

Preliminary Instructions for the Public Review and Comment Period on the Environmental Impact Statement and Licence Application

Set out below are the Joint Review Panel's (the Panel) timetable and preliminary instructions for participation in the public review and comment period of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and documents in support of an application by Ontario Power Generation for a Licence to Prepare Site and Construct a Deep Geologic Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste (DGR).

These instructions are issued in accordance with the Terms of Reference in Part II, section 3 of the *Agreement to Establish a Joint Review Panel for the Deep Geologic Repository Project by Ontario Power Generation Inc. Within the Municipality of Kincardine, Ontario* (JRPA). Nothing in these instructions limits the Panel's authority to issue additional instructions amending or supplementing these instructions for the public review and comment period or to issue public hearing procedures in accordance with Part II, section 13 of the JRPA Terms of Reference.

The purpose of the public review and comment period is to provide the opportunity for interested individuals, groups and organizations, including Aboriginal groups and government entities at all levels, to submit their opinion and advice to the Panel to help it determine if the information provided adequately responds to the EIS Guidelines for the project.

1. In accordance with Part II, section 4 of the JRPA Terms of Reference, there will be a maximum six-month period for review and analysis of the EIS and licence application.

This public review period begins on February 3, 2012 and is scheduled to end no later than August 3, 2012. If necessary, this end date will be extended to accommodate the time required by Ontario Power Generation (the proponent) to provide additional information requested by the Panel. Any change to the end date of the comment period will be communicated to the public.

2. The Panel has scheduled an initial orientation session for the review to be held on February 21, 2012 in Ottawa, for the purpose of receiving an overview of the EIS and documents in support of the licence application and an explanation of the roles and responsibilities of federal departments and agencies in their respective technical reviews for the project. The public may attend the session in person or watch a live or archived webcast. A written transcript of the session will be prepared and posted on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry Internet site (the online Registry).

There will not be an opportunity for the public to participate in the initial Panel orientation session by asking questions. Following the session, however, questions relating to information presented at the session may be sent to the Panel for its consideration.

Additional orientation, technical or information sessions on specific topics may be scheduled by the Panel during the public review and comment period. The public may submit suggestions for topics to the Panel. Provision for participation by the public in future sessions will be made.

3. Comments and proposed information requests regarding the EIS and documents in support of the licence application may be submitted to the Panel at any time during the public review and comment period. In accordance with Part II, section 5 of the JRPA Terms of reference, the Panel will determine all requirements for additional information.

Participants are strongly encouraged, however, to submit their comments and proposed information requests as early as possible in this phase of the process. Subject to section 4, below, all information received will be reviewed and considered by the Panel.

4. Where multiple copies of very similar comments or requests are submitted to the Panel from separate participants, the Panel reserves the right to review and consider the subject matter of those submissions rather than to treat them as individual submissions.
5. The Panel will carry out an independent review and analysis of the EIS and all other documents submitted by the proponent together with all other comments, requests and recommendations received during the public review and comment period in order to identify any additional information it deems necessary. The Panel will deliver information requests to the proponent periodically, if required, as opposed to holding information requests to the end of the comment period.
6. The Panel may, at any time, ask an individual, group or organization to provide written or oral professional, scientific, technical or other information or advice. The Panel may also secure the advice of independent experts on any technical or scientific issues related to its review.
7. Once the Panel has received responses to its requests for additional information, it will announce a one-month period to consider comments on the sufficiency of the EIS to proceed to the hearing phase.
8. The Panel will schedule and announce a public hearing for this project once it is satisfied that the information received adequately responds to the EIS Guidelines issued to the proponent on January 26, 2009. In accordance with Part II, section 7 and Part III, section 1 of the JRPA Terms of Reference, the Panel will provide public notice 90 days prior to the start of the hearing and hearing procedures prior to the start of the hearing.
9. The Panel is committed to ensuring an open and transparent process with as much information as possible in the public domain. All documents provided to the Panel that are produced, collected or submitted in respect of the review shall be presumed to be public and will be posted on the online Registry at www.ceaa.gc.ca, reference # 06-05-17520 unless otherwise excluded under access to information and privacy laws or for security purposes. Anyone seeking to protect information from public release must clearly identify such a request at the time of submission.
10. All participants in the review are encouraged to check the online Registry for the project or contact the Panel Co-Managers to confirm that their submission(s) was received and posted.

11. All those interested in the progress of this review and wishing to receive notice of major announcements from the Panel and periodic notice of other milestones in the process are advised to send their contact information to DGR.Review@ceaa-acee.gc.ca to be added to the interested parties distribution list for the project. Everyone interested in this review is also encouraged to regularly consult the online Registry for new information.
12. Requests for electronic copies of documents submitted by the proponent should be sent by email to dgrinfo@opg.com, by phone to 519-368-1639 or in writing to Ontario Power Generation at 700 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5G 1X6.

The proponent has made paper copies of the DGR documents available for viewing at:

- Kincardine Public Library :727 Queen St. Kincardine ON N2Z 1Z9
- Port Elgin Public Library: 708 Goderich St. Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0
- Walkerton Public Library: 253 Durham St. E. Walkerton ON N0G 2V0
- Bruce County Public Library: 1243 MacKenzie Rd. Port Elgin ON N0H 2C6
- Wiarton Public Library: 578 Brown St. Wiarton ON N0H 2T0
- Kincardine Municipal Administration Centre: 1475 Concession 5 Kincardine ON N2Z 2X6
- County of Bruce Administration Building: 30 Park St. Walkerton ON N0G 2V0

Additional hard copies of the EIS and licence documents are available for viewing at:

- Chesley Public Library: 73 2nd Ave. S.E. Chesley ON N0G 1L0
- Ripley Public Library: 727 Jesse St. Ripley ON N0G 2R0
- Southampton Public Library: 215 High St. Southampton ON N0H 2L0
- Teeswater Public Library: 2 Clinton St. South Teeswater ON N0G 2S0
- Tobermory Public Library: 22 Bay St. Tobermory ON N0H 2R0

Hard copies of the EIS Summary are available at municipal buildings in

- Arran-Elderslie: 1925 Bruce Road 10 Chesley ON N0G 1L0
- Brockton: 100 Scott St. Walkerton ON N0G 2V0
- Huron-Kinloss: 21 Queen St. Ripley ON N0G 2R0
- Northern Bruce Peninsula: 56 Lindsay Road 5 Lion's Head ON N0H 1W0
- Saugeen Shores: 600 Tomlinson Drive Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0
- South Bruce: 21 Gordon St. Teeswater ON N0G 2S0
- South Bruce Peninsula: 315 George St. Wiarton ON N0H 2T0

13. All comments, questions, requests and documentation for the Panel should be addressed to either or both of the Panel's Co-Managers named below.

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