginal participation, radiological conditions,
13 atmosphere, economy, land use, Aboriginal
14 traditional land use, human health, physical and
15 cultural heritage, and malfunctions, accidents and
16 malevolent acts.

17 We will speak to human health and
18 malfunctions, accidents and malevolent acts in
19 further detail on the following slides.

20 We have chosen to provide further
21 information on these specific items to address
22 potential concerns in these areas which are of
23 interest to the public.

24 From a radiological perspective,
25 human health effects were examined under normal

1 operations and malfunction acts and scenarios for
2 both nuclear energy workers and members of the
3 public.

4 The key conclusions from OPG's
5 assessment are that under normal operations doses
6 will be well below regulatory limits and will be
7 maintained as low as reasonably achievable or ALARA
8 through the application of specific measures in
9 both the design and operation phases of the
10 project.

11 With respect to human health
12 effects in relation to malfunction in accident
13 scenarios put forth by OPG, the anticipated doses
14 to workers and members of the public would be below
15 regulatory limits, notwithstanding OPG's commitment
16 to maintain doses below regulatory limits and
17 ALARA, will continue to be an area of focus
18 throughout the execution of any proposed licenced
19 facility.

20 With respect to malfunctions,
21 accidents and malevolent acts, staff concluded
22 overall that the objectives for the review are met
23 for environmental assessment purposes.

24 Staff did identify additional
25 information requirements that will expected at the

1 time of an application for a licence to construct
2 with respect to malfunctions and accidents from the
3 nuclear reactor and from a criticality --
4 criticality perspectives.

5 The methodology for analysis of
6 the radiological releases from the plant, i.e.
7 involving the reactor and the bounding approach
8 used the identification of the limiting credible
9 accident, in this case a safety goal based release,
10 is acceptable for environmental assessment
11 purposes.

12 This safety goal based release
13 represents a credible severe accident or beyond
14 design basis accident that has offsite radiological
15 consequences.

16 A release of this magnitude would
17 cause either a temporary evacuation or a permanent
18 relocation. We have a technical backgrounder that
19 we think would be useful to the panel and they can
20 provide this by Friday morning, March 25th, if the
21 panel so requests.

22 The assumptions and factors
23 considered in the modeling of the safety goal-based
24 release, are adequate, and a 72-hour release
25 duration is an acceptable assumption for the

1 purposes of estimating release impact for the
2 environmental assessment and applicable -- and
3 applicable to the designs considered in the
4 environmental assessment.

5 Continuing with some of the key
6 findings from CNSC's staff's assessment, OPG's
7 detailed evacuation time estimate study
8 demonstrated that an effective evacuation could
9 take place if a nuclear emergency were to occur
10 with an offsite consequence from a radioactive
11 release to the environment. CNSC staff reviewed
12 this study and found it acceptable.

13 Finally, CNSC staff will conduct a
14 detailed review of the analyses and demonstration
15 of compliance with all safety goals identified in
16 CNSC RD-337, Design of New Nuclear Power Plants as
17 part of the licencing process, at the stage of
18 application for a licence to construct for the
19 chosen design.

20 I will now pass the presentation
21 over to Mr. Andrew McAllister who will discuss some
22 of CNSC staff's specific findings and
23 recommendations. Thank you.

24 --- PRESENTATION BY MR. McALLISTER:

25 MR. McALLISTER: Thank you, Mr.

1 Torrie.

2 For those topic areas for which
3 CNSC staff have identified deficiencies, CNSC staff
4 has proposed 27 recommendations on how a deficiency
5 can be resolved for the Joint Review Panel's
6 consideration with respect to matters related to
7 mitigation and/or follow-up.

8 Those topic areas are alternative
9 means; project description; geology; geotechnical
10 and seismic hazards; surface water; groundwater;
11 terrestrial environment; aquatic environment;
12 severe weather and climate; transportation; and
13 follow-up.

14 We'll now describe CNSC staff's
15 key areas of interest and findings and
16 recommendations identified in PMD 11-P1.3. These
17 are highlighted in red in the slide.

18 OPG indicates it undertook an
19 assessment of alternative condenser cooling water
20 technologies in accordance with the environmental
21 impact statement guidelines, and it has identified
22 its preferred alternative as once-through cooling
23 and is proposing existing Darlington Nuclear
24 generation station design. They have since, in
25 their presentation yesterday, made additional

1 commitments to further design measures.

2 In CNSC staff's opinion, the
3 frequent use of the terms "preferred", "less
4 preferred", "least preferred", often without
5 supporting factual information, makes objective
6 comparisons of the alternatives challenging.

7 Based on staff's assessment, OPG's
8 preference for once-through cooling appears to be a
9 trade-off between direct and indirect mortality of
10 aquatic species from once-through cooling and
11 potential socio-economic effects as well as capital
12 costs and losses in plant efficiency for cooling
13 towers.

14 CNSC staff has concluded that no
15 significant environmental effects are likely from
16 any of the condenser cooling water technology
17 alternatives being considered.

18 Given the limitations in OPG's
19 assessment of alternatives and the requirements
20 under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, as well
21 as pollution prevention principles as outlined by
22 the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, staff
23 recommends that should the project proceed, once a
24 vendor has been selected and as part of an
25 application for a licence to construct, OPG

1 undertake a formal quantitative cost benefit
2 analysis for the full range of condenser cooling
3 water options, applying the principle of best
4 available technology economically achievable.

5 Currently, for the once-through
6 cooling option only, OPG proposes to undertake a
7 cost benefit analysis in a detailed siting study.

8 The term "best available
9 technology economically achievable" refers to
10 proposed risk control technologies that can be, or
11 have been successfully demonstrated, as
12 economically achievable and implementable within
13 the industry. It is often referred to by its
14 acronym ATEA.

15 However, should the Joint Review
16 Panel determine that a once-through cooling system
17 is acceptable, staff recommends that the system be
18 designed to include the optimal mix of the latest
19 in mitigative technologies and techniques that have
20 been demonstrated to be economically achievable at
21 the industry level.

22 For clarification on these slides
23 and subsequent slides, the relevant recommendation
24 number in CNSC staff's panel member document is
25 identified in this slide and the subsequent slides

1 for the topic areas to be discussed.

2 OPG developed a bounding approach
3 known as the "plant parameter envelope", utilizing
4 postulated worst-case design parameters from the
5 reactor designs identified in this environmental
6 assessment and has presented these design
7 parameters as a model plant.

8 For example, for parameters such
9 as public dose, OPG would obtain the design
10 parameters from the technology under consideration
11 and chosen the value leading to the highest dose to
12 a member of the public.

13 CNSC staff noted that the approach
14 to the bounding concept by OPG was not consistent
15 for all assessment factors and end points. The
16 plant parameter envelope was used for certain
17 parameters such as public dose during normal
18 operations. In other cases, such as nuclear waste
19 management, values more conservative in the plant
20 parameter envelope were used for the bounding
21 scenario.

22 As we advised the panel in a
23 briefing dated March 24th 2010 that's on the
24 Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry in their
25 briefing to the Commission, April 8th, CNSC staff is

1 of the opinion that the environmental assessment
2 can be completed without referencing any specific
3 reactor technology, and the environmental
4 assessment conclusions would be applicable to a
5 range of reactor designs that fall within the
6 bounding envelope defined by the Proponent.

7 The expectation is that the
8 reactor technology selected for construction will
9 fit within the approved bounding envelope. This
10 evaluation will be performed once the reactor
11 technology is selected and the applicant will be
12 required to demonstrate that the chosen reactor
13 technology falls within the bounding envelope as
14 part of an application for a licence to construct.

15 An environmental assessment
16 follow-up program will be put in place to provide
17 assurances that this is indeed the case.

18 With respect to the topics of
19 geology and geotechnical and seismic hazards, OPG
20 concluded that there were no unacceptable sub-
21 service conditions that cannot be corrected by
22 means of a geotechnical treatment or compensated
23 for by constructive measures. As well, OPG
24 concluded that there were no seismicity related
25 issues identified that would render the site

1 unsuitable for consideration of new nuclear
2 facilities.

3 In staff's assessment, the
4 geological baseline characterization was
5 acceptable, however, deficiencies were identified,
6 most notably the absence of any baseline data in
7 the vicinity of the proposed Northeast landfill.

8 After staff's review and
9 assessment, staff concurred with OPG's conclusion
10 regarding geotechnical hazards, however, the effect
11 predictions were often based on limited
12 information.

13 As such, in support of an
14 environmental assessment follow-up program and
15 subsequent licensing phases, staff recommends that
16 OPG's proposed detailed geotechnical site
17 investigation include elements such as baseline
18 soil quality data collection, various site
19 suitability related matters, and an assessment of
20 settlement in various structures due to groundwater
21 drawdown.

22 With respect to blasting from the
23 adjacent St. Mary's facility, Phase 4 of St. Mary's
24 operations will be located closest to the
25 Darlington site and is planned to occur decades in

1 the future. Phase 4 operations at the quarry may
2 overlap with the operations of a new nuclear power
3 plant. As such, staff has recommended monitoring
4 of the Phase 4 blasting and quarry slopes.

5 Finally, based on CNSC staff's
6 review, staff concurs with OPG's conclusion that
7 there were no seismicity related issues identified
8 that would render this site unsuitable for
9 construction of new nuclear facilities.

10 For surface water, OPG has
11 consistently responded to the absence of liquid
12 effluent information for hazardous substances by
13 stating that bounding scenarios for hazardous
14 substance could not be developed until a reactor
15 design is selected.

16 OPG further agreed that it was
17 committed to meeting all applicable regulatory
18 requirements. This submission is not in conformity
19 with the environmental impact statement guidelines.

20 However, generic environmental
21 risk assessments completed by the Nuclear
22 Regulatory Commission in the United States and
23 site-specific environmental risk assessments and
24 ongoing environmental monitoring required by the
25 CNSC at all existing reactor sites in Canada,

1 demonstrate that significant adverse effects are
2 not expected to result -- not expected as a result
3 of a release of hazardous substances in liquid
4 effluents to the environment.

5 To address this matter, CNSC staff
6 recommend that once a reactor design has been
7 chosen, OPG conduct a comprehensive assessment
8 including, but not limited to, specific details of
9 effluent releases, description of effluent
10 treatment including demonstration of the chosen
11 option, has been designed to achieve best available
12 treatment technology and techniques economically
13 achievable. OPG shall then conduct a risk
14 assessment on proposed residual releases to
15 determine whether additional mitigation measures
16 may be necessary.

17 CNSC staff commit to completing
18 this future review should the project proceed, and
19 the determination of final effluent release limits
20 in collaboration with other federal and provincial
21 authorities as appropriate.

22 With respect to groundwater, OPG
23 has predicted changes to the groundwater patterns
24 as a result of the project. For example,
25 dewatering during excavation and grading will lower

1 the water table substantially. With respect to
2 groundwater quality, the predicted increases in
3 groundwater are significantly lower than the
4 current Ontario drinking water standard with
5 approximately 500 Bq per litre being the highest
6 concentration on site.

7 In its assessment, CNSC staff have
8 identified aspects of the modelling that require
9 enhancement. They relate to the methodology and
10 sensitivity analysis.

11 At the time of an application for
12 a licence to construct, OPG will have to
13 demonstrate that the reactor design chosen will
14 meet all applicable regulatory requirements in
15 place at the time for drinking water and
16 groundwater protection.

17 For groundwater, staff recommends
18 that OPG undertake an assessment of wet and dry
19 deposition of all contaminants of potential concern
20 both radiological and non-radiological and gaseous
21 effluence especially tritium on groundwater
22 quality.

23 Number 2, enhanced groundwater and
24 contaminant transport modeling, including
25 sensitivity analysis and scenario of the impact of

1 future dewatering/expansion activities at the St-
2 Mary's Quarry on the project.

3 And lastly, based on the
4 groundwater and contaminant transport modeling
5 results, if necessary, OPG should expand the
6 Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program to
7 include relevant residential and private
8 groundwater well quality data in the local study
9 area that are not captured by the current program.

10 With respect to the terrestrial
11 environment, OPG has indicated that in 2007 an
12 estimated 1,300 active burrows were located on the
13 Darlington nuclear site. This represents
14 approximately 50 percent of the active burrows
15 located in Durham region.

16 In the January 31st, 2011
17 submission OPG indicates that the detailed
18 mitigation plan will be confirmed once the final
19 site layout is available. The layout may not
20 require removal of all the bluff, particularly if
21 once-through cooling is utilized.

22 The CNSC staff's assessment we
23 ignored the extensive effort that has been made by
24 OPG to characterize the baseline.

25 One of the primary mitigation

1 measures that OPG has proposed to mitigate a
2 potential significant effect is the implementation
3 of artificial nesting habitat, which has been
4 assigned a low risk of failure by Ontario Power
5 Generation.

6 This mitigation measure is most
7 critical to the protection of the colony of bank
8 swallows currently occupying the bluffs at the
9 Darlington nuclear site.

10 Given the importance around the
11 proposed bank swallow mitigation plan, CSNC staff
12 had recommended that all bank swallow mitigation
13 options put forth for the bounding scenario remain
14 a consideration in the event that less than 100
15 percent bluff removal occur, including the
16 acquisition of offsite nesting habitat.

17 Artificial bank swallow nest
18 habitat could be constructed if you have the
19 capacity to maintain a population which is equal to
20 the number of breeding pairs supported by the
21 amount of bluff that is to be removed and be
22 constructed as close to the original bluff site as
23 possible.

24 And the bank swallow mitigation
25 plan should outline an adaptive management approach

1 to bank swallow mitigation.

2 With respect to the aquatic
3 environment, OPG has proposed to infill Lake
4 Ontario to an approximate four metre depth contour
5 within the site study area. This would result in
6 approximately 40 hectare infill.

7 OPG has concluded that no
8 significant effects are likely to aquatic biota and
9 habitat.

10 CNSC staff has determined that, as
11 proposed, the bounding scenario may be a potential
12 significant environmental effect because it
13 includes directly covering a fraction of the lake
14 bottom in the site study area at spawning depths of
15 round whitefish.

16 Historical round whitefish studies
17 had maximum catches at less than the four-metre
18 depth contour and three indirect effects arising
19 from the infilling to the adjacent habitat.

20 Similar concerns have also been
21 expressed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural
22 Resources and Fisheries and Oceans Canada regarding
23 OPG's proposed bounding infill scenario.

24 CNSC staff's recommendation
25 regarding OPG avoiding infilling beyond the two-

1 metre depth contour of Lake Ontario is in alignment
2 with Fisheries and Oceans Canada's recommendation
3 to the Joint Review Panel.

4 In staff's opinion, the
5 implementation of an infill to a two-metre depth
6 contour would not result in likely significant
7 environmental effects to the aquatic environment.

8 An additional baseline information
9 be forthcoming that demonstrates to the
10 satisfaction of CNSC and Fisheries and Oceans
11 Canada that the fish habitat beyond the two-metre
12 depth contour is not valuable, consideration will
13 be given in subsequent licensing phases to allow in
14 a larger infill than is currently recommended by
15 CNSC staff and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

16 OPG in its January 31st, 2011
17 submission to the Joint Review Panel has indicated
18 that a two-metre depth contour infill can
19 accommodate a once-through cooling system. At that
20 time, there was no mention of whether the other
21 proposed cooling options such as cooling towers
22 could be accommodated on the site if less than 40
23 hectares was infilled.

24 Yesterday, Mr. Sweetnam in
25 response to questions from the Joint Review Panel

1 indicated that cooling towers would require greater
2 than a 19-hectare infill area or greater than a
3 two-metre depth contour.

4 Not knowing how much more infill
5 area would be required nor having the analyses that
6 supports this statement, such as revised site
7 layouts, remains a gap on this matter.

8 OPG has concluded limited adverse
9 effects to the aquatic environment. However,
10 Fisheries and Oceans Canada and CNSC staff
11 identified baseline aquatic deficiencies to the
12 Joint Review Panel in the fall of 2010.

13 OPG conducted a fall gill netting
14 survey at the request of the Joint Review Panel and
15 has committed to conduct spring lateral fish
16 surveys in 2011 in response to the Joint Review
17 Panel's information request on this matter. CNSC
18 staff have worked with OPG and other stakeholders
19 in developing the scope of this survey.

20 In addition, in staff's opinion,
21 additional data is needed as OPG's effect
22 predictions were largely based on one-year data.

23 This is not sufficient baseline
24 information to test effect predictions in an
25 environmental assessment follow-up program,

1 especially with the uncertainty around some of
2 OPG's conclusions such as the area not representing
3 important habitat for round whitefish.

4 CNSC staff recommends additional
5 baseline data collection from environmental
6 assessment follow-up program purposes as follows:
7 for fish and fish habitat, CNSC staff is referring
8 to adult fish community surveys both gill netting
9 in the site study area and electrofishing along the
10 existing armoured shoreline.

11 For round whitefish, additional
12 data collection is identified to better define the
13 population structure and geographical distribution
14 and; for impingement and entering another year of
15 data is needed to deal with the inter-annual fish
16 abundance variability and sample design
17 inadequacies.

18 The data collection aspects
19 related to the round whitefish are in alignment
20 with OPG's proposed round whitefish action plan.

21 That concludes the key findings
22 and recommendations made by CNSC staff. We will
23 now summarize the Crown consultation activities
24 undertaken for this project.

25 CNSC has acted as the Crown

1 consultation coordinator for the federal review in
2 relation to the project. Engagement and
3 consultative activities of Aboriginal groups have
4 been ongoing since 2007. Communications have been
5 through letters, phone calls, emails and meetings.

6 Based on all the information that
7 has been received to date, CNSC staff are not aware
8 of any adverse impacts this proposed project may
9 have on the potential or established Aboriginal or
10 treaty rights.

11 I will now pass the presentation
12 back to Dr. Thompson.

13 DR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

14 To summarize, in CNSC staff's
15 opinion the proposed project is unlikely to cause
16 significant environmental effects taking into
17 consideration mitigation measures and the
18 recommendations outlined in CNSC staff's Panel
19 Member Document 11-P1.3.

20 Subsequent licensing phases should
21 the project proceed, will ensure the continued
22 protection of the environment and human health and
23 safety under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* and
24 ongoing involvement of the public, Aboriginal
25 people and other stakeholders.

1 This concludes the staff's
2 presentation; we're available to answer questions.

3 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
4 very much, Dr. Thompson and your colleagues.

5 I will start the questioning with
6 Mr. Pereira.

7 --- QUESTIONS BY THE PANEL:

8 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you, Mr.
9 Chairman.

10 Let's start with Section 2-11.2.2
11 in your PMD. In this part of your PMD, CNSC staff
12 state that the present estimates of fish loss do
13 not indicate adverse effects large enough to put
14 populations at risk. However, a range of potential
15 mitigation measures are recommended. Among these
16 is a deeper location for the intake.

17 Given the information accumulated
18 so far on possible fish habitat areas and the areas
19 frequented by fish in the vicinity of Raby Head, is
20 there a precautionary estimate that CNSC staff can
21 offer on the location and depth of the intake that
22 would reduce significantly the intake losses from
23 the current predicted level?

24 DR. THOMPSON: I will ask Mr. Don
25 Wismer to respond to your question.

1 MR. WISMER: Don Wismer.

2 We're working on that with our
3 federal partners, Department of Fisheries and
4 Oceans who are concerned about direct disruption of
5 habitat and intake fish loss and then Environment
6 Canada whose concerns are more with thermal
7 effects.

8 The short answer appears to be
9 beyond the thermal clime and the thermal clime
10 varies from five metres up to beyond 20 so the
11 preliminary answer is 20 metres depth minimum, but
12 we're still sorting that one out. It's a bit -- it
13 will be determined a bit from the results of the
14 Round Whitefish Action Plan which you heard is
15 ongoing with some sampling this spring.

16 MEMBER PEREIRA: And if we had to
17 make an estimate -- a precautionary estimate now of
18 a location, it would be around a depth of 20
19 metres, given the knowledge that we have now?

20 MR. WISMER: That would be my
21 view, yes.

22 MEMBER PEREIRA: And the same
23 depth would apply for the diffuser?

24 MR. WISMER: Yes.

25 MEMBER PEREIRA: Okay. Going on

1 to another topic, in Section 2.9.3 of your PMD,
2 CNSC staff concludes that OPG has made a
3 satisfactory case that the project is unlikely to
4 result in significant adverse environmental effect
5 on groundwater quality. Taking mitigation measures
6 into account, what are the types of mitigation
7 measures referred to in this statement for ground
8 -- groundwater quality obviously?

9 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson for
10 the record.

11 In this case the effects that were
12 being considered on -- on groundwater quality were
13 from the atmospheric releases and entrainment of --
14 from dry and wet deposition of tritium was one of
15 the concerns that had been identified. And the
16 mitigation measures are essentially proper plant
17 operation to maintain the -- the levels of -- of
18 discharges to -- and -- and atmospheric releases to
19 levels that would be below levels that would result
20 in unacceptable groundwater quality.

21 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you.
22 Again, just switching topics, in Section 2.4.3.1 of
23 your PMD and -- and the following Section,
24 reference is made to possible provision of
25 additional used fuel dry storage buildings on the

1 ND site. The PMD states that this may require
2 updating of the safety assessment and a separate
3 licencing process. Could this separate licencing
4 process require consideration of environmental
5 impacts that are not covered in the current
6 environmental assessment?

7 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson for
8 the record. Depending on the -- any amendments, if
9 amendments were -- or new licences are required for
10 the waste management facility, the staff would
11 determine whether an environmental assessment under
12 the *Environmental Assessment Act* would be required.
13 In the event that no environmental assessments are
14 required, those -- those considerations would be
15 undertaken under the *Nuclear Safety and Control*
16 *Act*, but for the purposes of waste management, the
17 technologies and mitigation measures lead us to
18 conclude that there would not be significant
19 environmental effects.

20 MEMBER PEREIRA: And that's also
21 another function of the type of -- of reactor
22 technology chosen because of the different types of
23 waste?

24 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson,
25 that's correct. The assessment considered the

1 types of waste that would be generated by different
2 technologies.

3 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Madam
5 Beaudet?

6 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman. I'd like to start with ones that are on
8 the PMD, but in relation also with the licence to
9 prepare a site, if you look at page 42, Section
10 262, you propose something here that a condition of
11 the LTPS be OPG shall have the requisite plans and
12 mitigation plans before applicable licence
13 activities.

14 Now, what I understand in PMD 1.2
15 is a lot of the plans -- the handbook that you're
16 supposed to have, I think they're not all there
17 because there are lots of Xs so OPG says that it
18 can start the LTPS activities even if a vendor or
19 not chosen so we get in a chicken and egg thing
20 here. I mean, how do you answer that? I mean, if
21 -- if you don't have the vendor, you can't prepare
22 the books and if you don't have the books, you
23 can't have the LTPS and if you don't have the LTPS,
24 you can't start your activities. I mean, where --
25 where the circle starts --

1 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson. In
2 the case of that -- sorry, the example you provide
3 on -- on Section 2.6 -- 2.6.2, the issues that are
4 being discussed are essentially site preparation
5 activities, environmental effects from site
6 preparation activities that are not dependent on a
7 technology being chosen, for example, dust control,
8 and things like that. So any technology
9 essentially the routine protection -- environmental
10 protection plans that would be needed for
11 construction of sites can manage issues such as
12 dust, storm water, et cetera. But to explain
13 better the links between the mitigation measures,
14 the follow-up program and the licence to prepare a
15 site, I believe Mr. Howden could better answer that
16 question.

17 MR. HOWDEN: Thank you, Barclay
18 Howden speaking. For the licence to prepare a site
19 that OPG has applied for, they've actually applied
20 to one that is -- is not required to have the
21 technology because they're not asking for any work
22 to be done that would related to a technology. So
23 they're actually asking for a licence to prepare a
24 site to just generically prepare the site;
25 generically put in services and -- so from that

1 standpoint, there's no real requirements at this
2 point for anything specific.

3 In terms of for this, what we're
4 doing is we've put a licence condition within the
5 proposed licence that's being proposed to the
6 panel, licence condition 1.1, that requires OPG to
7 submit and have accepted by the Commission or
8 person authorized by the Commission, all the
9 requisite documentation that is required in advance
10 of doing any licence to prepare site work. So what
11 we're proposing to the panel is that that condition
12 be there such that OPG as they develop the project
13 further and start to develop their documentation in
14 more detail, that there will be a whole point that
15 does not permit them to actually do any site
16 preparation work until all the documentation has
17 come in; has been reviewed to the satisfaction of
18 staff such that they can actually undertake the
19 work safely and will have actually put in the
20 mitigation measures required.

21 Also within that same licence, we
22 proposed licence condition -- I believe it's 10.1
23 which is the requirement for a follow-up program
24 and in that the follow-up program would require
25 follow-up and mitigation measures required for a

1 licence to prepare a site. The documentation
2 required for that is also linked to the licence
3 condition 1.1 that I just spoke of with the hold
4 point. So OPG would have to have the follow-up
5 program in place as one of the conditions of
6 meeting the licence condition 1.1. So that's how
7 we've put the regulatory hold point that we're
8 proposing to the Commission.

9 MEMBER BEAUDET: Correct me if I'm
10 wrong, but 2.6 I thought referred for mitigation
11 measures for any type of effect and it doesn't
12 cover just dust?

13 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.
14 No, I was giving those examples because essentially
15 during site preparation the types of activities are
16 essentially the types of activities that would
17 happen on any construction site so it's earth
18 moving, so it's essentially prevention of spills,
19 dust controls and -- and things that are typical of
20 construction sites where dirt and things like that
21 will be moved, fences will be put up. None of the
22 activities that are covered by the licence to
23 prepare a site would allow OPG to do construction
24 activities that are related to the reactor design,
25 cooling -- the condenser cooling water and things

1 like that. The licence to prepare a site is very
2 restricted and in terms of activities that would --
3 that OPG would be allowed to do.

4 So in this case, the licence and
5 mitigation measures and the follow-up program that
6 are specifically linked to that phase of the
7 project are very limited because the project
8 activities are limited.

9 MEMBER BEAUDET: I'm under the
10 impression in this paragraph that it's mitigation
11 measures for any effect. It's any effect covered
12 in the environmental impact assessment. Two point
13 six (2.6) is:

14 "...effects, prediction,
15 mitigation measure and
16 significance of residual
17 adverse effects."

18 And in order to make sure that
19 there's no significant residual adverse effect you
20 need the proper mitigation measures, and it says
21 here, second paragraph of 2.6.2, that you would
22 have the requisite plans.

23 I mean, we have to make sure
24 before the project goes ahead that we have the
25 proper mitigation measures; no?

1 DR. THOMPSON: You're right. So
2 2.6 does describe in general how mitigation
3 measures would need to be implemented for all
4 phases of the project. That's a general
5 description.

6 MEMBER BEAUDET: But then you need
7 a vendor in order to do that?

8 DR. THOMPSON: That's correct, but
9 2.6.2 specifically refers:

10 "OPG has proposed a number of
11 plans as mitigation measures
12 as indicated, that details of
13 such plans will be
14 forthcoming at a later
15 stage."

16 For example, during the vendor
17 design stage, but this would be with a construction
18 licence.

19 If you go to the next paragraph:

20 "In order to address the
21 absence of detailed
22 mitigation plans during the
23 site preparation phase, CNSC
24 staff is recommending that in
25 CMD 11-P1.2 to the JRP that

1 the condition of the LTPS be
2 that OPG shall have the
3 requisite plans accepted by
4 the Commission for those
5 licensed activities."

6 But what we're also recommending
7 in the series of recommendations we've made to the
8 Commission is that, overall, there are certain
9 things that need to happen.

10 So we've assessed that there are
11 not likely to be significant environmental effects
12 at all stages of the project given the mitigation
13 measures that have been identified by OPG.

14 But for the first phase of the
15 licence -- licence to prepare a site, there are
16 certain mitigation measures that need to be in
17 place. They need to be developed before OPG's
18 allowed to do their work under that licence and the
19 same thing would happen for future phases of the
20 licence.

21 DR. THOMPSON: Is it before we're
22 signing the licence or after?

23 MEMBER BEAUDET: I will ask
24 Barclay Howden to explain how the process would --
25 hold points would work for the commission.

1 MR. HOWDEN: Yes, for this
2 particular licence, OPG has applied for a number of
3 activities, none of them related to any reactor
4 technology. So, in essence, they've just applied
5 to be able to do some generic site preparation
6 activity unrelated to any technology, so they
7 wouldn't have to choose the vendor.

8 From the standpoint of the
9 licensing process, the proposal is -- and this is a
10 standard licensing proposal -- is that the panel --
11 if the EA went through and was acceptable and the
12 panel was able to make a decision on the licence to
13 prepare site and chose to issue the licence to
14 prepare site, that we put in a series of what we
15 call "licence conditions" dealing with the various
16 issues and certain licence conditions we call our
17 "hold points" where the panel has issued the
18 licence recognizing that there's more work that
19 needs to be done.

20 And then within the licence
21 condition, the panel can either choose to have the
22 Proponent or licensee, at that point, to come back
23 to the Commission to seek the Commission's approval
24 to lift that hold point such that they would be
25 able to do the work.

1 The panel also has the option to
2 authorize CNSC staff to actually lift that
3 condition if they chose to do that, in which case
4 we will be preparing a review. And then based on
5 the authority provided to us, when we were
6 satisfied we would lift that, but the panel needs
7 to be satisfied that if they provided that
8 delegation of authority to staff that staff
9 understood the panel's requirements for us to lift
10 that hold point.

11 So this is a standard licensing-
12 type condition that allows some things to be done
13 and others not. In this case because OPG is still
14 working on the documentation, we've put in that
15 particular hold point.

16 MEMBER BEAUDET: I have a second
17 aspect about this.

18 If you look at page 87 and 88, you
19 make recommendations here that I feel should be
20 done before the LTPS activities are initiated. And
21 I come back to the figure -- the first session we
22 had in the evening.

23 For me, the LTPS includes also
24 shoreline stabilization and lake infilling, and I
25 don't see how you could start to do your lake

1 infilling if you haven't done enough research; for
2 instance, on the round whitefish.

3 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
4 the record.

5 Just to clarify, the proposed
6 licence to prepare site does not allow lake infill.
7 There are no lake infilling activities that would
8 be authorized by the licence.

9 MEMBER BEAUDET: How can you do
10 flood protection if you don't even know where your
11 lake infill is going to be? If you do it when the
12 shoreline is going to finish, how are you going to
13 do shore protection?

14 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
15 the record.

16 You're right that shore protection
17 when the shore is undefined would be a rather
18 difficult task. Essentially, our understanding is
19 that the activities that have been -- that CNSC
20 staff proposed be authorized by the Commission
21 under the LTPS would be those activities that are
22 not linked to the choice of the technology, be it
23 reactor design or cooling water.

24 If, for example, OPG has requested
25 the authority to be able to do shoreline protection

1 or flood protection, if the -- moving forward to
2 construction licence, the shore or the infill zone
3 is different than the one that OPG has been working
4 with during the site preparation licence, then that
5 would be at their risk because they may have to
6 redo some work or undo some work.

7 But it's something -- could I
8 propose that we clarify this for the panel for
9 tomorrow? It is confusing.

10 MEMBER BEAUDET: I understand that
11 there could be hold points, but we have to be clear
12 where we put the hold points.

13 DR. THOMPSON: Perhaps, Mr. Chair,
14 if you allow -- I agree that clarity is needed and
15 we obviously can't provide it tonight.

16 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I agree that
17 I think we should call this Undertaking Number 6
18 because I think this is probably the whole part of
19 what's required before we go forward, so if we
20 could have that tomorrow that would be fine. So
21 we'll go with -- do that as Undertaking Number 6.

22 MEMBER BEAUDET: My last point on
23 this is on page 95, Section 214.2. It's in that
24 section, paragraph 1, 2, 3, 4. The last sentence:

25 "CNSC staff expect that the

1 Proponent obtain the sheer
2 strength of the overburden
3 materials and the dynamic
4 properties of both overburden
5 and sedimentary rocks to
6 confirm the site's
7 suitability."

8 Now, I'm not an expert in this,
9 but do you have confidence that the site is
10 suitable? No -- I mean, this is something also
11 that we have to make sure before the licence to
12 prepare site, would you say, is given?

13 This is a study also that should
14 be done before site preparation, but you have
15 recommended that it should be done at site
16 preparation and pre-construction, not before site
17 preparation.

18 I mean, there are certain things
19 you recommended that it should be done before the
20 project goes ahead, but this is not one of them.

21 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
22 the record.

23 You're right, the recommendation
24 is Recommendation Number 19, and it's on page 98.
25 And these were identified as site preparation and

1 pre-construction activities, essentially to ensure
2 that all the information that is required to
3 provide guidance for design of the plant would be
4 available before any licence to construct would be
5 applied for and issued.

6 And perhaps I could ask our
7 geotechnical -- I will ask Dr. Grant Su to provide
8 the details of the intent of the information we are
9 proposing that the -- we're recommending to the
10 panel that ---

11 MEMBER BEAUDET: What I would like
12 to know is to what extent -- is he confident that
13 the site is okay?

14 DR. SU: Grant Su.

15 (Non-English). And because given
16 the site preparation, there would be some of the
17 cut slopes and we need to make sure the cut slope
18 is stable during the site preparation. So
19 currently, OPG has to conduct an analysis under the
20 parameters they used, therefore, the standard to
21 analyze this is or should be to set parameters.

22 So we need to get the site-
23 specific parameters to verify the slope stability
24 but we haven't been sent that, so without the site-
25 specific parameters and they use just assumed

1 parameters. They assumed the parameters and has
2 demonstrated the slope is stable, but we still need
3 the site-specific parameters to verify it.

4 So -- but without that parameters
5 for site preparation, this slope steel cap could
6 be, you know, built and by, for example, flattening
7 the slope.

8 MEMBER BEAUDET: So is this in
9 terms of the slope? It's not that you feel that
10 there's certain things that, you know, you're not
11 sure about the site itself. It's just standard
12 that you have to insist on certain things.

13 Is that what I understand?

14 DR. SU: Yeah, we just need to
15 make sure the slope is stable and the ---

16 MEMBER BEAUDET: Okay, thank you.

17 DR. THOMPSON: Perhaps if I could
18 add that the assessment that was done in terms of
19 the seismic risks and the other characteristics of
20 the site that would have an impact on the design
21 and the designing of the reactor and other elements
22 have been identified and confirmed as the site
23 being suitable as well as, for example, emergency
24 planning and other things that are considered to
25 determine whether the site is suitable for a power

1 plant.

2 In terms of this, it's a standard
3 practice that limited -- that information is
4 obtained as we progress and that information is
5 considered by the proponent or the licensee at the
6 time and by the CNSC staff to ensure that we have
7 the best information as the site is investigated
8 and the project moves forward.

9 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Pereira, do
11 you have some other questions?

12 Yes, go ahead; you're next.

13 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you, Mr.
14 Chairman.

15 In PMD 11-P1.3, CNSC staff
16 recommend that OPG be required to conduct a
17 comprehensive assessment of effluent releases to
18 provide a description of proposed effluent
19 treatment and the risk assessment of residual
20 releases.

21 What would be the criteria applied
22 to judge the acceptability of residual releases
23 relative to possible environmental consequences
24 over the entire lifetime of the reactors?

25 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.

1 Essentially, one of the
2 deficiencies that CNSC staff identified to the
3 Joint Review Panel when the Joint Review Panel
4 raised an Information Request was on the lack of
5 information in terms of the hazardous substances
6 that would be used or produced in the course of the
7 activity and under what conditions they would be
8 discharged in the environment.

9 The expectation is that that work
10 will be done, that OPG will use best industry
11 practices to either prevent, minimize or limit the
12 amount of substances that will be used and the
13 amount that will be released using the technology
14 that would give us the environmental performance
15 that we expect from a site that would -- a plant
16 that would be operating in a few years.

17 The standards that are being used
18 to judge the performance of effluent limits, for
19 example, effluent standards, would be in compliance
20 with either national or provincial standards for
21 air, water, sediment quality, and the expectation
22 would be that the plant would be operating in a
23 manner that there will be no significant
24 environmental effects on water sediment, air
25 quality, and that bio and human health would be

1 protected.

2 Over the -- essentially, the
3 expectation is that OPG will be able to move
4 forward should the project go ahead in phases, and
5 the expectation is that they would identify best
6 industry practices now.

7 We know, for example, that the
8 hydrazine requirements are changing. There's been
9 new assessments done by Environment Canada, so we
10 expect the licensee to take into -- the proponent
11 to take into consideration changes in legislation,
12 for example, changes in standards and design
13 facility to those standards.

14 In terms of the long term, it's
15 like any other industrial plant or any other
16 nuclear plant. Over time, the licensee is expected
17 to review its performance, its designs against new
18 modern standards and determine whether it's cost-
19 effective to bring improvements to the plant.

20 So it's the same process that the
21 CNSC has used for refurbishment, for example, for
22 integrated safety reviews.

23 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you.

24 Now, just some clarification on
25 some -- on another recommendation.

1 In Section 2.4.5.3 of PMD 11-P1.3,
2 CNSC staff recommends that the performance of
3 quantitative cost benefit analysis for the full
4 range of condenser cooling water options applying
5 the principle of best available technology that is
6 economically achievable, and I realize that this is
7 probably some approach that is premature.

8 Just for my own edification and
9 perhaps for maybe members of the public present in
10 this auditorium, how could these techniques be
11 objectively used to rank economic benefits
12 alongside -- associated economic benefits alongside
13 aquatic biota mortality and how would you make this
14 comparison, socio-economic on one side, like visual
15 effects, and impact on social environment against
16 fish mortality, for instance?

17 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.

18 We identified this as a deficiency
19 in OPG's assessment.

20 Essentially, the guidelines
21 require that OPG consider alternative means for the
22 project. Alternative means were considered for,
23 for example, reactor design, reactor technology,
24 waste management options and also for various
25 options for condenser cooling water.

1 In the case, for example, of
2 reactor design, OPG did an assessment of
3 alternative means but did not identify a preferred
4 option.

5 In the case of condenser cooling
6 water, OPG did the assessment, but went further and
7 determined that one option was the preferred
8 option.

9 In essence, the assessment that
10 OPG did was not transparent and objective, and many
11 assessments that have been done both under CEAA and
12 outside of CEAA where various factors, social
13 factors, economic factors, environmental impacts
14 are identified and the process calls for a
15 weighting of the relative importance of each of the
16 factors and then comparing each of the options and
17 rating these options for each of the factors, and
18 then it's essentially a compilation or a scoring.

19 And that is a tool to aid
20 decision-making.

21 There are at least two
22 environmental assessments that were done by the
23 CNSC using this multi-factorial method for choosing
24 their preferred option. One was the comprehensive
25 study that was done for decommissioning of

1 Whiteshell and something similar was also done for
2 the environmental assessment, the comp study for
3 the decommissioning.

4 Assessments under the CEAA have
5 also used similar methods for similar purposes.

6 MEMBER PEREIRA: Another
7 question. In Section 2.4.2 of your PMD, CNSC staff
8 refers to consideration by OPG of full off-site on-
9 land disposal of excavated material.

10 Could there be off-site
11 environmental impacts that arise from recourse to
12 off-site disposal?

13 And secondly, could off-site
14 disposal of all of the excavated -- surface
15 excavated material be an option that should be
16 considered to avoid lake in-fill?

17 MS. THOMPSON: Andrew
18 McAllister will respond to your question.

19 MR. McALLISTER: Andrew
20 McAllister, for the record.

21 OPG in its assessment of
22 managing its excavated materials, we felt, had
23 identified the anticipated suite of environmental
24 effects that would be expected as in their response
25 to IR No. 11.

1 It should be noted that as the
2 amount of materials would be increasing off-site,
3 we would expect the subsequent off-site effects to
4 be -- their magnitude, et cetera, would be greater.

5 For example, the number of
6 truck trips for soil disposal, dust, those sorts of
7 things would be identified the suite of effects
8 that were anticipated.

9 The full off-site disposal,
10 meaning not into the lake, but OPG examined this in
11 more detail in their aquatic compensation report.

12 It was part of that package
13 that was submitted to you in, I believe, August of
14 2010 where they went through at the -- working with
15 Fisheries and Oceans Canada, CNSC and other
16 stakeholders went through a bit more detailed
17 examination of alternatives on options for in-
18 filling.

19 One of them was, I believe, and
20 I could stand to be corrected on this, would be the
21 full off-site disposal, though I believe they
22 deemed that to be economically not feasible. But I
23 would -- that's my understanding and OPG perhaps
24 could correct me if I've misstated that.

25 MEMBER PEREIRA: Just a quick

1 clarification.

2 You said economically not
3 feasible, but is the cost benefit, is it economics
4 against in-lake environmental impact?

5 We're talking about
6 environmental impacts here, so it is not an
7 environmental issue; it's an economic issue for on-
8 land disposal.

9 MR. McALLISTER: Again, that's
10 my understanding. I don't have OPG's report in
11 front of me, but that's my understanding.

12 And if that's -- again, if I'm
13 incorrect, I look to OPG to clarify that for the
14 panel's benefit.

15 CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Yes, I wonder
16 if OPG might like to comment?

17 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami, for
18 the record.

19 We do have the report with us.
20 We're just trying to locate it in our large volume
21 of work here, if you could just give us a moment.

22 MEMBER PEREIRA: I'm aware of -
23 - you haven't addressed it in an IR, but I'm trying
24 to determine now whether there's an environmental
25 benefit from eliminating lake in-fill by

1 considering on-land disposal even if it is a more
2 expensive option. It's the cost you pay for
3 avoiding environmental impact.

4 MS. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson,
5 for the record.

6 We have the information you've
7 been looking for.

8 The option for no lake in-fill
9 with off-site on-land disposal was Option 2 that
10 was assessed. And it was deemed to be not
11 acceptable on the basis that it was more expensive
12 than Option 1 which was the bounding scenario for
13 the 40 hectares and unable to achieve maximum power
14 as described in the scope of the project.

15 Those were the two factors that
16 ---

17 MEMBER PEREIRA: Unable to?

18 MS. THOMPSON: To achieve
19 maximum power as described in the scope of the
20 project.

21 And I believe that was because
22 of the no lake in-fill, the size of the site.

23 MEMBER PEREIRA: Okay.

24 CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: OPG, you
25 still wish to comment?

1 MR. PETERS: John Peters, for
2 the record.

3 The issue is an important one
4 from our perspective, and we did look because we
5 were asked to consider the possibility of no lake
6 in-fill.

7 It is a very difficult thing,
8 as we've indicated, to have no lake in-fill from
9 the point of view of achieving the project as we
10 had defined it in the environmental assessment.

11 And so it created not only the
12 challenges as you suggest of off-site disposal, the
13 costs and effects of doing that truck traffic over
14 many more years as a result -- or more years as a
15 result of much larger volumes off-site, but also
16 did not meet the goals of achieving a site that
17 could meet the project as it was defined.

18 And for those reasons, it
19 became not an economic option.

20 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you.

21 Switching to another subject,
22 in the CNSC PMD 11P1.3 on page 157, on the subject
23 of out of core criticality, we're talking here
24 storage of used fuel, is the information reported
25 in the international community on criticality

1 events involving the handling and storage of used
2 fuel and could any of this information be relevant
3 with respect to impacts on site and across site
4 boundaries?

5 MS. THOMPSON: Mr. Vladimir
6 Khotylev will provide that information.

7 MR. KHOTYLEV: For the record,
8 my name is Vladimir Khotylev, Physics and Fuel
9 Division, CNSC.

10 As far as CNSC staff
11 understands, criticality safety accidents reported
12 internationally involved much higher infringements
13 than typically used for nuclear power plants.

14 Nevertheless, for purposes of
15 dry storage facility, if it is located on the same
16 site and if OPG applied for licence to construct
17 and for the licences, they would have two choices,
18 either according to existing regulatory
19 requirements which are spelled in regulatory
20 document RD-327 either they have to prove that
21 criticality accident at dry storage facility is not
22 possible or they have to prove that regulatory
23 requirements held in Section 2.3 of regulatory
24 document RD-327 with respect -- regulatory
25 requirements with respect to off-site consequences

1 of criticality accident to the public are met.

2 MEMBER PEREIRA: So what you
3 are saying is that these risks would be avoided
4 because of licensing requirements for the dry
5 storage facilities. Is that correct?

6 MS. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.
7 That's my understanding.

8 MEMBER PEREIRA: I'll go on to
9 another topic.

10 In the same PMD, 11, P1.3, in
11 Section 2.23.3, it is stated that the methodology
12 used by OPG for analysis of radiological releases
13 is a consequence of reactor base accidents is
14 acceptable to CNSC staff for EA purposes.

15 However, in the same document it
16 stated further that core damage frequencies and
17 large release frequency data are not as yet
18 available for all the reactor technologies that are
19 under consideration as part of the definition of
20 the plant parameter envelope.

21 What is the basis for the CNSC
22 staff conclusion that the approach used for the
23 analysis of releases from the plant can be accepted
24 for the purpose of an environmental assessment?

25 DR. THOMPSON: I'll ask Dr. David

1 Newland to respond to that.

2 DR. NEWLAND: For the record, Dave
3 Newland.

4 Could you repeat the question
5 please?

6 MEMBER PEREIRA: It is stated in
7 your PMD that core damage frequencies and large
8 release frequency data are not as yet available for
9 all of the reactor technologies under
10 consideration.

11 What is the basis for the CNSC
12 staff conclusion that the approach used for
13 analysis of releases from the plant can be accepted
14 for the purposes of an environmental assessment?

15 DR. NEWLAND: For the record, Dave
16 Newland.

17 I think the basis for that is the
18 -- our general understanding of how those analyses
19 are done, so analyses are done by using
20 conservative calculation methods, conservative
21 assumptions that will produce a conservative
22 result.

23 And on that basis we feel that the
24 methods that are available, if you like, well
25 established and we would understand them and they

1 would be broadly acceptable to us, but that would
2 have to be verified at the time of licensing.

3 MEMBER PEREIRA: So this is an
4 issue that when it comes to licensing, the
5 application for a licence to construct is part of
6 your review of the design, you'd be confirming that
7 what you're accepting does, in fact, fall within
8 the bound of what was accepted for an environmental
9 assessment for the entire lifecycle of the plant?

10 DR. NEWLAND: For the record, Dave
11 Newland.

12 Yes, exactly, and we would be
13 verifying that, for example, those criteria, safety
14 goals are met with margins using methods that are
15 acceptable to us.

16 MEMBER PEREIRA: Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Madam
18 Beaudet?

19 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr.
20 Chairman.

21 On page -- in PMD 1.3, page 48,
22 second paragraph, last sentence where it starts
23 with:

24 "CNSC staff expect additional
25 baseline and wanted quality

1 data to be connected for all
2 shoreline and shore
3 locations" ---

4 --- et cetera, et cetera.

5 Your Recommendation 5 does not
6 include that, is there a reason? Because I
7 consider this to be a recommendation but I don't
8 find them in the recommendations that you put
9 forward for this section or am I wrong or is it
10 covered? It's not clear.

11 MR. McALLISTER: Andrew
12 McAllister, for the record.

13 Recommendation Number 5, which you
14 had mentioned when highlighting that last sentence
15 on page 48, it is somewhat different.

16 We noted that Recommendation
17 Number 5 in OPG's proposed follow-up program, that
18 it had elaborated on, and I believe the response to
19 IR Number 260, I believe -- no, sorry, the -- the
20 follow-up IR, that they would collect or they would
21 conduct water sediment quality monitoring in the
22 abatement area.

23 We had noted an absence of
24 baseline data and therefore our recommendation
25 going forth was the need to collect that baseline

1 data for environmental assessment follow-up
2 purposes.

3 The sentence that you highlighted
4 on page 48 is an expectation of CNSC staff for the
5 -- should the project proceed, for the application
6 for a licence to construct. So we would expect
7 those additional details that we've highlighted
8 there as part of that subsequent application.

9 DR. THOMPSON: And just to add, on
10 page 51 of Recommendation 5, has the recommendation
11 to the panel to collect baseline water and sediment
12 quality data in the areas that you just mentioned.

13 MEMBER BEAUDET: But this includes
14 offshore on page 48? I'm just trying to make sure
15 that what you expect here and what you expect us to
16 ask is well-covered in one of the recommendations.
17 It doesn't have to be five, but it is well-covered.

18 DR. THOMPSON: Perhaps if we could
19 come back tomorrow, I know it's one of the
20 recommendations but I can't quite remember which
21 one.

22 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

23 Page 51, if you look at
24 Recommendation 6, okay, this is pre-construction
25 and you have, as you know, a full table which is in

1 the Appendix B, I think and you have presented in
2 your presentation.

3 There's a full series here of
4 recommendations that will be done before the
5 project goes ahead, pre-construction, pre-
6 operation, et cetera, et cetera. And on page 159,
7 I think -- let me see, is it 159? No, that's the
8 follow-up program.

9 On page -- I can't find it here
10 -- you say somewhere, I can't find the page, and
11 you said it in your presentation that you will make
12 sure that everything that is recommended here for
13 future licensing phases will be taken into
14 consideration.

15 Some of the things -- each -- and
16 correct me if I'm wrong, each licensing phase has a
17 document that says exactly what the Proponent is
18 supposed to submit and what is expected of him.

19 I haven't done the cross-
20 referencing to all this, but somebody would have to
21 make sure that everything that is proposed here is
22 realistic compared to legally what the Proponent is
23 supposed to present.

24 And for me, what I'm saying is
25 that some of the things here may happen 10 years

1 from now. I mean, I understand that you will be
2 there to make sure that what is in the EA is going
3 to be taken into consideration.

4 But who's going to be -- I mean,
5 somebody has -- what if we are not here? You know,
6 somebody has to make sure and how legally can we
7 make sure that everything that's recommended here
8 will be taken care of at each licensing process.

9 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
10 your record.

11 Essentially, you're right.
12 Reliance on people's memory is probably not a good
13 way to regulate the -- but more seriously, the
14 *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* puts
15 requirements on responsible authorities to ensure
16 implementation of mitigation measures and follow-up
17 programs.

18 The CNSC has a licensing and
19 compliance process and we have a mechanism to
20 legally capture requirements -- the CEAA
21 requirements essentially for mitigation and follow-
22 up through our licensing process with licence
23 conditions as appropriate.

24 You're right that not all
25 recommendations, not all mitigation measures or

1 follow-up programs are for the first licence that
2 the JRP -- should the project go ahead -- would be
3 issuing.

4 And we have similar cases, for
5 example, for projects where recommendations were
6 for refurbishment, operation and decommissioning
7 where we have a process where the information is
8 captured and is brought forward at the appropriate
9 time.

10 So there's an action tracking tool
11 that the CNSC uses to track commitments and actions
12 like this so that they're not forgotten and they
13 are dealt with appropriately at the right time.

14 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

15 I would like to go back on the
16 cost benefit analysis that my colleague has brought
17 up in the question.

18 Page 80, there's a long paragraph
19 there if we go just about the middle. It says
20 here:

21 "The assessment as to whether
22 a risk control measure or
23 suite of measures is best
24 available technology
25 economically achievable is

1 not determined on the basis
2 of a specific project but
3 rather at the industry level.
4 The consideration is whether
5 the proposed risk control
6 technology can be or has been
7 successfully demonstrated as
8 economically achievable and
9 bearable within the
10 industry."

11 When you do a multi-factor
12 analysis and you come with a solution that the best
13 available technology or what is on the table
14 because you've realized that a threshold is always
15 exceeded or whatever and you have to change
16 something to improve your technology.

17 I'd like to understand what
18 happens here if we refer to the industry level.
19 What is that supposed to mean?

20 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
21 the record.

22 If you allow me, I would first
23 deal with what is meant by best available
24 technology that's economically achievable because
25 the term is often used on a site-specific basis or

1 on a plant-specific basis.

2 The intent of that terminology and
3 when it was started to be brought forward for
4 environmental protection purposes, it was in the
5 sense that we should tend towards pollution
6 prevention measures rather than managing or
7 minimizing risks.

8 From that point of view, when
9 expectations started to be developed for pollution
10 prevention for various industries, often
11 regulations are brought into force that would apply
12 to a range of -- for example, within -- I'll give
13 an example, the pulp and paper industry in the late
14 80s, early 90s in Canada.

15 When the pulp and paper
16 regulations came into force, there were many
17 complaints that the technology would not be
18 implementable, for example, for plants that had
19 been built in the 30s and 40s and never modernized.

20 And so through the course of time,
21 in various countries, best available technology
22 economically achievable has started to mean
23 technology that is readily available and can be
24 effectively implemented by plants that are well
25 maintained, well operated.

1 It's not intended to be a manner
2 of letting plants that have been either not
3 maintained or not upgraded remain in that state.

4 And so when we look at best
5 available technology as economically achievable,
6 it's not intended to reflect what is possible on a
7 site but what can be implemented by an industry
8 sector in general.

9 Having said that, when staff makes
10 recommendations on a better assessment of
11 alternative means to identify a preferred option,
12 it's not necessarily in the assessment of preferred
13 options linked to best available technology that's
14 economically achievable.

15 Of course, we would expect any
16 technology -- any plant that would be built and
17 operated in the next foreseeable future to reflect
18 the standards in place currently at that time.

19 But essentially to be able to do
20 an exercise where all factors are weighted in a
21 manner that is transparent so that anyone going
22 through the process would have an understanding of
23 what happened and how the decision on what
24 technology is preferred has been done.

25 MEMBER BEAUDET: Is that the

1 equivalent of what they call in Britain "best
2 practical means"? Are we following the British
3 system in some ways?

4 DR. THOMPSON: My understanding is
5 that the British practice that you're referring to
6 is a practice that is no longer in use or is not
7 the preferred practice in Britain but they're
8 moving towards best practical technology or best
9 available technology as well.

10 Best practical technology tended
11 to maintain plants in a state of status quo
12 essentially. And so the -- our assessment -- the
13 CNSC has done the review of practices
14 internationally for the purposes of setting
15 effluent release limits and our assessment is that,
16 in most countries, the regulations of discharges to
17 the environment are using or moving towards best
18 available practical technology -- best available
19 technologically available, the TEA; sorry.

20 MEMBER BEAUDET: I realize it's
21 getting late.

22 So in other words, there's a
23 possibility for retrofits?

24 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
25 the record.

1 That is correct and for example
2 the process that the CNSC requires plants to
3 undergo for refurbishment, the Integrated Safety
4 Review, requires the licensees to review their
5 plants against modern standards and to propose
6 upgrades where the risks and the economics justify
7 it.

8 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

9 I move to another point here.
10 When the EC-6 was included in the PPE, there was an
11 understanding that there was a technology review by
12 CNSC. They were doing Phase 1.

13 When we look at the analysis
14 starting page 135, you notice that some of the
15 technology on the table needs an update. You know,
16 some technology have done Phase 1 in the States and
17 -- could we have exactly what's happening? I mean
18 are there any reactor that is ready to go ahead?

19 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.

20 I will ask Dr. Dave Newland to
21 explain what the CNSC staff has done in terms of
22 preliminary design reviews, as well as what is
23 being done in other countries.

24 MEMBER BEAUDET: And what is left.

25 DR. THOMPSON: Yes.

1 DR. NEWLAND: For the record, Dave
2 Newland.

3 So let me start by saying that the
4 pre-project design reviews are not something that
5 we require a vendor or a licensee or an applicant
6 to do. They're an optional service provided by the
7 CNSC for vendors in order that they can get a level
8 of comfort about their designs and that their
9 designs will meet regulatory requirements in
10 Canada.

11 The way that we have organized the
12 reviews is in essentially three phases.

13 Phase 1, they do an assessment
14 against RD-337 or an assessment in principle
15 against the requirements of 337 across all
16 technical areas.

17 In a phase 2 we do an assessment
18 of what we refer to as potential fundamental
19 barriers to licensing.

20 Following that, a vendor has an
21 option to come back and do a phase 3 to resolve
22 technical issues with CNSC staff.

23 All this work is done with CNSC
24 staff and it is not done with the CNSC as a
25 licensing body and, therefore, is if you like

1 outside of the work of the Commission.

2 With respect to the technologies
3 that we have looked at, we have done a phase 1,
4 phase 2, phase 3 for the AECL 1000; we have done a
5 phase 1 for the Westinghouse AP 1000 design; we
6 started a phase 1 review of the EPR design, but
7 AREVA has since put that on hold and has requested
8 that we do no further work.

9 And then we recently, last year,
10 completed a phase 1 review of the EC6 and we are
11 currently undertaking a phase 2 review.

12 With respect to -- the other thing
13 that I would add is that those reviews are
14 relatively high level. We don't expend a lot of
15 resources doing them. And I would say that they're
16 significantly less than what is done certainly in
17 the U.S. for design certification that is far more
18 extensive, and it's less than what is currently
19 being done in the U.K. under their generic design
20 assessment process.

21 MEMBER BEAUDET: So if I
22 understand well, a vendor would take a risk if he
23 doesn't go through these three phases in risk
24 chosen and then he has to go through all the
25 specification that you would request of him at the

1 different licensing phases?

2 DR. NEWLAND: Dave Newland for the
3 record.

4 I wouldn't characterize it as a
5 risk. I think that the pre-project vendor design
6 reviews give vendors an opportunity to come and
7 learn about how we regulate and do licensing and
8 understand our regulatory requirements in Canada.
9 That is their option.

10 If a technology was chosen for
11 which we hadn't gone through one of -- a pre-
12 project design review, I could see that it might
13 take us longer for staff to get up to speed. It
14 might add a little time to the overall licensing,
15 but I don't believe that it would substantially
16 change the risk to either a vendor or an applicant.

17 MEMBER BEAUDET: So when the
18 government chooses its technology, there's nothing
19 anywhere that will guarantee what is chosen can be
20 appropriate before you start your different phases
21 of licensing?

22 DR. NEWLAND: Dave Newland for the
23 record.

24 So maybe we should take a step
25 back and look at the level of safety associated

1 with these four technologies and other technologies
2 that are being proposed in other countries. That
3 level of safety is characterized against or
4 benchmarked against our own regulatory requirements
5 in RD-337 and similarly in other countries and
6 against our safety goals for beyond design basis
7 accidents and against those criteria.

8 In addition, we have a number of
9 design requirements. All of those technologies at
10 the level to which they have been proposed I think
11 would likely meet the grade. And then the devil is
12 in the details once you get into licensing.

13 So I wouldn't like to think that
14 our framework would exclude any of those
15 technologies.

16 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

17 I would like to check also pages
18 143 and 153 -- sorry, 145, second paragraph, last
19 sentence:

20 "Overall good agreement
21 between the OPG data and the
22 CNSC staff results was
23 observed."

24 And the same is said on page 153,
25 just the last paragraph before "out of core

1 criticality, safety":

2 "Overall good agreement
3 between the OPG data and the
4 CNSC staff results was
5 observed."

6 Can we have that document?

7 I mean, what does it mean here; I
8 mean, okay, you say that, but what do I rely on to
9 agree with this?

10 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson.

11 Could I propose, Mr. Chair, that
12 we take this as an undertaking and we will provide
13 the information to the panel?

14 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

15 Yes, I agree that will be Undertaking No. 6 I
16 believe.

17 DR. THOMPSON: I think it's 7.

18 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Or 7 now.

19 DR. THOMPSON: And could we ---

20 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Madam

21 Thompson, I'd like ---

22 DR. THOMPSON: Excuse me, if
23 you'll allow us, sir, we could maybe come back
24 tomorrow and propose a time by which we could come
25 back.

1 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: That's what I
2 was going to ask, what time -- you'll give us that
3 time tomorrow.

4 MEMBER BEAUDET: When we look at
5 the section -- I'll change the subject now -- on
6 the terrestrial, I think terrestrial effects, it's
7 page 62, you're proposing here if the lake infill
8 is limited where -- I've asked a question already
9 to OPG on this -- a two metre depth contour line,
10 then the three ponds that were proposed as a
11 mitigation measure will have to be rebuilt
12 somewhere else.

13 You seem to suggest on
14 Recommendation 9 that the ponds should be
15 compensated like for like preferably in the SSA,
16 which is the site study area along the waterfront
17 trail.

18 Can you indicate to us where? I
19 believe there are riparian owners outside OPG
20 property and so I was wondering how realistic this
21 proposal is.

22 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson for
23 the record.

24 Just to clarify, the site study
25 area is on the OPG site.

1 And I will ask Dr. Mulye to
2 explain the basis of staff's recommendation.

3 MEMBER BEAUDET: Yes, site study
4 area there's trail, but it's possible on the
5 western side of the site that it's going to be used
6 also for replanting to compensate for the hectares
7 of vegetation that are going to be lost.

8 DR. MULYE: This is Dr. Mulye for
9 the record.

10 I guess the expectation here is
11 that the ponds could be integrated in the within
12 the landscape. It isn't for having a like for like
13 placement is because of the fact that these ponds
14 are considered important in terms of landscape
15 connectivity and that's an important function that
16 we would like to have preserved onsite.

17 MEMBER BEAUDET: So you're
18 suggesting something on the east side or on the
19 west side?

20 I think it would be good if OPG
21 could bring a figure and then we'll come to you and
22 ask also. Can somebody bring up a figure that
23 would show us terrestrial effect TSD --

24 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I don't
25 believe they have it tonight. Do you? Are you

1 saying that you have ---

2 MR. SWEETNAM: We don't have
3 access to the system, so --

4 MEMBER BEAUDET: Oh, okay. Well,
5 it's Figure 3.4.2, I think, that you would have.

6 MR. SWEETNAM: Can the staff have
7 it?

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Can your staff
9 bring up 3.2.4?

10 MEMBER BEAUDET: Which is TSD
11 terrestrial effects.

12 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: I think maybe
13 Mr. Haddon is trying to

14 DR. THOMPSON: Perhaps while the
15 figure is being loaded, our recommendation was for
16 the northwest side of the site.

17 MEMBER BEAUDET: The northwest
18 side already has an old landfill, how can you
19 propose to build ponds on it? I don't think you
20 should move anything with the old landfill.

21 MR. MULYE: Actually, it should be
22 a little bit south of that site.

23 The exact layout will depend on
24 how the site layout is designed, and that is --
25 right now is not known. So the actual placement of

1 these ponds will depend on -- after -- will be
2 developed after the site plan is fully developed.

3 MEMBER BEAUDET: Well, we have to
4 replace three ponds here and there's only the Coots
5 Pond there.

6 I'd like to hear OPG on -- because
7 if we try to compensate with something and we can't
8 do it, then it's -- the mitigation measure proposed
9 is irrelevant. I mean, it...

10 MR. PETERS: John Peters, for the
11 record.

12 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Madam
13 Beaudet.

14 I have the figure in front of me,
15 and I just ---

16 MEMBER BEAUDET: Is that this one?

17 MR. PETERS: That is the same
18 figure, that's correct ---

19 MEMBER BEAUDET: Okay.

20 MR. PETERS: --- that we're
21 looking at on the screen.

22 And I think it's a simple
23 confusion that we should be able to clarify.

24 We are referring here to the
25 replacement of three ponds that are -- currently

1 three small ponds that we installed.

2 These are man-made ponds that we
3 installed north of the CN Rail line on the east
4 side of our property. And they currently function,
5 as we've said, for aquatic habitat -- I'm sorry,
6 not -- to have no fish in them but to provide wet
7 areas for frogs and other species that we were
8 trying to encourage on the site.

9 We assumed that we will be able --
10 as part of the restoration plan with the large soil
11 stockpile we are going to put in the northeast
12 quadrant in the area that is currently a flat farm
13 field -- that we would create three ponds very
14 similar to the ponds that we have -- we have to
15 remove from further south.

16 And that the waterfront trail
17 which we've assumed will be redesigned with
18 community input in this area associated with that
19 large soil stockpile will incorporate those ponds
20 into a wildlife corridor running east/west across
21 the site.

22 They are not shown on this figure.
23 This figure was trying to illustrate the potential
24 construction storm water management pond in the
25 northeast quadrant but did not get into the detail

1 of these three small ponds.

2 We are referring to ponds that are
3 less than a half an acre in size. They're very --
4 they're very small.

5 MEMBER BEAUDET: But there were --
6 -

7 MR. PETERS: But we will replace
8 them.

9 MEMBER BEAUDET: They were man-
10 made --

11 MR. PETERS: Correct.

12 MEMBER BEAUDET: -- in order to
13 mitigate, I -- correct me if I'm wrong -- the
14 existing site. I mean, you've been doing -- trying
15 to do certain ---

16 MR. PETERS: Let me explain that.

17 MEMBER BEAUDET: --- activities to
18 restore the site, and now we can destroy them, you
19 know, for the next one.

20 MR. PETERS: Well, we characterize
21 it as a big part of our biodiversity commitment to
22 the community to try and enhance the site
23 diversity, and it is -- it was a site that we
24 received in very poor condition; essentially open
25 agricultural land of low diversity and we have

1 improved that year after year.

2 Because we installed these ponds
3 less than six, seven years ago, we are very
4 familiar with how we did it, and we will be able to
5 reproduce those ponds with even higher qualities
6 than we had in our first experiment, if you like.

7 And so this is a commitment to
8 continued performance and an enhancement of
9 wildlife habitat associated with areas that the
10 public will have access to over the life of the
11 project once we finish construction.

12 And that's the intent here is to
13 not -- it is a like for like, at least that was the
14 intent when we examined the option.

15 MEMBER BEAUDET: So your
16 commitment is to replace these three ponds
17 somewhere?

18 MR. PETERS: That's correct.

19 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

20 One more last point for tonight.
21 I don't think we can cover everything that I wanted
22 to cover, but anyway.

23 We'll change the subject again,
24 and it's archaeology.

25 I know CNSC staff hasn't presented

1 any recommendation regarding this because they
2 believe OPG has committed to legal detailed
3 protection plan in the archaeological sites.

4 We got your report for -- I think
5 it was the Brady Site -- no, there's still the
6 Crumb site, Stage 4, excavation of the Crumb site
7 because it was identified also as a site that
8 should go through the Stage 4, so what's happening
9 with that?

10 CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: OPG, would you
11 like to respond?

12 MS. SWAMI: Laurie Swami.

13 I'll ask Dr. Aamir to speak to
14 that on behalf of the project.

15 DR. AAMIR: Dr. Aamir, for the
16 records. I am the Section Manager for the design.

17 We are progressing Stage 4
18 archaeological investigation for the Crumb site
19 this year.

20 Basically we have hired
21 Archaeological Services Investigation (ASI) for
22 this purpose and did the same for the Brady site.

23 MEMBER BEAUDET: So this will be
24 done when?

25 DR. AMIR: This is expected to be

1 completed within this year.

2 MEMBER BEAUDET: Thank you.

3 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you,
5 Madam Beaudet.

6 Three -- we have three more topics
7 on the agenda which we're going to try and get
8 through as expeditiously as possible.

9 I have on the list here OPG may
10 have some questions to CNSC. If you do, we'll do
11 that.

12 The next on the agenda would be
13 any government participants from various government
14 departments that might have questions to CNSC, and
15 then we have two intervenors that have asked to ask
16 several questions.

17 So, first of all, OPG, do you have
18 any questions to CNSC?

19 MR. SWEETNAM: Albert Sweetnam,
20 for the record.

21 We have no questions.

22 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you.

23 And I'm not sure who I direct this
24 to, but if there's any government participants that
25 have questions to CNSC, would you indicate at this

1 time?

2 Okay, well, that's very good.

3 Then the next is the two -- we
4 have two interveners; I suggest one at a time at
5 the table. And we're permitting them to go to the
6 table simply because of the lateness of the hour
7 and to try and accommodate.

8 So Brennain Lloyd from Northwatch
9 -- no, pardon me, from ---

10 MS. LLOYD: Yeah, Northwatch.

11 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: You're ready
12 to go ahead and have the floor.

13 --- QUESTIONS BY THE INTERVENERS:

14 MS. LLOYD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 Brennain Lloyd from Northwatch.

16 I have two questions and I think
17 we can be brief.

18 My first question for CNSC is with
19 respect to Table 1 at Section 2 of the PMD 11-P1.3,
20 the Panel Member Document about -- from CNSC about
21 their review of the environmental impact statement.

22 Table 1 outlines -- it summarizes
23 the CNSC staff review, and it takes an approach
24 which I found helpful in its succinctness where
25 they have 24 categories -- 25 categories.

1 One they don't evaluate in the
2 same manner, but they evaluate them, they give them
3 a grade of satisfactory or below expectations.

4 And of the 24, Mr. Chair, 10 of
5 them were below expectations. And when you do the
6 math on that, it comes out to 58 percent, which is
7 a -- I think a D grade when we were in school.

8 And my question for CNSC, I was --
9 that made an impression on me, that it was a D
10 grade.

11 I think you as a panel should have
12 an A plus document to work from. And my question
13 for CNSC, Dr. Thompson mentioned this afternoon,
14 and I don't remember the exact number she used, I
15 think it was in the 40s. She was describing the
16 number of environmental impact statements or
17 environment -- number of environmental assessments
18 that CNSC has managed or -- or reviewed. And I'm
19 wondering if Dr. Thompson could give us some sense
20 if a -- if a D grade is typical of the
21 environmental assessment that they have reviewed,
22 or if this is a particularly problematic piece of
23 work before you.

24 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Please
25 silence your cells phones and if you have to use

1 them, leave the room.

2 Dr. Thompson, you would like to
3 respond to -- to Ms. Lloyd's question.

4 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson for
5 the record. We essentially compiled table 1 to be
6 helpful, so I'm happy it was helpful.

7 The -- when we identified a topic
8 as being satisfactory the meaning was that there
9 was sufficient information for the purposes of the
10 environmental assessment, and when it was below
11 expectations, there was either -- there were two
12 cases where mitigation measures, if not
13 implemented, could result in significant
14 environmental effects.

15 And the other -- in terms of below
16 expectations were in terms of the need for a
17 follow-up program based on information and things
18 like that.

19 So for those below expectations we
20 made recommendations to the Joint Review Panel in
21 terms of addressing those deficiencies in terms of
22 the -- the 27 recommendations that were made.

23 In terms of the -- there's more
24 than 40 assessments that have been done since 2003.
25 Essentially the process is different. The CNSC,

1 when we reviewed technical support documents and
2 EISes from proponents, we'll go through a similar
3 process, identify information requests, provide
4 comments, work with our federal department
5 colleagues, and essentially do the same thing.

6 The difference is we have a lot of
7 interactions with the proponents in terms of
8 resolving issues, so that once we get to the
9 commission with requests for the commission to make
10 admission on the EA. A lot of the issues have been
11 dealt with between staff and the proponent, so that
12 the -- what we're finding is below expectations
13 have been resolved through the process of the
14 review.

15 MS. LLOYD: Well, I'm not -- I'm
16 not clear from Dr. Thompson's answer whether a D
17 grade is typical of the work they review or not.
18 That -- we'll let that go given the lateness of the
19 hour.

20 My second question is Section
21 2.4.3.2. And, you know, Mr. Chair, we have a
22 particular interest in radioactive waste in this
23 review. And in this section CNSC staff comment
24 that the documentation was not clear for -- in the
25 EIS for the evaluation of alternatives for low and

1 intermediate level, and for fuel waste it -- fuel
2 waste storage, the alternative was not clearly
3 stated. Staff goes on to incorporate the IR
4 responses into their commentary, you know, word for
5 word in both cases.

6 In the second response, the
7 response around used fuel, I was puzzled by it when
8 I read the IR response. This is the second time --
9 well, this is -- yeah, this is the second
10 submission, I think, of IR response number 11. And
11 OPG had responded that they couldn't, as I
12 understand it, just to paraphrase, that they
13 couldn't do the evaluation because each reactor was
14 different, and because the reactor hasn't been
15 selected they couldn't do the evaluation. But then
16 they went on in the IR response to say, the CNSC
17 restates it word for word that regardless of which
18 reactor type is selected by the province, used fuel
19 will be managed in the way that -- that's similar.

20 To me those two statements, to say
21 that each reactor design is different so they can't
22 talk about the used fuel in detail, and then to
23 say, each -- the way they're going to deal with the
24 waste is going to be the same every time, I'm
25 puzzled as to how those two statements make sense

1 together. And I was puzzled when I read the IR and
2 I'm puzzled when I read it in CNSC's panel member
3 document.

4 So if CNSC staff could help me
5 with that?

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Dr. Thompson,
7 would you like to clarify?

8 DR. THOMPSON: Yes, I could. On
9 page 22, the -- well, the paragraph above Section
10 2.4.3.3 says that regardless of which reactor type
11 will be selected, the manner of managing used fuel
12 waste will be similar. And then it goes on to say
13 that the first period would be in water-filled fuel
14 base for at least ten years, and then in dry
15 storage.

16 So regardless of the reactor
17 technology and the type of fuel, it would be first
18 in water-filled fuel base and then in dry storage
19 in either case -- in all cases or either case.

20 MS. LLOYD: If management is
21 always similar, why is it different for each
22 reactor design? The two statements to me are in
23 incongruous, but ---

24 DR. THOMPSON: Perhaps another
25 qualification is that the actual dry storage

1 containers may vary depending on the fuel type, but
2 it's dry storage and fuel pools.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: For high level
4 fuels?

5 DR. THOMPSON: Sorry. For used
6 fuel and the fuel that is typical of each reactor
7 design identified by OPG.

8 MS. LLOYD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very
10 much for good questions, but also for being to the
11 point and cognisant of the time.

12 Mr. Mattson, through the Chair,
13 please.

14 MR. MATTSON: Thank you, Mr.
15 Chairman.

16 It's been a long day, and just
17 note how much I care, and I apologize getting
18 energized earlier, but it's World Water Day and it
19 was my honour to be invited to the ROM to sit with
20 the Right Honourable Jean Chretien tonight, and I
21 missed that to be here to ask these three
22 questions.

23 So I hope you know I care, and I'm
24 here for the process.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Knowing Mr.

1 Chretien ---

2 MR. MATTSON: He wanted me here to
3 talk to Dr. Thompson.

4 I guess, Dr. Thompson, you heard
5 the questions I asked of OPG yesterday with respect
6 to the once-through cooling water proposal and we
7 are bringing on a number of experts, including Doug
8 Howell, a biologist and former district manager of
9 the OM&R, Dr. Henderson, ecological expert from
10 Oxford University. And both of them conclude that
11 the once-through cooling has the most negative
12 impacts on the environment for Lake Ontario.

13 They include killing millions,
14 tens of millions of eggs and larvae, killing tens
15 of thousands of fish and impingement, serious
16 thermal impacts on fish habitat and unnecessary
17 discharges of other additives.

18 Your evidence, which is very much
19 in line with OPG's evidence today, is that the
20 once-through cooling has no significant impacts.

21 I'd like to give you the
22 opportunity to list for the panel the evidence that
23 you used to support that in light of the evidence
24 you know that's coming forward.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Thompson?

1 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson, for
2 the record.

3 I think the staff's assessment is
4 quite clear in the panel member document in terms
5 of our assessment of the impacts of the once-
6 through cooling water in terms of fish entrainment,
7 impingement and some of the questions that we had
8 in terms of the modelling and the predictions for
9 the thermal impacts. And we've identified this
10 area as below expectations and have made
11 recommendations to the panel on how to address
12 those issues.

13 We further stated that, in our
14 view, the alternative means assessment conducted by
15 OPG in terms of identifying a preferred cooling
16 water -- condenser cooling water technology had
17 deficiencies.

18 If you'd like I could ask Don
19 Wismer to identify and go into details in terms of
20 the assessment that CNSC staff did in terms of fish
21 loss and why we have concluded that this is not
22 likely to be a significant environmental effect.
23 But nonetheless, we identified it as an effect that
24 needs to be dealt with.

25 MR. MATTSON: Yeah. With all

1 due respect to Dr. Thompson, I didn't get an answer
2 at all except that there's something in some
3 documents.

4 DR. THOMPSON: Could you maybe
5 ---

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: I just want
7 to know as a cost, is it ---

8 DR. THOMPSON: Could you please
9 let Don Wismer answer in detail?

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Thompson,
11 if you'll carry on.

12 MR. WISMER: Don Wismer.

13 The basis for the assessment in
14 terms of the intake fish loss is there are fish
15 going to be killed by once-through cooling system,
16 but the information we have now for the present
17 fish community is that the majority of the main
18 types impinged and entrained would be species like
19 alewife, round goby, that are lake-wide and widely
20 distributed, too numerous for a population level
21 effect. And that's what is important to CEAA.

22 But also under our Act, we
23 require mitigation to minimize adverse effects, and
24 that's why what Dr. Thompson says is relevant.
25 We're recommending a cost benefit analysis of all

1 the options for cooling and we're also working with
2 OPG and the *Fisheries Act* regulators on working out
3 the best options for once-through cooling if that's
4 the way things go.

5 The other qualifier is that the
6 fish community is in transition and what we have
7 now may not be the type of fish we see in 10 years.
8 So whatever option is chosen for cooling needs to
9 be flexible and able to be modified in case in
10 future, once the facility starts operating, there's
11 an interaction that wasn't foreseen.

12 Thermal effects were mentioned.
13 We have Environment Canada here who's the expert
14 agency in that area. And they can address that one
15 if you'd like.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes, I think
17 we'll have an opportunity as days go on to discuss
18 the thermal effects.

19 Mr. Mattson, one more question.

20 MR. MATTSON: Yeah, that was my
21 first. I had three. I asked for three. Is that
22 okay?

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Carry on.

24 MR. MATTSON: Thank you. But
25 thanks, that was helpful, the costs and the value

1 of the fish.

2 My second question is, the CNSC
3 experts tonight have suggested that after this
4 hearing is finished they will get a list of
5 contaminants from OPG that will be discharged to
6 the environment, and at that time CNSC will look to
7 approve them.

8 I heard my friend, Mr. Newman,
9 said that he will judge whether these contaminants
10 are acceptable to us. The word is "us".

11 My question is, how does the
12 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission as an RA who
13 must clearly understand their responsibilities
14 under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*,
15 how does that putting off this list of contaminants
16 to the environment jive with their obligations and
17 responsibility to consider and provide you with
18 enough information to give government and share
19 with the public your position on whether or not
20 these contaminants will have a significant effect
21 on the environment or can be mitigated?

22 Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Thompson.

24 DR. THOMPSON: Patsy Thompson,
25 for the record.

1 What I believe I said is that
2 the expectation of the CNSC is that hazardous
3 substances will be appropriately dealt with within
4 the licensing process.

5 We have identified a lack of an
6 assessment of hazardous substances within the
7 assessment to be a deficiency. Our experience from
8 currently operating plants in Canada and what has
9 been done elsewhere in the world is that hazardous
10 substances released into the environment are not
11 likely to be significant.

12 That's the basis for our
13 recommendation to the Joint Review Panel. That
14 recommendation, moving forward, if the project goes
15 ahead, the CNSC has a responsibility under the
16 *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* to protect the
17 environment and we also have a responsibility, if
18 the project goes ahead and depending on the
19 recommendations of the JRP and the government
20 decision, to work with other federal departments as
21 appropriate to set the limits on discharges to the
22 environment from a future OPG facility at
23 Darlington.

24 We will ensure, working with
25 federal and provincial agencies as appropriate,

1 that federal, provincial air-water assessment
2 quality standards are met and that the public and
3 the environment are protected.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

5 Mr. Mattson, you have one more
6 question and I would ask you please to keep the
7 preamble short.

8 MR. MATTSON: Yeah. Thank you,
9 Mr. Chairman.

10 And I think you can note the
11 transcript from tonight from that answer you'll be
12 hearing it many times verbatim as just said by Dr.
13 Thompson.

14 The last question is, this new
15 concept of a hold point in a licence. The
16 licensing, as you know, you're the Joint panel to
17 deal with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*
18 and the licensing issues, and tonight I heard of
19 this new interesting concept that the CNSC has
20 conveniently come up with; a hold point in giving a
21 licence for site preparation and that this hold
22 point, again, I guess holds things until after this
23 hearing is over until they feel that there's enough
24 information even to give the licensing for site
25 preparation.

1 So, again, my question to Dr.
2 Thompson. As an RA and responsible authority under
3 the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, how do
4 you give your reticence to give a licensing
5 authorization -- sorry, and then recommend that
6 this panel, the joint panel, give a *Canadian*
7 *Environmental Assessment Act* approval?

8 DR. THOMPSON: Perhaps to
9 clarify.

10 CNSC staff is not the
11 responsible authority under the CEAA. It is the
12 Commission and a panel of the Commission. The
13 Commission is the responsible authority of the
14 CEAA.

15 CNSC staff are the technical
16 and scientific staff of the Commission.

17 The second point I would like
18 to make is that hold points are not new to the
19 CNSC, and I believe Mr. Mattson should be well
20 aware of that because he participated in the public
21 hearing on the Port Hope area initiative at least
22 two years ago where many hold points were proposed
23 to the Commission on a licence.

24 But I will ask Mr. Barclay
25 Howden to speak to the licensing process, and I

1 believe we have a presentation to the JRP
2 specifically on the licence to prepare site.

3 MR. HOWDEN: Thank you.
4 Barclay Howden speaking.

5 Yes, we'll be preparing the --
6 presenting our licence to prepare site presentation
7 tomorrow which will talk about the proposed
8 licence, which includes many licence conditions
9 including a licence condition that contains a hold
10 point.

11 The hold points are used under
12 the *Nuclear Safety Control Act* licensing process,
13 and it's a manner in which the Commission can go
14 ahead and provide approvals for projects to go
15 forward. But many projects are phased through
16 time, and as that time progresses, initially some
17 of the information is not available.

18 However, when the panel allows
19 a hold point, it does make it very specific what
20 the criteria would be to release the hold point.

21 You will see tomorrow that when
22 the licence to prepare site is presented in our
23 licence conditions handbook, which we use to
24 provide clarity on what our compliance program will
25 be, we have listed in great detail all the

1 documents that will have to be submitted.

2 Up to this point, OPG has
3 submitted a portion of those documents, the high
4 level ones, and they're starting to drive down to
5 the lower level ones. And we actually have many of
6 them, but we haven't completed our review.

7 But this is a standard approach
8 that we've used under the licensing under the
9 *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, and we're not
10 introducing any new concepts in process.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. MATTSON: Mr. Chairman, my
13 question was about the hold point for the
14 environmental assessment.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: No, Mr. ---

16 MR. MATTSON: It was about the
17 environmental assessment, not about licensing. I'm
18 well aware that they use hold points of licensing.

19 The question was specific. How
20 does this jive with the *Canadian Environmental*
21 *Assessment Act*? And I know that they're not the
22 responsible authority tonight but they are often
23 and I'm asking -- and they didn't mention yet in
24 their answer how this jives with the *Canadian*
25 *Environmental Assessment Act* responsibilities that

1 they know of because they have been RA millions of
2 times and the whole point has never been used that
3 I know of in a CEAA.

4 And that was my question; I got
5 nothing.

6 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Mr. Mattson,
7 I ---

8 MR. MATTSON: Well, I'm just going
9 to keep asking until I get a responsive answer.

10 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: If the answer
11 of Mr. Howden is not satisfactory to you, you will
12 have an opportunity tomorrow because they are
13 before us again under licence to prepare a site.

14 I want to thank everyone. I said
15 at the outset that 12-hour days can't go on every
16 day because it's not fair to staff, not fair to
17 intervenors and not fair to the people in this room
18 that cater to this panel.

19 I want to thank everyone today and
20 I'm going to ask my co-manager to make a closing
21 statement with a bit of information.

22 MS. MYLES: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23 I just want to point out that our
24 last scheduled presenters today, CNSC, OPG and
25 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, have agreed

1 to return tomorrow morning to make their
2 presentations.

3 Also I'd like to note that in the
4 interest of protecting the right of everyone who
5 wishes to present to the panel, people attending
6 the balance of this hearing will notice increased
7 security measures beginning tomorrow morning.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM: Thank you
10 very much. We are adjourned for the evening.

11

12 --- Upon adjourning at 9:18 p.m.

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Alain H. Bureau a certified court reporter in the Province of Ontario, hereby certify the foregoing pages to be an accurate transcription of my notes/records to the best of my skill and ability, and I so swear.

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Alain H. Bureau