

May 14, 2021

The House of Commons
Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development
Ottawa

Re: Canadian Nuclear Association's input on Bill C-12

Dear Committee Members:

On behalf of the Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA), I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit our input into Bill-12, an 'Act respecting transparency and accountability in Canada's efforts to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2050'.

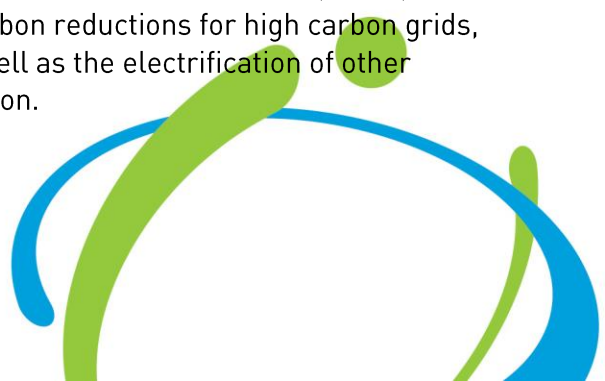
Firstly, a brief introduction to the Canadian Nuclear Association and our membership. The CNA represents about 100 members across the nuclear industry. This includes uranium mining, nuclear utilities, and CANDU supply chain companies, across Canada, the majority of which are in Saskatchewan, Ontario, and New Brunswick. The Canadian nuclear industry employs over 76000 Canadian directly or indirectly across Canada.

Nuclear technologies are key for Canada in meeting its climate change and net zero emissions targets and the Canadian Government has recognized this. As stated in its the Climate Plan, Hydrogen Plan and Small Modular Reactor Action Plan, nuclear will need to play an important role to meet Canada's ambitious Greenhouse gas emissions targets.

The nuclear industry has already played a prominent role in mitigating emissions in Canada. Nuclear electricity represents about 15 % of the national electricity generated. This Clean electricity generated mitigates and avoid emissions that will enable Canada to meet its climate goals.

Clean electricity generated from nuclear power plants in Ontario enabled that province to 'get off coal' which significantly reduced their emissions (and smog days to zero). The refurbishment of Ontario Power Generation's Darlington Nuclear Power Generating Station and the Major Component Replacement initiative by Bruce Power represents approximately \$25 billion dollars' worth of investments and 36,200 direct and indirect jobs.

The success of the Canadian nuclear operations and advances in nuclear technologies has enabled new innovations and opportunities associated with small modular reactors (SMRs). These SMRs represent an opportunity to enable further carbon reductions for high carbon grids, willing remote, northern and indigenous communities as well as the electrification of other sectors such as the resource development and transportation.



Evidently, nuclear has been at the center of Canada's ongoing shift towards a green future which is why we commend the new commitments to a 40% - 45% greenhouse gas reduction of 2005 levels by 2030. From our perspective these new ambitious goals will require a significant role from all non-emitting technologies including nuclear, hydrogen, wind and solar.

The Canadian government has a significant role to play in partnership with the nuclear industry's efforts to deliver on the global transition to a low-carbon economy. Canada's continued support and promotion of the industry as it develops new technologies will be key to ensuring the path for expanded export markets of uranium and nuclear goods and services.

Nuclear power generation enables the clean electrification of other key sectors and regions that have high carbon footprints. It also creates new economic opportunities and enables a clean energy transition that will bring economic and social benefits.

For instance, Cameco is one of the world's largest uranium mining companies and it is the largest employer of First Nations in northern Saskatchewan which enables those communities to grow and flourish. Canadian uranium displaces the equivalent of some 550 million tonnes of CO2 in greenhouse gas emissions per year.

We are pleased to see the strong commitment to governance in Bill C-12. We agree that achieving our Net Zero 2050 goals will require a transparent governance model as well as defined objectives and milestones. The Canadian Nuclear Association would welcome the opportunity to represent the nuclear industry to provide support and expertise as a member of the proposed committee.

The clean energy industries, including the nuclear industry, assume significant responsibility working collaboratively alongside the Canadian government to ensure a clean future. We look forward to our continued partnership as we move towards achieving net-zero by 2050.

For more information, please feel free to contact us at georgec@cna.ca.

Sincerely,



John Gorman

President and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Nuclear Association