



NEWS RELEASE

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Energy minister offers encouragement and kudos to DSEA Province is committed to help make Durham the “energy centre of the GTA”

[DURHAM, ON] -- The Durham Strategic Energy Alliance (DSEA) received a vote of confidence from Ontario’s Minister of Energy, the Honourable Donna Cansfield when she spoke at the group’s inaugural event in its breakfast series.

Speaking to a crowd of more than 200 participants from industry, academia and government, Dec. 1 at Tosca Banquet Hall in Oshawa, the minister said she would be pleased to assist DSEA in making Durham the “energy centre of the GTA”.

“Durham is clearly home to some visionary businesses, which have come together to act as a catalyst. Durham is also clearly home to progressive governments,” the minister said.

Minister Cansfield praised the timely return to service of Ontario Power Generation’s Pickering Nuclear Unit 1 reactor. She also recognized the contribution of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and Durham College as a model of energy efficiency and for the research in energy generation and conservation.

Durham Region will be a centre for “great learning and great innovation,” Ms. Cansfield said.

In her speech, Ms. Cansfield outlined the government’s own progressive plans to “maximize existing generation and transmission and create a conservation culture” in Ontario.

The DSEA breakfast event took place just one day after Durham Regional council unanimously endorsed a resolution by the Municipality of Clarington supporting the addition of new CANDU nuclear reactors at the Ontario Power Generation Darlington Nuclear site.

“In the next 15 years the Province will be challenged with refurbishing or replacing as much as 80 per cent of Ontario’s electricity generation assets while attempting to meet the increased demand for electricity as our economy continues to grow,” said DSEA Chair Michael Angemeer. “Durham Region already has the expertise, infrastructure and strong community support to lead the province with the innovative solutions it will require for this task. We are looking for other partners from around the globe to come to Durham and participate in this important, collaborative effort.”

“New build nuclear at Ontario Power Generation’s Darlington site is one component of that crucial mix. Other innovative, environmentally sound forms of generation, strong transmission and delivery systems as well as solid policy and development in conservation and peak electricity demand reduction will be vital to meeting the challenge ahead,” he added.

DSEA looks forward to working with our municipal partners as well as the provincial and federal levels of government to achieve solutions to meet the electricity needs of Ontario’s citizens, institutions and businesses.

For more information on DSEA, visit www.dsea.ca.

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