

May 19, 2022

Dear Member of the Natural Resource Committee,

The Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA) and the Canadian Nuclear Workers' Council (CNWC) appreciate the opportunity to make a submission to the House of Commons on Natural Resources Committee as part of its study on "Creating a Fair and Equitable Canadian Energy Transformation".

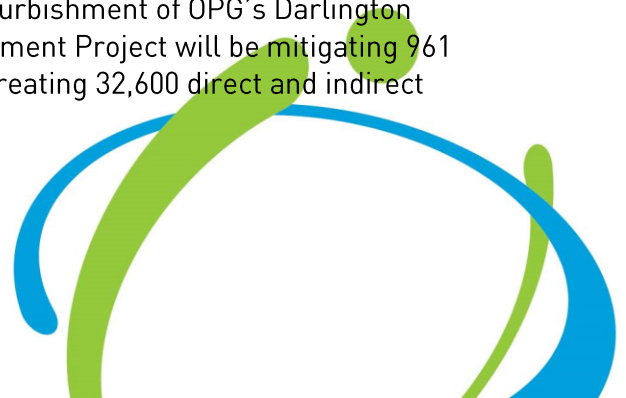
The CNA has approximately 100 members, representing over 70,000 Canadians employed directly and indirectly in exploring and mining uranium, generating electricity, advancing nuclear medicine, and promoting Canada's leadership worldwide in science and technological innovation. The CNWC is an association of Unions representing Workers across Canada's nuclear industry.

The CNA and nuclear sector believe that nuclear technologies support the common goal of achieving a fair and just cleaner energy transition; this includes energy affordability, labor justice, and environmental justice.

Firstly, as Canada and the world seek to address the climate crisis and energy security concerns, a significant amount of clean electricity generation will be required. The transition to net-zero will also require the use of clean energy in multiple key sectors across Canada such as the transportation, natural resource development and industrial sectors. Ensuring that populations most impacted by climate change and this energy transition - including Indigenous, northern, rural and remote communities - are encompassed in Canada's energy transition plan is critical to building an equitable economy and society.

The nuclear industry is a critical part of the energy transition solution. In Ontario and indeed across the world, nuclear facilities have replaced coal plants to ensure a clean and equitable energy transition. In Ontario, nuclear power generation enabled the largest clean energy initiative which enabled the province to close its coal power plants. This is a global trend; in the United States options are being considered to replace coal power plants in places such as Wyoming, with small modular reactors and plans to transition jobs directly from one energy sector to a cleaner energy sector, enabling a fair transition to the clean energy future.

Current nuclear generating stations in Ontario and New Brunswick are essential in mitigating emissions for those provinces but also for Canada. The Refurbishment of OPG's Darlington Power Plant and Bruce Power's Major Component Replacement Project will be mitigating 961 million tons of CO2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and creating 32,600 direct and indirect jobs.



The Canadian uranium industry is also key to generating jobs especially for Indigenous and northern communities. Cameco is one of Canada's largest Indigenous employers which has enabled an opportunity for those communities to develop and preserve their social and economic development.

The 2021 Federal Government's inclusion of Small Modular Reactors in the 2022 federal budget is a commendable step towards creating new opportunities for fair and just energy transition. These technologies provide another useful tool for communities to consider in their efforts to reduce emissions, create jobs and enable innovation for the future. Nuclear energy technologies provide clean base load power that also supports renewable technologies which are variable in nature.

We support an all-inclusive energy grid, one that includes nuclear, solar, wind and hydro, in government clean funding programs, policies and consistent definitions to ensure that the clean energy transition takes place and provides an opportunity for the inclusion of communities and workers in higher carbon sectors.

Finally, it is critical to include nuclear as a means of providing stable clean energy as well as creating high quality jobs in healthy, safe and secure environments. As energy security and affordability issues rise due to the consequences associated with global issues and geopolitics associated with the war in Ukraine, nuclear energy is proving to be essential in mitigating cost in Ontario, France, United Kingdom. Countries such as Poland, Romania, Estonia are also considering new nuclear energy generation as a means of ensuring affordable energy.

Canada's support for nuclear energy is a significant step forward in ensuring a just transition. That being said, bolder steps are required to ensure that a just transition towards net zero by 2050 targets are met.

Best,



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