Environmental Defence Interrogatory #24

Interrogatory

Reference:
Ex. F2-8-1

Questions:

(a) Where will the nuclear waste from new reactors be stored in the long-term?
(b) How will the nuclear waste be transported to that long-term storage site?
(c) Please provide a map showing the potential long-term storage sites and the transportation routes between them and the proposed site for potential new nuclear generation.
(d) Does OPG feel it is safe to transport nuclear waste on Ontario's highways? If yes, please explain why.
(e) Does OPG feel it is safe to transport nuclear waste on Ontario's highways indefinitely?
(f) When the NWMO conducted its review of long-term storage sites for nuclear waste, what was the planned date for end of the production of nuclear waste in Ontario? Please provide an answer with reference to: (i) the NWMO's materials; and (ii) OPG's own knowledge of the subject.
(g) Does having a single site for long-term storage still make sense if nuclear power will be produced indefinitely and will therefore need to be transported to that site indefinitely.
(h) Does OPG believe that the storage of long-term nuclear waste is irrelevant to the prudence of building new nuclear reactors?
(i) What is OPG's estimate of the cost to store all of the waste that will be produced by Pickering and Darlington in a final storage location? Please provide both an annual estimate for as far as possible and a cost over the lifetime of the fuel. Please discuss the confidence with which OPG makes this estimate.
(j) Please provide a table showing when the costs referred to in (i) will be or have been recovered from ratepayers. Please ensure the answer provides a breakdown between the amounts already recovered and the amounts not recovered.
(k) Is the amount referred to in (i) included in the $/MWh figures for nuclear power in OPG's benchmarking studies? If in part no, please provide the amount that is excluded ($).

Response

a) – e)

OPG declines to produce the requested information on the basis of relevance. OPG is not seeking recovery of any funding for SMR development in this application, as set out in Ex. L-F2-08-AMPCO-159. Further, an examination of the nuclear waste disposal questions posed would not be relevant to any issue in this application.

f) For nuclear station end-of-life assumptions underlying OPG's nuclear liability costs sought in this application, see Ex. F4-1-1, Chart 1.

g) - h)

See part a).

i) - j)

For the revenue requirement impact of OPG's nuclear liabilities for the IR term, see Ex. C2-1-1 and, for the period going back to 2005, see Ex. L-C2-01-Staff-086.

k) Used fuel disposal & storage variable expenses are excluded from the Total Generating Cost per MWh benchmarking calculation, for the reasons set out in Ex. L-F2-01-Environmental Defence-012. These costs can be found at Ex. F2-5-1 for the IR term.