

May 3 2026

**Subject: Submission by Wesleyville United Church Cemetery Board – Proposed Nuclear-Power Project at Wesleyville (Reference No. 89802)**

**To the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
From the Wesleyville United Church Cemetery Board**

The Wesleyville United Church Cemetery is located at 2082 Lake Shore Road Port Hope. It has been in continuous operation since the 1860s and remains an active cemetery today.

The Wesleyville United Church Cemetery Board (hereafter referred to as “the Board”) is the licensed operator of the Wesleyville United Church Cemetery, holding Cemetery Operator License No. OP-3291043 issued under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (Ontario). The cemetery is located in close proximity to Ontario Power Generation’s (OPG) proposed nuclear-power project in Wesleyville.

The Board is responsible for the long-term operation, maintenance, and protection of the cemetery in accordance with applicable Ontario law, including the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 and corresponding regulations. The cemetery is both a place of burial and a site of community and spiritual significance, and the Board has a duty to protect the integrity of interment rights and the grounds of the cemetery in perpetuity.

The Board wishes to express its concerns regarding the potential impacts of the proposed Nuclear-Power Project at Wesleyville Project on the cemetery, including but not limited to:

- Physical disturbance to cemetery, access route, burial sites and operations;
- Impacts on groundwater, soil stability, or subsurface conditions that could affect grave-site integrity and or the ongoing active operation of the cemetery;
- Visual, noise, or traffic impacts that may affect the quiet and respectful character of the cemetery; and
- Any long-term restrictions or conditions that could prevent the cemetery from continuing to operate as an active burial ground.

The Board’s position is this:

The Wesleyville United Church Cemetery must not be disturbed, closed, or prevented from continuing to be used and operated as a cemetery as a result of the OPG project or any of its associated activities, infrastructure, or long-term operations.

In light of this, the Board respectfully requests that the federal impact-assessment process, Integrated Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines and Public Participation Plan, include, consider, require and ensure the following :

1. Require OPG to clearly demonstrate that the project, its associated infrastructure and resulting completed operation will not disturb or encroach upon or prevent the operation of the cemetery, and that no future development or expansion of the nuclear facility will impact the cemetery's boundaries, access or operation as an active cemetery.
2. Require OPG to commit, as a condition of any federal approval, to long-term monitoring and mitigation measures to protect the cemetery, including but not limited to any air, surface, subsurface or groundwater impacts, and to ensure that the cemetery remains fully operational and accessible in the future.
3. Ensure that any conditions or undertakings imposed on OPG explicitly recognize the Board's legal and fiduciary obligations under provincial cemetery law, including those tied to the Board's cemetery-operator licence, and prevent any project-related restrictions or liabilities that would impair the cemetery's ability to continue to provide burial services and maintain perpetual-care obligations to families and the community.

The Board urges the Agency to give full consideration to the unique and enduring nature of the cemetery, and to any potential impacts on the rights and expectations of those buried in and interred at the Wesleyville United Church Cemetery, as well as of the families and community who rely on the cemetery for future burials.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

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