

## Community Liaison Committee Meeting Record

**Meeting Date:** June 24, 2021

**BWXT NEC:** Natalie Cutler, Director, Communications & Government Relations  
Jon Lundy, VP Strategy and Business Services  
Dave Snopek, Director, EHS & Regulatory Affairs  
Kathleen Augustin, Communications & Community Relations Specialist

**CLC Members:** J. Aherne, D. Gannon, S. Hay, J. Ingram, R. Keenan, C. Lemelin, B. Roxburgh, C. Shadbolt.

**Absent:** Ted Richardson, Director, Fuel Operations

**Guest:** John Peters, Technical Expert and Lead Environmental Health & Safety Auditor, Arcadis

**Action Items:**

Action Item	Responsible	Status
1. Add discussion on safety scenarios to the agenda for a future meeting.	K. Augustin	Complete
2. Review utilizing radio and newspaper advertising options.	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Ongoing
3. Provide input on who else could be included in the target audience.	CLC Members	Ongoing
4. CLC to review BWXT NEC's current website, FAQ and provide feedback and ideas on newsletter content.	CLC Members	Ongoing
5. Share video content and infographics with CLC.	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Ongoing
6. Have medical isotope guest speaker in 2021.	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Open
7. BWXT to recruit for the CLC throughout the year (encourage interested parties to apply during discussions)	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Ongoing
8. Incorporate feedback from 2020 year-end evaluation.	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Ongoing
9. BWXT to review incorporating internal safety spotlights into future CLC meetings.	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Open
10. BWXT to share information about uranium and beryllium soil sampling with CLC and public once available.	N. Cutler and K. Augustin	Open
11. BWXT to share CLC best practices from industry discussions with CLC	N. Cutler	Open
12. BWXT to review adding more detail to its website on the buildings occupied by BWXT on Monaghan Road	K. Augustin	Open

**Discussion Notes:**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held virtually. The meeting began with a roundtable of introductions, overview of the agenda and a safety moment. Jon Lundy noted that BWXT has an internal initiative called Nuclear Culture Spotlight where safety and quality assurance materials are provided to managers and employees to encourage ongoing discussions and increased awareness of the theme and its importance. A CLC member asked if these themes are

publicly posted and Natalie noted it is internal, but BWXT would review incorporating these spotlights into future CLC meetings.

Natalie Cutler reviewed the action items from the previous meeting, noting that some of the items were covered in this meeting. She marked the following item as complete: BWXT NEC to discuss safety scenarios. Natalie reviewed the remaining action items.

Next Natalie informed the CLC that the CLC Co-Chair position had been filled and provided the Co-Chair's contact details. The CLC Co-Chair noted that he is available by phone and email and encouraged CLC members to reach out if they have suggestions, questions, ideas or topics to discuss at future meetings. A CLC member asked who can join the CLC. The CLC Co-Chair noted that members should have different perspectives and voices and Natalie shared that the target audience to join the CLC lives in close proximity and brings diverse perspectives from the community.

Dave Snopek then provided some updates on environmental monitoring. He first shared that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) recently conducted their Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP) from June 14-18 in Peterborough noting that Curve Lake First Nation was invited to participate. Dave highlighted that the CNSC has conducted their IEMP in Peterborough in 2014, 2018 and 2019. Next Dave shared that BWXT NEC will be conducting soil sampling again later in the summer for beryllium and uranium using an independent laboratory. Natalie shared that public involvement will occur pending COVID-19 restrictions and noted that once a date is available that it will be shared. A CLC member asked if BWXT NEC will mirror the CNSC sampling areas like last year. Dave answered that BWXT NEC will use the same methodology (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks) like last time and shared that the location selection is being discussed because BWXT NEC will be sampling for both uranium and beryllium. A CLC member asked if the sampling locations will be the same for beryllium and uranium. Dave noted that BWXT NEC has not sampled for both before but shared that annual sampling for uranium has been done in Toronto for decades. Dave also shared that the sampling plan is still being determined. A CLC member asked what the span of the water sampling area is for the CNSC and Dave noted that it is upstream and downstream of Peterborough.

Dave then introduced John Peters from Arcadis who shared information about safety assessments. John began by sharing that a safety analysis is a CNSC licencing requirement and is a systematic evaluation of the potential hazards associated with the conduct of a proposed activity or facility, associated potential initiating events, and their likelihood and consequences. He also noted that a safety analysis considers the effectiveness of preventative measures and strategies in reducing the effects of such hazards. Next John explained the basic approach to risk assessments beginning with hazard identification, accident scenario development and then the risk assessment itself which includes frequency analysis, consequence analysis and risk estimation and ranking. Next, John shared quantitative analysis of specific hazard scenarios for uranium and beryllium. He explained that scenarios are modelled using the Department of Energy document which is a structured and

accepted way to determine how much airborne material could leave the facility in an accident. He explained that Arcadis used widely accepted limits from Emergency Response Planning Guideline (ERPGs) which are planning tools to help anticipate human adverse effects to the general public caused by chemical exposure and Temporary Emergency Exposure Limits (TEEL) which are used until ERPGs are adopted for chemicals. John stated this is a very conservative process. John then shared a hazard scenarios table with the two most significant events that could be contemplated for the Peterborough facility. These events are a large fire and a structural collapse of BWXT NEC's buildings. John noted that all scenarios are below the criteria for shelter and evacuation and would be very unlikely to occur over the lifetime of the facility. John also shared that beryllium releases during emergency events were analyzed and that due to the small quantities available on site, off-site emissions are negligible. Next, John shared that there are many safety systems in place to ensure defence in depth such as facility design (National Fire Code, National Building Code), operational controls (design control, operating procedures, maintenance procedures, monitoring procedures, change control, Systematic Approach to Training), emergency preparedness (emergency plan, emergency drills and training, coordination with local emergency responders) and fire safety systems (fire alarms, sprinkler systems, portable fire extinguishers, and specialty fire suppression systems). A CLC member asked if an evacuation plan has been designed and Dave shared that BWXT NEC does have a fire safety plan which includes building evacuation information. Another CLC member asked if the plan includes evacuating neighbours. Dave shared no because the analysis demonstrates that the worst-case radiological scenario still does not require offsite evacuation and that there would be low offsite consequences. Dave also shared that the fire department could choose to evacuate neighbours as they could for any fire or response to any emergency. Dave noted that BWXT NEC tours through every shift of the fire department so they understand our operations and facility. He continued to note that BWXT NEC would provide information to the fire department when they arrive to the scene so they can make decisions based on the situation. A CLC member asked if there is potential for off-site emissions from an emergency. Dave shared that if water entered the facility (to put out a fire) that the facility is designed to contain water. He noted there is a berm to contain water in the uranium pellet loading area of the facility which would contain water or exclude floodwater. A CLC member asked what happens after the water is contained. Dave shared that BWXT NEC uses defense in depth approach. The intention is to get the facility out of an emergency and into a recovery phase. The water would be contained, collected and sampled to ensure below release limits. If required, it would be removed from the facility by a pump truck. A CLC member asked if a hazard scenario analysis had been completed for the entire property, inclusive of the GE buildings. Dave shared that BWXT NEC's safety assessment is for BWXT operations only. A CLC member noted it would be helpful for BWXT NEC to share more clearly on its website what buildings the company occupies. Natalie noted that this was good feedback. A CLC member asked what would happen if an accident occurred in the middle of the property and affected both BWXT NEC and GE. Dave shared that there would be coordination between GE and BWXT NEC where necessary. Natalie also noted that BWXT NEC has its Public Information and Disclosure Protocol which would be used to communicate information to the public and neighbours on the incident and that coordination with GE would occur naturally. John concluded

by noting that overall, a wide variety of potential internal and external events were analyzed including severe weather, fire and airplane crash. He shared that significant hazard sources were analyzed including uranium dioxide powder, pellets and beryllium. John explained that all hazards were analyzed and screened, with quantitative analysis performed and that the safety analysis concluded radiological facility risks are all low and there are no scenarios that require evacuation or sheltering of the public due to radiological risk.

Kathleen Augustin then provided some updates on BWXT NEC's Public Information Program starting by sharing that the summer newsletter had recently been posted on the public website ([nec.bwxt.com](http://nec.bwxt.com)), mailed to ~5,000 neighbours, emailed to BWXT NEC's contact list and shared on social media. Kathleen then noted that there has been an ongoing public disclosure on false sprinkler alarms due to work being done by the city water supply which is causing transient pressures. She shared that the website is up-to-date with all public disclosures. Kathleen explained that due to COVID-19 restrictions, the annual community BBQ is not occurring but instead that BWXT NEC will be holding a virtual webinar in the fall. She noted that this is a great opportunity for participants to ask questions and allows for two-way dialogue in a virtual setting. She also shared that attendees can enter for a chance to win a local prize basket and asked the CLC members to provide suggestions for the gift basket to support local businesses. One CLC member shared that she should look into purchasing items from the living local box, farmers market and a The Boro gift card. Next Kathleen shared some recent support in the community, noting that BWXT NEC's team, the BWXT Xtreme Paddlers, participated in the virtual Dragon Boat Festival and highlighted that the team raised \$3000 and that the company was a sponsor of the festival and an activity during the event. She shared that BWXT NEC provided Fleming College students in the School of Trades and Technology with awards, participated in a Spring Fundraiser across BWXT's Canada locations for local food banks (raised \$11,400), sponsored and judged at the Peterborough Regional Science Fair and participated as a judge at the Fleming College Innovation & Technology Showcase. Kathleen asked CLC members to provide her with any ideas for volunteering and supporting the community.

Natalie then shared with the CLC some concerned citizens and groups in the community to ensure CLC members understand the broad perspectives in the community. Natalie shared the website for a local Peterborough Group called Citizens Against Radioactive Neighbourhoods (CARN) and noted they have Facebook and Twitter accounts. She also shared they held a webinar on June 23. A CLC member asked if BWXT NEC attended the webinar. Natalie shared that BWXT NEC was not invited/did not attend the webinar and respects CARN's ability to hold events without BWXT NEC's involvement. A CLC member noted he was at the event and spoke to the audience at the webinar about the design of independent monitoring. He said there was about 25-30 attendees and shared the event was well-organized. He also shared that he informed the organizers that he participates as a member on the CLC. Natalie then shared the name of a local activist, Zach Ruiter, noting that he writes for West End Phoenix, Now Magazine, Trent Arthur and shared he was recently featured on Project Save the World Podcast. Next Natalie shared a group called Ontario Clean Air Alliance and noted there is a Toronto group who created a [change.org](https://www.change.org) petition called Stop BWXT's licence

renewal. Natalie explained the importance of the CLC knowing the views and opinions of those concerned with our facility, hence sharing these sources for review.

Next Natalie provided an overview of improvements to BWXT NEC's Public Information Program, sharing that a number of items had been implemented and completed, such as: surveying the community, initiating a CLC in Peterborough, creating social media profiles, increasing mailing distribution of newsletters and other paper mailings, adding more documentation and monitoring data to the public website, holding the community BBQ and/or virtual events, adding insurance information to the public website, obtaining feedback from CLC on the Terms of Reference, establishing a Co-Chair role on the CLC, establishing an annual CLC evaluation and engaging industry representatives on best practices for a CLC. Natalie shared the following items are ongoing and in progress and some are contingent upon events and the stage of the COVID-19 pandemic: improving relationships with Indigenous communities, obtaining feedback on a continual or ad hoc basis, engaging with real estate associations, advertising in the community, involving local schools in safety drills, discussing recruitment for CLC with CLC members, distributing public friendly emergency materials and developing a media strategy to address topics of concern. A CLC member asked if BWXT NEC could share the feedback from the industry on best practices for a CLC. Natalie shared that this could be discussed at a future meeting. Another CLC member asked about making the CLC an ethical place where all members are comfortable having discussions. The CLC Co-Chair noted that he would be a good person to discuss this with further.

The meeting terminated. Next meeting date to be scheduled in September, 2021.