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Supplementary Information

Presentation from
Health Canada

On
Air Quality and Noise

In the Matter of

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Proposed Environmental Impact Statement for OPG's Deep Geological Repository (DGR) Project for Low and Intermediate Level Waste

Joint Review Panel

September 16 to October 12, 2013

Renseignements supplémentaires

Présentation de
Santé Canada

Sur
La qualité de l'Air et le bruit

À l'égard de

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Étude proposée pour l'énoncé des incidences environnementales pour l'Installation de stockage de déchets radioactifs à faible et moyenne activité dans des couches géologiques profondes

Commission d'examen conjoint

Du 16 septembre au 12 octobre 2013

Canada

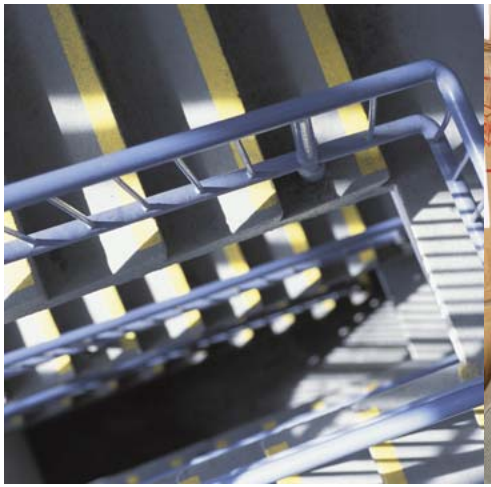
Health Canada Santé Canada

Your health and safety… our priority. *Votre santé et votre sécurité… notre priorité.*

PRESENTATION TO THE JOINT REVIEW PANEL FOR THE DEEP GEOLOGIC REPOSITORY

AIR QUALITY AND NOISE

Melanie Lalani
Regional Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Health Canada
September 25, 2013



Canada

Presentation Overview

- Mandate of Health Canada
- Health Canada's role in Environmental Assessment
- Scope of Health Canada's review
- Limitations of Health Canada's review
- Summary of Health Canada's findings

Mandate of Health Canada

“To help Canadians maintain and improve their health while respecting individual choices and circumstances”

- A science-based department
- Understand, communicate and share knowledge on interactions between many factors that may have an impact on human health
- Work with the provinces and territories to ensure the health system serves the needs of Canadians
- Understand that human health is closely linked and influenced by the health of the environment
- Help assess and reduce risks to human health posed by environmental factors such as radiation, air quality, noise, drinking and recreational water quality

Health Canada's Role in EA

- Health Canada is participating as a Federal Authority under Section 20 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, CEAA 2012.*
  - The role of a Federal Authority is to provide specialist or expert information or knowledge that it possesses, upon request from the Joint Review Panel.

- Health Canada's advice takes into account "environmental effects" as stipulated in *CEAA 2012:*
  - *Section 5(1)(c) – An effect of any change caused to the environment with respect to the health of Aboriginal peoples*
  - *Section 5(2)(b) – An effect of a change caused to the environment linked to a federal power, duty or function, on the health of all peoples*

- Health Canada has no authority to make any decisions or issue any licenses, permits or authorizations in relation to this project.

Scope of Health Canada Review

To provide specific advice on the Proponent's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding:

- conformity with the EIS Guidelines;
- the potential impacts on human health that may result from the project
- the scientific validity and adequacy of the assessment undertaken by the Proponent in the EIS related to impacts of the project on human health
- the use of appropriate methods and rationale for the conclusions made by the Proponent concerning human health effects
- the measures proposed to mitigate human health impacts, where possible

Areas of Expertise Provided

- Radiation
- **Air quality health effects**
- **Noise**
- Drinking and recreational water quality
- Contamination of country foods

Limitations of Health Canada's Review

Health Canada does not possess expertise regarding:

- Modelling of environmental fate, dispersion and transport, and the accuracy of predictions related to environmental fate and dispersion and/or contaminant uptake.

- Impacts of noise on animals or ecosystems or on occupational exposure to noise

Air Quality

- Health Canada's review focused on:
  - Examining information in the EIS concerning the risk to human health resulting from exposure to air pollutants
  - Baseline conditions and predicted project-related air pollutant concentrations for different assessment scenarios
  - Identifying the adequacy of mitigation measures

Air Quality – Health Canada's Findings

- Health Canada verified that potential human health impacts of project-related changes to air quality were characterized properly and that mitigation measures proposed are appropriate.

Noise

- Health Canada's review focused on:
  - Predicted changes between existing and predicted daytime and night-time sound levels during construction, operation and decommissioning activities at locations where people will be present
  - Characteristics of noise (e.g. impulsive or tonal)
  - Consideration of type of community (e.g. urban, suburban or quiet rural areas) in verifying impacts

Noise – Health Canada's Findings

- Project-related potential health impacts were properly characterized in the EIS

- Mitigation measures proposed are appropriate

Summary

- Based on the approaches used and results presented in the EIS, Health Canada has determined that the EIS combined with proponent responses to JRP information requests characterize and mitigate potential human health risks appropriately

Thank you

Questions?