Environmental Defence Interrogatory #6

Interrogatory

Reference:
Ex. D2-2-7

Questions:

(a) Please provide a table comparing the Darlington refurbishment schedule: (i) at the time of the previous payment amounts application; and (ii) currently. Please provide this on a unit-by-unit basis.
(b) Please describe the dates at which off-ramps can be exercised with respect to the units at Darlington (if any).
(c) Who will decide whether to exercise any off-ramps?
(d) What factors will be considered?
(e) Please provide any reports to the OPG Board of Directors regarding potential off-ramps for the Darlington units.

Response

a) See Ex. L-D2-02-Staff-135.

b) At this time, OPG has no expectation of exercising “off-ramps” with respect to the refurbishment of the subsequent units at Darlington, nor any expectation that the Government of Ontario would direct OPG to off-ramp and cancel the refurbishment of the subsequent units.

c) As provided in EB-2016-0152, L-4.3-1 Staff-44, OPG would expect that any decisions regarding the on-going feasibility of the schedule or the plan to refurbish the subsequent units at Darlington would only be made after a rigorous process of evaluation similar to the one which was undertaken on the decision to proceed with the refurbishment of the Darlington units. OPG expects the evaluations and decision-making would involve OPG, the Independent Electricity System Operator, the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Finance, other relevant Ministries, and the Cabinet.

d) As discussed in EB-2016-0152, Ex. L-4.3-1 Staff-44, beyond being guided by the 2013 LTEP principles for nuclear refurbishment, OPG has no insights into what factors the Government of Ontario would consider in making a decision to direct OPG to take an off-ramp.

e) OPG declines to provide the requested information on the basis of relevance. The Province of Ontario through “its most recent Long-Term Energy Plan, and through a specific endorsement to proceed with the refurbishment of Unit 3" (Ex. D2-1-1, p. 6), has indicated its continuing support for DRP and has not invoked an off-ramp. As such, an investigation into off-ramps is not within the scope of this proceeding.