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# *Notice of Public Hearing and Participant Funding*

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April 3, 2023

Ref. 2024-H-02

## **CNSC to conduct a public hearing on applicability of the Darlington New Nuclear Project environmental assessment and plant parameter envelope to selected reactor technology**

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will hold 2 separate public hearings to consider the application from Ontario Power Generation (OPG) for a licence to construct a reactor facility for its [Darlington New Nuclear Project](#) (DNNP). The first hearing will be held during the week of January 22, 2024 and will focus on the applicability of the DNNP environmental assessment (EA) to Ontario Power Generation's selected reactor technology.

The DNNP is located on the site of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station in the Municipality of Clarington, Ontario, on the traditional territory of the Wendat, Anishinabek Nation, and the territory covered by the Williams Treaties with the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations. OPG currently holds a power reactor site preparation licence for the DNNP, which the Commission [renewed in 2021](#).

### **Purpose and scope of hearing**

The purpose of the first public hearing is for the Commission to consider and decide on the applicability of the [DNNP EA](#) with respect to OPG's selected BWRX-300 small modular reactor technology, as per the [Government of Canada response](#) to recommendation #1 of the joint review panel's [2012 report](#). In deciding on the applicability of the DNNP EA, the Commission will consider the information in OPG's environmental impact statement review report along with the updated plant parameter envelope. The Commission will also consider whether the predictions of the EA remain valid.

The scope of this hearing will not include contemplation of a licensing decision under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*. A decision on whether to issue a construction licence for the DNNP will be contemplated at a separate future public hearing to be held no earlier than October 2024, and pending the Commission's decision from the first hearing. Details on the second hearing will be provided in a future hearing notice.

## Hearing details

Date: The week of January 22, 2024 (number of days to be determined)  
Place: To be determined (in the community in the vicinity of the DNNP and/or virtual via Zoom)  
Time: As set by the agenda published prior to the hearing date

During the hearing, the Commission will consider oral and written submissions from OPG and CNSC staff related to OPG's review of its environmental impact statement and plant parameter envelope. The Commission will also consider oral and written interventions from members of the public, Indigenous Nations and communities, and other interested parties.

[OPG's application](#) for a licence to construct is available on its website. OPG's hearing submission and CNSC staff's recommendations to be considered at the hearing will be available on the CNSC website, or on request to the Commission Registry, after **September 18, 2023**.

The public hearing will be webcast live and available on the CNSC website at [nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca). Additional details concerning the public hearing will be issued at a later date.

## Participant funding

In advance of the public hearing, the CNSC is making up to **\$100,000** in funding available through its Participant Funding Program. The purpose of this funding is to assist Indigenous Nations and communities, members of the public, and stakeholders in reviewing CNSC staff's and OPG's submissions to the Commission, as well as participating in the hearing process by providing topic-specific interventions to the Commission. Participant funding applications must clearly demonstrate how the proposed submission will provide the Commission with information directly related to the applicability of the DNNP EA to the BWRX-300 reactor technology. Please note that the \$100,000 will be disbursed among all successful applicants. The deadline for submitting a completed participant funding application form is **May 26, 2023**.

This is the second stage of funding for the consideration of OPG's application for a licence to construct a reactor facility. In the first stage, the CNSC made up to \$150,000 available to assist in reviewing OPG's environmental impact statement and plant parameter envelope. A funding review committee (FRC), independent of the CNSC, was established to review funding applications and awarded [up to approximately \\$157,600 in funding to 10 recipients](#). Depending on the Commission's decision regarding the DNNP EA for the BWRX-300 reactor technology, a third stage of funding will be announced a later date to assist in participating in the Commission hearing process for OPG's licence to construct.

## Interventions

Pursuant to rule 19 of the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure](#), persons who have an interest or expertise in this matter or information that may be useful to the Commission in coming to a decision are invited to comment on OPG's application. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Commission Registry by **November 20, 2023**, using the [online request form, by email](#), or the contact information below. **The request to intervene must include the following information:**

- a written submission of the comments to be presented to the Commission
- a statement setting out whether the requester wishes to intervene by way of written submission only or by way of written submission and oral presentation
- the requester's name, address, telephone number and email address

All submissions will be available for [download](#) on the CNSC website, through the CNSC Open Government Portal at [Darlington New Nuclear Project - Information and Reports](#) or on request to the Commission Registry. Personal information, such as email address and telephone number, is essential for linking the submission to its author. If you wish to ensure the confidentiality of your personal information, please submit it on a separate page.

### **For further information on the Participant Funding Program, contact:**

Administrator, Participant Funding Program  
Tel.: 613-415-2814 or 1-800-668-5284  
Email: [pfp@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pfp@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
Web: [Participant Funding Program](#)

### **For further information on the public Commission hearing process, or on the licensee or the facility being considered in this matter, or to request documents, contact:**

Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St  
PO Box 1046 Stn B  
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

Tel.: 613-858-7651  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
Email: [interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
Web: [Participate in a public Commission hearing](#)

**For inquiries to the licence applicant, contact:**

Manager, Regulatory Affairs, DNNP Licensing  
Ontario Power Generation, Inc.  
230 Westney Road South  
Ajax ON L1S 7P9

Email: [darlingtonnuclear@opg.com](mailto:darlingtonnuclear@opg.com)

Web: [OPG Darlington New Nuclear](#)

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