



Port Hope Community Health
Concerns Committee
2450 4th Line, Port Hope, ON
L1A 3V5
June 25, 2026

Auditor General of Canada
Office of the Commissioner and
Sustainable Development
240 Sparks Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G6
Sent by email

communications@oag-bvg.gc.ca
petitions@oag-bvg.gc.ca

Attention: Petitions

NOTE: Petition dated and submitted on June 16, 2026 revised upon request on June 25, 2026 to include federal departments of responsibility for responses.

Re: Supplementary Petition from the Port Hope Community Health Concerns Committee (PHCHCC) following up on the Petition to the Auditor General of Canada from the Canadian Environmental Law Association on behalf of Faye More, March, 2024.

Overview:

This Petition is submitted under Section 22 of the *Auditor General Act*.
On March 20, 2024 a Petition (#502) with an extensive supporting Book of Documents were submitted on my behalf as an individual by the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA). I was and remain concerned with public exposures to ionizing radiation from nuclear industry radioactive wastes throughout the community, the ongoing failure of federal government officials to protect the public by ensuring proactive disclosure of contaminated public areas and officials' dismissal of potential health impacts by applying unrealistic and unfounded dose assumptions to exposure and

health outcome data and relying on inappropriate research methodologies for this situation.

On April 9, 2024 The Office of the Auditor General of Canada sent the Petition and supporting Book of Documents to the responsible Minister of Natural Resources Jonathon Wilkinson. On July 30, 2024 I received a joint reply from Minister Wilkinson and federal colleagues to the Petition and Book of Documents.

On August 1, 2024 I emailed an acknowledgment to the Minister and expressed concerns that his reply left the key issues unaddressed including no change of policy to proactive disclosure of contamination of public properties, no signage and no investigations/accountability for the AECL/CNL/PHAI failures at the three example properties at which children and adults were being exposed unknowingly, including my own family, to levels of ionizing radiation documented by officials to require remediation of radioactive wastes. These three examples of failures to protect the public deserve independent investigation and accountability.

On December 10, 2024 I replied in a detailed letter to the Minister and copied the office of the Auditor General of Canada. I had also written a detailed letter to Prime Minister Trudeau dated February 23, 2024 with details supporting two requests: for a national public inquiry into radioactive waste management in Canada and secondly for direct financial compensation for the individuals and families of Port Hope. The Prime Minister's Office delegated a response to Minister Wilkinson. On February 7, 2025 I received a letter on their behalf from Assistant Deputy Minister Drew Layburne with refusals for a national public inquiry, compensation for Port Hope people or a meeting with the Minister on their behalf.

Due to the unsatisfactory responses from the Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister at that time and with new issues and a new government in place, the Port Hope Community Health Concerns Committee is submitting this Supplementary Petition to the Auditor General of Canada relating to nuclear issues in Port Hope, Past, Present, Future.

Issue 1: For the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

Require proactive disclosure of contaminated public properties

Request for proactive disclosure of contaminated public properties in Port Hope to inform and protect the public.

- Lack of proactive disclosure by AECL/CNL of contaminated public locations in Port Hope continues to be a major concern in 2026. More than 57 years ago the federal government knew there was significant widespread radioactive contamination and health risks in Port Hope but the public was not kept informed of details at the time nor as they became available with followup investigations. Presently more than 1300 contaminated private and public properties require remediation including roadways and frontages throughout the town, without warnings, that people have been living with unknowingly on a daily basis for decades along with inhaling industrial insoluble uranium particulate from two nuclear industries operating without buffer zones, all presenting health risks.

Figure 1:: 1976 airborne survey Port Hope - Radiometric Natural Dose Rate (nGy/h) LLRWMO Port Hope files. AECL response to ATIP request received January,2024.

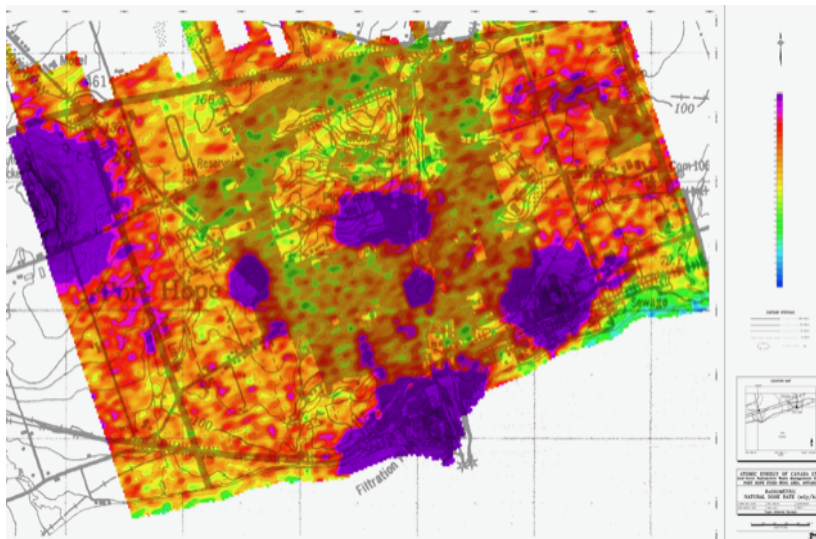
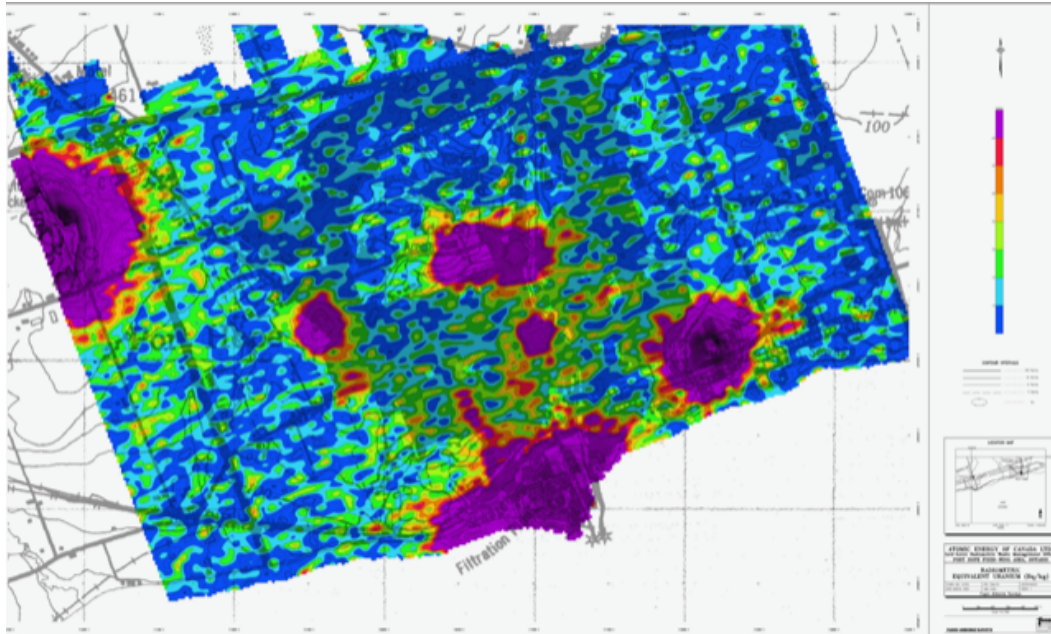


Figure 2: 1976 Airborne survey of Port Hope - Radiometric equivalent uranium (Bq/kg) AECL LLRWMO Port Hope files. AECL response to ATIP request received Jan/2024.



Below are excerpts from the response of the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) to Minister Wilkinson’s July 2024 reply to the Petition to the Auditor General of Canada in March, 2024. All documents available at cela.ca.

“In 2024, a petitioner from Port Hope, Ontario submitted an environmental petition pursuant to the Auditor General Act to seek information about federal government disclosure practices regarding radioactive nuclear contamination on public and private properties in Port Hope, Ontario. The petitioner seeks a formal commitment that the federal government will proactively disclose information in its possession about radioactive contamination that could affect the health of members of the public – for instance, because of contamination of school properties, public parks or roadways, and municipal frontage on residential properties.”

“The petition raised the Federal government’s international legal obligations to provide members of the public with meaningful access to information pursuant to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, as well as obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It raised concerns with current federal government practice requiring members of the public to seek information through specific requests, including Access to Information Act requests. Members of the public have no way to know that they should make a request for information about radioactive contamination of public or private properties or what to request.”

“The petition also highlighted that it is not possible to accurately calculate the effective dose of radiation to a member of the public as outlined in the Radiation Protection Regulations if information about exposures on public and private properties is not disclosed or considered on an individual basis.”

“The petition provided a personal example from Port Hope, Ontario. The petitioner raised concerns about contamination of a local public school with high levels of indoor radon gas – at a former public school, a popular local park and the municipal frontage of her family home for many years. A full copy of the petition may be accessed via a website link cela.ca “

“Despite the federal government’s clear recognition that there is historic nuclear waste which was “originally managed in a way that is no longer considered acceptable” and the Port Hope Area Initiative, which involves the clean up of millions of cubic metres of historical low-level radioactive waste in Port Hope and Clarington, the federal government’s response makes the erroneous claim that all nuclear waste is safely managed at Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission licenced facilities”.

“Of serious concern, the federal government continues to provide no proactive disclosure of information regarding the radioactive contamination of private or public properties to members of the public. The Minister’s response requires members of the public to request information from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories for public properties and to make Access to Information Act requests for information about private properties. The Minister’s response also does not address the concerns raised about the inaccuracy of any calculation of the annual public dose of radioactivity where there is no individual calculation of exposures. The full response may be accessed via a website link.”

CELA’s Conclusion:

“The federal government’s response does not address the petitioner’s concerns. Members of the public should not shoulder the responsibility to investigate whether the properties they frequent are contaminated with radioactive waste and are impacting their health. The public should not be required to make requests for information without any way to know there is a problem or what they should request.

“The purpose of the Access to Information Act is to increase accountability and transparency of federal institutions. The legislation is instead acting as a barrier to public access to information about radioactive contamination that affects them. We urge the federal government to find more proactive and helpful approaches to share information about radioactive contamination of public and private properties, rather than placing the burden of investigation on the public.

Questions:

Q 1: Will the federal government investigate the three property examples described and publicly report findings of why officials repeatedly failed to disclose information showing the presence of contamination and need for remediation to property occupants, owners, families, students and the public and hold officials accountable?

Q 2: Will radiation/ danger signs be posted on all contaminated public properties and identified on the PHAI website?

Q 3: Will the federal government ensure policies and practices are changed to proactive sharing of specific site information regarding contamination in the Port Hope environment rather than placing the burden and costs onto the public to ask under Access to Information Laws for information they don't know exists? For example, will municipal roads and frontages contamination be included in adjacent private property property files?

Issue 2. For the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature and the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

Apply Bill c-226 to “OPG’s Proposal for New Nuclear at Wesleyville”

We request that the provisions and protections of Bill c-226 (2004) “National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act” preclude any consideration of Port Hope, in any environmental assessment process including any conducted solely by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, for the siting of the largest nuclear reactor site in the world in Port Hope as proposed by the Ontario Government and Ontario Power Generation.

- Port Hope’s long history with the federally licensed nuclear industries in town without buffer zones from the 1940’s forward, a Crown Corporation from 1944 to 1988 when 2 million cubic metres of its radioactive wastes were used as fill, dumped throughout the town, into the rivers and Lake Ontario, is evidence of ongoing environmental injustice to generations of people which must be corrected. The Ontario government/ OPG Proposal to situate the largest nuclear power plant in the world in Port Hope, adding to its disproportionate nuclear load, clearly violates the new federal legislation and should be withdrawn.
- On June 20, 2024, the Private Member’s Bill c_226, “National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act” became law. “There is no single definition of environmental justice that is accepted by everyone or reflects all scenarios. Instead, environmental justice is considered a

concept that can be applied in various practical contexts...it is broadly understood to include

- a) *Procedural Justice*: “means people must have fair access to decisions that affect their environment”
- b) *Recognitional Justice*: “means policies should respect the experiences, values, and histories of affected communities, especially those facing systemic racism”
- c) *Distributive Justice*: “means environmental harms and benefits should be shared fairly across all communities”

The Minister must develop a national strategy (expected by June 2026) to promote efforts across Canada to advance environmental justice and to assess, prevent and address environmental racism. The strategy must include

- A study that includes i) an examination of the link between race, socio-economic status and environmental risk, and ii) information and statistics relating to the location of environmental hazards and
 - Measures that can be taken to advance environmental justice and assess, prevent and address environmental racism and that may include
 - Possible amendments to federal laws, policies and programs
 - The involvement of community groups in environmental policy making
 - Compensation for individuals or communities and
 - The collection of information and statistics relating to health outcomes in communities located in proximity to environmental hazards.
- Source [Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca), Environment and Climate Change Canada

Question

Q 4. Will the federal government acknowledge the disproportionate nuclear industry burden on the community of Port Hope, apply the protections of Bill c-226 to Port Hope's current situation of environmental injustice and act to have the IAAC Assessment underway for OPG's New Nuclear at Wesleyville Proposal cancelled and the site deemed not appropriate?

Issue 3. For the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

National public inquiry - management of radioactive wastes

Request that a National Public Inquiry be convened into the present and future management of radioactive waste in Canada focused initially on Port Hope.

- The new Prime Minister and Cabinet (2025) have stated plans to expand the nuclear industry in Canada despite no satisfactory long-term solutions for tailings, low, intermediate and high level radioactive wastes that are produced at every stage of the nuclear fuel cycle. Now there is a sudden announcement that the federal government intends to minimize and fast-track Environmental Assessments of nuclear projects by delegating sole responsibility to the regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission which would remove independence from the assessment, decision-making and licensing process.
- For these reasons, and because of Port Hope's central role in Canada's nuclear industry with two operating nuclear industries creating new wastes, remediation of unresolved historic radioactive wastes and the fast tracking of the largest nuclear reactor site in the world to our community by Ontario Power Generation, we are recommending a national public inquiry with hearings and a fact-finding, policy-formulating mandate be convened. The purpose would be to fully examine all aspects of current and future management of radioactive wastes produced in Port Hope and other communities impacted by uranium mining, refining, processing, fuel fabrication and future siting plans for nuclear facilities
- Each of the communities and First Nations impacted by the presence of radioactive waste are deserving of accountability for what has happened over generations with remedies for the future. Each deals in isolation with the obvious risks and stigma alongside a huge power imbalance where decisions are made by others far away with a clear agenda to protect and advance the industry. Obviously the costs and benefits are unfairly apportioned. To add insult, officials repeatedly say that health outcomes of residents at risk cannot be studied in small communities like Port Hope while at the same time closely monitoring exposures of individual Nuclear Energy Workers also at risk in those same communities. This avoidance of health monitoring is not precautionary, rather it serves the agenda of government and the industry rather than the people.
- The serious impacts of decades of federal decisions and actions must be investigated and remedied. Today, ninety years after the first uranium ore was

brought into Port Hope, the community continues to deal with radioactive waste contamination on a daily basis: Cameco Corporation's Fuel Fabrication Facility now licensed for 20 years by the CNSC until 2042, Cameco's uranium Conversion Facility licensed until 2027, a \$1.2B federally funded cleanup of 1.2 million m³ of what is called historic low-level radioactive wastes throughout the community in more than 1300 locations.

- Furthermore, it is now known that the content of Port Hope's industrial radioactive emissions and waste from decades of refining, processing and fuel production are not just derived from high-grade (60%+) natural uranium ore but far more complex and toxic than we were told. In recent years from public hearings and citizen efforts the public has learned from senior industry officials at CNSC hearings that uranium at 93% enrichment (weapons grade) was processed in Port Hope. Lower levels of enriched uranium 235 were and are used as was depleted uranium. The presence of industrial uranium including spent reactor material has been identified. The question remains, what is in the wastes, the environment and the people? A comprehensive national public inquiry hopefully will hear concerns and develop remedies nationally that will put people first.

Question:

Q 5: Will the federal government establish a National Public Inquiry to examine current and future radioactive waste management in Canada that will aid all responsible government departments and industry to understand what is happening at key locations in Canada and to collaborate with the public on precautionary solutions that comply with Agreements, Treaties, laws and honour historical commitments to the people?

Issue 4. For the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources and the Minister of Finance and National Revenue

Independent, Comprehensive Financial and Operational Audit of AECL/CNL/PHAI

We request that the federal government ensure that a comprehensive, independent financial and operational audit is conducted of the current GoCo AECL/CNL remediation activities in Port Hope in order that the provisions of the Canada-Port Hope Legal Agreement (2001) for Remediation of Radioactive Wastes in Port Hope are honoured and people are properly protected.

- The 2001 Legal Agreement states "Canada shall clean up properties contaminated with Historic Low-Level Radioactive Waste so that all such properties will be able to be used for all current and foreseeable unrestricted

uses". AECL/CNL have made significant changes to their policies and practices so that this commitment is not achievable in our view. These changes have been made with little or no public discussion or awareness, without signed agreements or amendments to the Legal Agreement. We ask that the provisions of the Legal Agreement be honoured.

- AECL/CNL GoCo contract - "Since 2014 the program governance structure has undergone fundamental change. The transition to the new GoCo governance model is part of a broader AECL reorganization to realize efficiencies. Upon the transfer of CNL's shares to the GoCo, NRCan obligations and responsibilities for the PHAI will be moved to AECL. This includes the transfer of all contracts, program authorities, responsibilities, liabilities, and assets associated with PHAI. In addition, program funding that currently flows to NRCan will flow directly to AECL" (**Assessment of Port Hope Area Initiative - Joint Audit and Evaluation Project Audit Branch and Strategic Evaluation Division Natural Resources Canada, December 17, 2015**)
- We are very concerned with how AECL and CNL, a private business enterprise, are conducting the \$2.6 billion remediation in Port Hope of more than 1.2 million m³ of radioactive waste. Their current policies and practices are leaving wastes for future generations to live with, unknowingly once again, after all the impacts of the past and remediation on physical and mental health, time, money, properties, and inconvenience to clean up and stop that cycle. Issues include:
 - d) The 2015 Canada-AECL GoCo contract effectively removed direct federal government departmental ownership and responsibilities from Natural Resources Canada for ongoing monitoring and honouring the Legal Agreement with Port Hope or as a public service partner with the Municipality. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission continues a high level role to license and regulate, not oversee operations..
 - e) Following the GoCo arrangement from 2015 forward there have been deviations from the Legal Agreement and cost-saving measures by AECL/CNL which have changed the scope of work including
 - i) CNL's Special Circumstances Protocol (first version 2015 - most recent version 2023) does not appear to be a signed agreement with the Municipality or CNSC as the regulator in documents we have seen. Both stakeholders wanted important provisions which are not included in the current version. Both are directly impacted by Project outcomes explained below.
 - ii) The current SCProtocol removed the Municipality from a role with private property remediation decisions leaving those to AECL/CNL which is contrary to Municipal input to continue its role.

- iii) The current Protocol expanded exemption criteria allowing private and public property owners to refuse any investigations of their property and any remediation for any reason. In 2022 the Municipality raised concern at a CNSC hearing that Protocol exemptions were being allowed much more frequently than ever intended by the Legal Agreement. Our Committee raised this concern as well at the 2022 CNSC hearing as not in keeping with the Legal Agreement. We understand more than 200 properties are exempted by CNL so far with 1300 properties yet to be dealt with. Many questions are unanswered as to health risks, current and future liabilities for the Municipality, property owners and neighbours, restricted land use now and in future, need for permanent signage, notices on property deeds and unclear remediation options and costs for future owners..
- iv) With the lack of data, CNSC cannot determine if a license is required for locations left contaminated or if sites present health risks now or if later disturbed. This is contrary to CNSC's responsibility and its input to CNL to be provided with detailed rationale and data.. We are concerned that the intended "solution" may be that these exempted sites, presently unknown to others, where people live and work, will be granted blanket exemptions from CNSC licenses into the future. This was past practice with CNSC and AECL/ LLRWMO for Port Hope small scale sites from 2000 forward. We object to a possible solution leaving contaminated land in Port Hope. We ask that all sites and contamination be properly investigated, documented, remediated to the extent possible in accordance with the law and requirements of the Legal Agreement.
- v) In 2017 CNL first proposed increasing both the uranium and arsenic cleanup criteria to leave more, remediate less and support a "save trees' campaign by a few residents for their properties taken up by the Council on their behalf. Presently only the arsenic criteria is proposed to change from 18 ppm to 50-55 ppm. From the limited release of documents we understand that Health Canada is not in agreement with this proposal but relevant input is withheld, a redaction issue currently under appeal to the federal Information Commissioner as of February 2026. The Municipality of Port Hope Council agreed in October 2024 with CNL's proposal apparently without staff or independent peer review reports to provide transparent peer analysis of all relevant analysis. Technical peer

review input on such matters is critical and should be obtained with ongoing federal funding available as necessary..

- vi) There have been very few temporary relocations of people out of harm's way during lengthy remediations in and around their properties, budget restrictions cited as a factor to some residents.

- vii) There is a significant lack of informed and official general public participation which was to be a cornerstone for the Project's success, As a private operation CNL has a business focus (phai.ca):

"Canadian Nuclear Laboratories is a member of the Port Hope and District Chamber of Commerce and provides a monthly update on project progress, communications, and PHP related economic opportunities to the Board of Directors. Communications staff works directly with Chamber of Commerce staff to develop additional opportunities for members including PHP site tours and events targeted at current and potential project contractors."

By contrast, there is no Port Hope Community Advisory Committee as required in the Legal Agreement involving residents with full access to all Project reports so people are kept informed, can ask questions without having to go through ATIP and pay for largely redacted reports. We request that a resident focused CAC be established with Municipal and CNL staff actively participating in order for those directly impacted to be well informed, provide valuable input throughout the process and resolve concerns as was intended in 2001.

- viii) There are CNL remediation contracts with families that require strict confidentiality leaving some residents too worried to obtain second opinions on planned work or even legal advice. With the Municipality excluded from decisions on private property remediations it does not get involved in private property concerns with the exception of "tree canopy" issues. This exclusion has shut off one avenue for assistance for residents and there are serious issues and frustrations with property remediations. Residents should be entitled to health monitoring, federally funded legal advocacy, individual case management support and the ability to obtain independent technical advice on all CNL activities on their properties.
- ix) The Municipality of Port Hope should be adequately funded by CNL and should use it to access independent peer reviews on behalf of the public for major CNL project proposals and relevant reports

such as changing the cleanup criteria for arsenic and the significant changes to the Special Circumstances Protocol noted above which did not appear to happen as was the case in prior years. .

- x) An independent, comprehensive financial, operational, policy review audit should determine, at that point in time, the resources, budget, timelines, policies and procedures required to complete the remediation of Port Hope in compliance with the Legal Agreement. The volume of wastes being discovered is significantly greater than projected with 300% more volume at small scale sites than expected with over 1300 sites rather than 200 estimated in 2004.

Question

Q 6: Will the federal government implement a comprehensive independent operational and financial audit of the AECL/CNL policies and practices since 2015 to 1) ensure adherence to the provisions of the Legal Agreement between Canada and Port Hope including examining CNSC, Natural Resources Canada, Municipal and public roles, responsibilities and current/future liabilities and 2) will address all of the remediation issues identified in this Petition to support and protect current and future residents of Port Hope?

Issue 5: For the Minister of Health and the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources..

Ongoing individual, family and community health monitoring with accurate public reporting of exposures and data.

We request health monitoring of residents including review of historical reports, applying knowledge gained from significant recent uranium and radiation research studies listed below. Independent comprehensive multi-disciplinary health monitoring should apply the same testing methods and allowable levels as Non-Nuclear Energy Workers as well as along health surveys, cohort and case control studies.

Knowledge of Risk and Harm of Ionizing Radiation

- a) *"There is no safe level of exposure and there is no dose of radiation so low that the risk of a malignancy is zero"*
- *Dr. Karl Z. Morgan, founder and the father of Health Physics, Director of Health Physics at Oak Ridge from 1943 to 1972.*

b) "No amount of ionizing radiation is safe"

- Dr. John Gofman, M.D. Ph.D Nuclear/Physical Chemistry, Director/Founder of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory Division Biology and Medicine, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.

c) "For a given uranium intake, the inhalation pathway gives doses 200 times greater than ingestion"

- Ontario MOE Rationale Document, Draft Uranium in Air Standard, 2010
- There continues to be avoidance by the federal government of any meaningful health monitoring of people living in a community for decades with emissions from two nuclear facilities, surrounded by more than 1.3 million cubic metres of radioactive wastes. Instead we are told as recently as May 2026 by a CNL spokesperson on CBC National News that "there are no risks to human health or safety based on the level of contamination in the soil that we are cleaning up" and "that the cleanup was requested by the community because there was a stigma that Port Hope was an unsafe place to live". These statements are not accurate, easily contradicted by documented local history of health concerns to stop children playing in unfenced radioactive wastes or attending contaminated schools, a 1983 Petition to the UN Human Rights Committee by local residents trying to push the federal government for a full cleanup, basic health physics, analysis in the AECL/CNL Screening EA documents, compliance reports, as well as the Legal Agreement 2001, etc. etc.

While there is a requirement in the Screening EA Report for a Port Hope Project Health and Safety Plan for workers there was no plan to monitor the health of people living and working in the community during the years of remediation despite ongoing requests from our Committee and others. Instead CNL reports and CNSC accepts reassuring estimates and risk assessment conclusions not based on actual monitoring of health outcomes. This leads to unfounded public statements from the regulator CNSC (2023 CNSC Record of Decision for AECL/CNL) "that the health of the people of Port Hope is protected".

- We are also concerned that the data collected through monitoring of Nuclear Energy Workers (NEW) and non-workers is averaged and also does not track source locations. This means if there is a particular location and specific site with elevated levels of radiation exposure that management and workers will not be

aware nor are the residents in the home or area. Non-NEW visitors and contractors also are monitored with allowable levels lower than NEW.

- It is an ongoing failure of the federal government, the regulator, AECL and CNL that there is no monitoring of residents. We request that the exposures and health outcomes for at risk residents in areas of remediation be monitored in a manner that identifies location and would include
 - wearing electronic personal external dosimeters
 - internal dosimetry through biological testing - urine bioassays and lung counters
 - personal radon detectors
 - ongoing individual health surveys, cohort and case control followup studies
- Our external and internal exposures and resulting biological doses are complex, cumulative and highly individual depending on a range of exposure factors, many still not known. With all that is known and still unknown, however, official risk assessments by federal officials using “average dose” calculations have no basis in science or our reality. Average dose numbers minimize health risks, dismiss troubling health data and justify forever dangerous nuclear facilities with acceptable “average doses”. Broad long-term epidemiological methodology of large populations over decades is not designed to help individuals or communities understand and deal with health outcomes today.

“For the purpose of this licence renewal, the Commission is satisfied that the health of persons in Port Hope is protected” - CNSC Record of Decision January 17, 2023. Re-license Hearing for Cameco Fuel Manufacturing Inc. Nov. 23, 2022

“Residents of Port Hope are just as likely to live safe and healthy lives as people in any other communities in Ontario or Canada. No adverse health effects have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the operations of the nuclear industry in the town.”

“Risk assessments conducted in Port Hope indicate that elevated uranium concentrations in some of the region’s soils pose no risk to Port Hope residents’ health.” - From AECL/CNL/Port Hope Area Initiative website, 2024

- There should be a thorough re-evaluation of the important health outcome data for Port Hope in earlier studies issued by Health Canada in 1997, 2000, 2002. Studies which focused on Port Hope health outcomes in earlier time periods showed elevated rates of radio-sensitive cancers and non-cancer diseases at the 90% and 95% confidence interval indicative of possible environmental causes, and the presence of industrial uranium isotopes (including ²³⁶U, depleted U and

elevated 234U radiological Port Hope UMRC project participants :

- *Study of the Health Effects of Low Level Radiation Contamination in Port Hope Homes, 1984* (Queen's University Study)
 - *Port Hope Harbour Area of ConcernL Health Data and Statistics for the Population of the Area, 1986 - 1992*. Great Lakes Health Effects Program, Health Canada, 1997
 - *Cancer Incidence in Port Hope*, Health Canada/CNSC 2000
 - *Cancer and General Mortality in Port Hope 1956-1997*, Health Canada/CNSC 2002
 - Critiques of Health Canada's *Cancer Incidence Study* and *General Mortality Study*, Dr.Eric Mintz, 2000, 2004.
 - *Radiobiological Project in Port Hope*, Uranium Medical Research Centre 2007
- f) On page 43 of the Initial IAA Summary Report for OPG's New Nuclear at Wesleyville, Port Hope Proposal, the statistic of 33.9% premature mortality in this Public Health District is given without a comparison and not explained. Also the leading causes of death are given as cancer and ischaemic heart disease both of which are radiologically sensitive diseases. This is consistent with study findings for Port Hope specifically in earlier Port Hope focused studies noted above. The way this statistic is presented basically ignores data that could be helpful to understanding possible causes such as radiation and heavy metal exposures in Port Hope. Ascribing these data to the District as a whole, which comprises a huge geography and population east and north of Port Hope including the City of Kawartha Lakes, the County of Haliburton, Northumberland County, and the City and County of Peterborough is not useful as an end point - data collection should be useful and lead to further investigations focused on specific areas. Speculation about rates of smoking when lung cancer incidence is consistently elevated in every study of Port Hope health outcomes has no place in research seeking answers.
- Other Important health research studies to include:
 - *International Workers Studies (INWORKS)* 2015, 2017, 2018, 2023
Overall, these studies found strong evidence of positive associations between chronic low-dose radiation exposure and risk of death from leukemia, all solid cancers combined, many site-specific solid cancers (the most common being lung, prostate, and colon), and non-cancer causes (circulatory diseases primarily). Risk of death increased with cumulative dose for all solid cancers combined.
According to the 2023 INWORKS study, the risk of radiation-induced solid

cancer mortality resulting from chronic exposure to low doses of radiation may be slightly higher than previously reported. The study supports a linear association between prolonged low-dose external exposure to ionizing radiation and solid cancer mortality.

- *Health Risks of Radon and Other Internally Deposited Alpha-Emitters: BEIR IV - Committee on the Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation*, National Research Council, U.S.
- *Health Risks of Exposure to Low-Level Ionizing Radiation - Phase2 BEIR VII*, 2006, National Research Council, U.S.
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- 2. Public Health Agency of Canada (2018). *Childhood cancer incidence in Canada: demographic and geographic variations of temporal trends 1992-2010*.
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- 7. Kaatsch P e al (2008). *Leukemias in young children living in the vicinity of German nuclear power plants*. Int J Cancer, 122;721-726.
- 8. Folkers C et al (2022). *Radioactive releases from the nuclear power sector and implications for child health*. BMJ Pediatrics;6 e001326.
- 9. Dingwell S et al(2011). *Human health and biological effects of tritium in drinking water: prudent policy through science Addressing the ODWAC new recommendations*. Dose Response; 20(9)6-31.
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- 12. Ma M et al (2020). *Emerging health risks and underlying toxicological*

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Questions

Q.7 Will the federal government require and fund independent, multi-disciplinary health monitoring of the Port Hope community including re-analysis of previous Port Hope health studies, health surveys, followup investigations and bio-testing?

Q.8 In addition to the above, will the federal government require and fund independent health monitoring in the same manner as Nuclear Energy Workers, using criteria for Non-NEW of individual residents in Port Hope who are 1) are or have been directly impacted by the presence of contamination in their immediate environment or 2) by remediation of their own or a neighbouring public or private property or 3) live, work or attend school within a 500 metre radius of the two Cameco facilities?

Issue 6: For the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

Federal legislation and direct compensation for individuals and families in harm's way of the nuclear industries past and present.

We request that federal legislation recognizing harm and authorizing direct compensation be established, potentially using U.S. legislation described below, as a model for current and former residents of Port Hope as original nuclear industry community downwinders placed in harm's way without knowledge or consent.

- Canada should enact legislation to protect the public and nuclear workers similar to U.S. legislation: "*The Radiation Exposure Compensation Program*" and the "*Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program*" which recognize and compensate for more than 40 diseases as associated with ionizing radiation from nuclear industry exposures to workers and community downwinders (as we are in Port Hope) and has paid out more than \$20 billion compensation. Canada has no similar legislation to recognize and compensate for health effects on workers or communities and it is needed to reconcile what has happened to workers and communities in Canada.

- The U.S. government established legislation for compensation to nuclear workers and community downwinders (mining, refining, processing, energy operations, bomb experiments, etc.) who have been harmed by the nuclear industry. The legislation identifies more than 40 diseases as eligible for compensation and has paid out more than \$30 billion since 1990. A civil standard is applied so that decisions are made based on preponderance of evidence, a “more likely than not” conclusion. Canadians need and deserve similar legislation to recognize harm and provide compensation for nuclear workers and impacted community downwinders of emissions and exposures to radioactive wastes:

The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA, October 1990)

Program description: From 1945 through 1962, the United States conducted nearly 200 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests while building the arsenal that became the cornerstone of the Nation’s Cold War security strategy. At the same time, other world powers also engaged in testing nuclear weapons. The mining and processing of uranium ore that was conducted by thousands of workers was essential to the development of nuclear weapons. Navajo uranium miners, and those living downwind of the Nevada Test Site, filed class action lawsuits that appellate courts eventually dismissed. Congress then devised a program to make partial restitution to the individuals who developed serious illnesses after their exposure to radiation released during above-ground atmospheric nuclear tests or following their employment in the uranium industry. On October 5, 1990, Congress passed RECA and later broadened the scope of its coverage on July 10, 2000.

Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA enacted October, 2000)

The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) was enacted in October 2000. Part B of the EEOICPA, effective on July 31, 2001, compensates current or former employees (or their survivors) of the Department of Energy (DOE), its predecessor agencies, and certain of its vendors, contractors and subcontractors, who were diagnosed with a radiogenic cancer, chronic beryllium disease, beryllium sensitivity, or chronic silicosis, as a result of exposure to radiation, beryllium, or silica while employed at covered facilities

St. Louis, Missouri radioactive waste contamination: The U.S. House of Representatives is investigating contamination issues in St. Louis, Missouri resulting from processing uranium from Eldorado Nuclear in Port Hope as part of

the Manhattan Project. Because the community is experiencing longstanding property contamination (100+) issues and illnesses, there are demands for a thorough federal /state government investigation of the situation and compensation to families,

References include:

- a. <https://missouriindependent.com/category/atomic-fallout/>
- b. "https://missouriindependent.com/2024/09/23/signs-warning-of-radioactive-waste-to-be-installed-along-missouris-coldwater-creek-this-fall/"
- c. "New Missouri House committee will investigate impact of St. Louis nuclear waste" Missouri Independent, Oct 4, 2024
"Missouri lawmakers will convene a special committee to study the consequences of [nuclear weapons production in the St. Louis](#) area and recommend legislation for next year, House Speaker Dean Plocher announced Thursday. In a press release, Plocher said the Special Interim Committee on the Impact of U.S. Nuclear Weapon Programs on Missouri will allow "policymakers, health professionals, environmental experts and affected community members to document their concerns and develop legislative solutions"

Question:

Q 9. Will the federal government enact legislation similar to the U.S. legislation described below which recognizes and directly compensates military personnel, nuclear energy workers and community down-winders for harms caused by radiation exposures from nuclear industry operations?

In conclusion:

It is our contention that Bill c-226 "*National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act*" supports all of the requests and recommendations in our Petition:

"Measures that can be taken to advance environmental justice and assess, prevent and address environmental racism and that may include

- *Possible amendments to federal laws, policies and programs*
- *The involvement of community groups in environmental policy making*
- *Compensation for individuals or communities and*
- *The collection of information and statistics relating to health outcomes in communities located in proximity to environmental hazards".*

Thank you for your consideration of this Petition and our concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye More
Chair
Port Hope Community Health Concerns Committee

CC: Mayor and Council, Municipality of Port Hope, Ontario

Attachment:

- 1) Letter to Prime Minister Trudeau, 2024