



Labourers'
International
Union of
North America

LiUNA!

Feel the Power

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General President

March 10, 2026

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Impact Assessment Agency
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To Whom It May Concern:

JOSEPH S. MANCINELLI
Canadian Director

**Re: Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project
-Federal Impact Assessment-**

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I write to you on behalf of the Labourers' International Union of North America (LiUNA), the LiUNA Ontario Provincial District Council, and our affiliated local unions in the province. We are pleased to submit this letter in support of the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project as part of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's review process. LiUNA represents over one hundred thousand construction workers across Ontario, including a significant number who live and work in rural and regional communities such as Grey County, Bruce County, Huron County, and the broader Georgian Bay region.

LiUNA has consistently supported major, nation-building infrastructure projects that deliver durable economic benefits, create good-paying, family-sustaining jobs, and strengthen Canada's clean and reliable energy future. The Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project exemplifies these objectives. For communities in the Huron-Bruce and Georgian Bay region, the project represents a rare opportunity to anchor long-term economic activity, sustain local employment, and reinforce the region's role as a cornerstone of Ontario's electricity system.

From a workforce and regional economic perspective, the project is of exceptional importance. Independent analysis conducted by the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis (CANCEA) demonstrated the scale of employment and economic opportunity associated with the project. Over its lifecycle, it is expected in excess of 41,000 person-years of employment, including approximately 17,600 person-years of direct employment associated with the construction and long-term operation of the facility.

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In addition, the project is projected to support approximately 7,000 jobs across Ontario's manufacturing, construction, and industrial supply chains, many of which are expected to benefit workers and businesses located in nearby rural and regional communities.

For the Grey–Bruce and Huron County region in particular, these employment opportunities are especially meaningful. Large-scale infrastructure projects of this nature provide stable, long-duration construction employment that allows skilled trades workers to remain in their home communities rather than seeking work elsewhere. This supports local families, sustains small businesses, and strengthens municipal tax bases. LiUNA members are highly trained, safety-focused, and experienced in delivering complex energy infrastructure, and the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project aligns directly with the skills and expertise that already exist in the regional workforce.

The project also presents important opportunities for workforce development and training in the Georgian Bay region. LiUNA has made significant investments in training centres, apprenticeship programs, and safety certification, and is committed to expanding access to careers in the skilled trades for youth, Indigenous peoples, and other under-represented groups. The scale and duration of construction associated with the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project create a strong platform to align local hiring, training, and apprenticeship intake with project delivery, ensuring that regional and Indigenous communities can participate meaningfully in both construction and long-term operations.

LiUNA also supports the project because of its strategic role within Ontario's long-term electricity system and its importance to the emerging Huron–Bruce energy hub. Ontario is entering a period of sustained electricity demand growth driven by population growth, electrification, advanced manufacturing, and energy-intensive industries. Meeting this demand will require not only new generation capacity, but also large-scale, flexible storage solutions that enhance system reliability and affordability. Pumped storage is a proven, long-lived technology that can operate for many decades, providing enduring value to the electricity system and to the communities that host it.

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In this context, the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project aligns directly with the planned expansion of nuclear generation at Bruce Power, including the proposed “Bruce C” project. Together, expanded nuclear output, high-voltage transmission investment, and large-scale pumped storage position the Huron–Bruce region as one of the most significant clean energy hubs in Canada. Pumped storage will enable the efficient use of clean, off-peak nuclear generation while providing dispatchable power during periods of peak demand, enhancing overall system flexibility and resilience for the province as a whole.

LiUNA further recognizes the importance of investing in long-term, domestically built infrastructure that strengthens regional and provincial supply chains. The Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project represents a Canadian-built asset that relies on domestic labour, materials, and expertise, supporting construction and manufacturing activity across Ontario, including in rural and regional communities. At a time of global supply-chain uncertainty, investments of this nature help anchor economic activity locally while delivering infrastructure that will serve Ontarians for generations.

Equally important, LiUNA strongly supports the project’s partnership with Indigenous communities, including the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, whose traditional territory includes lands and waters in the Georgian Bay region. Meaningful Indigenous participation in major infrastructure development, through partnership, shared economic opportunity, and long-term involvement in project planning and delivery, is essential to advancing reconciliation. The Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project demonstrates how large-scale energy infrastructure can be developed collaboratively with Indigenous partners in a way that delivers lasting economic, employment, and community benefits at the regional level.

LiUNA recognizes the important role of the federal Impact Assessment process in evaluating both the potential impacts and the significant benefits of major projects. We encourage the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada to consider the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project’s substantial contributions to regional job creation, rural economic development, clean energy integration, Indigenous partnership, and electricity system reliability alongside environmental and community considerations as part of its review.

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For these reasons, LiUNA believes the Ontario Pumped Storage Hydropower Project represents a project of regional, provincial, and national importance and merits timely advancement through the federal Impact Assessment process.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input and look forward to continued engagement as the assessment proceeds.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



Joseph S. Mancinelli
International Vice President,
Canadian Director and
Central & Eastern Canada
Regional Manager

- cc: The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, MP
Minister of the Environment, Climate Change and Nature
- cc: The Honourable Tim Hodgson, MP
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
- cc: The Honourable David McGuinty, MP
Minister of National Defence
- cc: Alex Ruff, MP (Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound)
- cc: Jack Oliveira, Business Manager, LiUNA OPDC
- cc: Brandon MacKinnon, Business Manager, LiUNA Local 1059