

Standing Committee on Finance  
FINA@parl.gc.ca

August 4, 2017

## **Re: Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the 2018 Budget**

Bruce Power is pleased to have this opportunity to present a submission to the Standing Committee on Finance as part of the Government of Canada's 2018 pre-budget consultations.

Bruce Power operates the world's largest nuclear generating facility, generating 30 percent of Ontario's electricity at 30 percent less than the average cost to generate residential power. The Bruce Power site consists of eight CANDU reactors and produces over 6,400 megawatts (MW's) of electricity. Our company is a shining example of private public partnership as we operate the Bruce Power site on a long-term lease from the Ontario government, and are also a privately owned, all-Canadian partnership between BPC Generation Infrastructure Trust (an investment trust of OMERS), TransCanada, the Power Workers Union, and The Society of Energy Professionals.

### **Investing in Innovation**

Canada has a long and rich history of high-quality research, development and innovation. The CANDU reactor was developed here in Canada and is now used in 6 other countries around the world. Canada has also been at the forefront of nuclear innovation for decades, including in the field of nuclear medicine. Indeed, Canada is a world leader in the production and export of nuclear technology.

The nuclear industry in Ontario is one of Canada's largest innovation super clusters. The refurbishment work that is already underway on the fleet of generators in Ontario is one of the largest infrastructure investments in Canada. During normal operations, Bruce Power supports 22,000 direct and indirect jobs on an annual basis and delivers \$4 billion in annual economic benefit. During refurbishment the site will support an additional 5,000 direct and indirect jobs per year, and contribute an additional \$1.7 billion - \$2.3 billion in economic benefit annually through direct and indirect spending in operational equipment, supplies, materials and labour income in Ontario.

This investment in emissions-free power will play a key role in meeting emissions targets as our country takes a leading role on climate change initiatives. Incremental power supplied through prior life extension work at our site accounted for 70% of the power needed to phase out coal in the province. Additionally, according to a report released by the Asthma Society of Canada and Bruce Power, between 2017 and 2064, the Bruce Power units' clean nuclear power will avoid between \$12 billion and \$63 billion in carbon costs, when compared to alternatives that ratepayers would have to fund if our output was replaced by fossil fuels.

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## **Medical isotopes**

When people think about nuclear power, they think about electricity that reliably keeps the lights on in their home and powers their day-to-day electronics. While safe, reliable and affordable power is what we are best known for, we take a great deal of pride in being able to better people's lives around the world through our contribution to the development and production of medical-use isotopes.

With our long-term outlook, we are continuing to innovate in the area of isotope production, supporting our global leadership position in this area. We are one of the few nuclear facilities in the world that has the ability to produce HSA Cobalt-60, used in treating cancer and other diseases both in Canada and internationally. Bruce Power was recognized by the Nuclear Energy Institute with a Top Innovation Practice award for this project – the first time a Canadian company has ever received this recognition.

The Cobalt-60 harvested from our Bruce B reactors is supplied to over 200 gamma irradiators in 55 countries that sterilize surgical gloves, gowns, masks, syringes, sutures, catheters, pharmaceuticals, implants and tissue, as well as several products used in the food and consumer products industries.

In addition, Cobalt-60 plays an increasingly important role in food irradiation. Gamma produced by Cobalt-60 is increasingly used in place of chemical treatments required for the export of fruit and vegetables and can also be used to treat meat against micro-organisms such as E. coli and salmonella.

HSA Cobalt is used worldwide for alternative treatments to traditional brain surgery and radiation therapy for the treatment of complex brain conditions through a specialized, non-invasive knife. This innovative tool uses gamma radiation to focus 200 microscopic beams of radiation on a tumour or other target. Although each individual beam has little effect on the brain tissue surrounding the tumour, where the beam intersects, a strong dose of radiation is delivered to the site, minimizing damage to healthy tissue and lowering side effects compared to traditional therapy in some cases.

As Ontario continues to turn to nuclear energy in the fight against climate change, there is an opportunity to expand Canada's investments into nuclear technology. In order to take advantage of the benefits of Ontario's nuclear energy for all Canadians, we must work closely together to strategically support innovation and growth within the sector. At Bruce Power, we believe that the pathway to sustainability is one that promotes advanced technologies while continuing to provide clean, reliable, low-cost energy for Ontarians.

At Bruce Power, we will continue to endeavor to find new and innovative ways of contributing to society beyond the affordable power we produce. With the support of the federal and provincial governments, we hope to develop new ways to help meet the world's growing needs for isotopes we can help produce, whether for the treatments of diseases, providing added safety to the products we consume or helping to diagnose patient illnesses, our goal is to be part of the solution.

**Regulatory Reform**

The federal government has committed to delivering a new environmental assessment and regulatory process that ensures public trust, protects the environment, introduces modern safeguards and advances reconciliation with indigenous peoples while ensuring good projects and resources get to market. Bruce Power supports these objectives and has actively participated in the government's extensive consultation process.

As previously mentioned, Bruce Power is undertaking one of the largest infrastructure projects in Canada, one that will drive economic growth and create a substantial number of jobs over the coming decades. This life extension program commenced on January 1, 2016 and will continue into the 2030s, and helps ensure Ontario will continue to provide cost-effective, reliable and carbon-free energy while supporting economic growth and opportunities for years to come.

It is clear that there is no intention on the part of the Government of Canada to change the environmental and regulatory review process for projects already underway such as ours, including being asked to return to the "starting line." Bruce Power asks for the Government's continued support on this principle as we resume the life extension project through our arrangement with the Province of Ontario.

Bruce Power has always held a strong working relationship with the communities in the region and has a commitment to openness and transparency. Consistent with past practices, we will maintain this approach as we meaningfully engage with our Indigenous partners through Protocol Agreements we have in place.

Bruce Power is pleased to play a significant role in helping to build an inclusive economy in which all Ontarians and all regions of Ontario thrive. Growing a prosperous, healthy community will require continued partnerships between industry and all levels of government.

**Summary**

It's important to Bruce Power, our employees and community that we continue to make a positive difference. With ongoing support from the federal and provincial governments, we will continue to focus on economic development, community investment and also strong relations with host communities and Indigenous peoples. Thanks to our long-term framework with the province, we will continue to serve the medical community with needed isotopes and provide certainty for the global isotope market with Canadian supply until 2064. By generating low-cost electricity, delivering on our operational and project commitments, we will continue to be an electricity generator of choice in Ontario. We will also be able to make a positive difference across the country.

Regards,

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***The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern affairs***  
***The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change***  
***The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities***  
***The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development***  
***The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science***  
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