

Response from Sarah Jama of the NDP

Question #1: Should the Government of Canada issue Clean Electricity Regulations that:

- a. Prohibit the building of new gas plants in Ontario effective immediately; and**
- b. Require Ontario to move to a net zero carbon electricity grid by 2030?**

Ontario has the resources with demand response, energy efficiency, new renewables and imports from Quebec to meet our short-term needs without costly new gas plants. Instead of increasing fossil fuel generation, we need to accelerate decarbonization in Ontario, which requires an electricity system that is reliable, affordable and carbon-free. We support federal regulations to ensure that Ontario and other provinces move quickly away from fossil fuel generation to a net zero grid.

We share the position of Environmental Defence and the David Suzuki Foundation, that the system should be net-zero by 2035. Beyond that, strenuous efforts should be made to get as close to zero as is possible by 2030 while ensuring system reliability and affordability.

Question #2: Should OPG be required to build above-ground, attack-resistant, reinforced concrete vaults away from the Lake Ontario shoreline to hold Darlington's radioactive waste?

With respect to nuclear waste, the Ontario NDP supports the recommendation of the International Joint Commission's Great Lakes Water Quality Board to "consider future climate change impacts when determining both the design and location of the interim onsite radioactive waste storage facilities. Specifically, the onsite storage facilities should be hardened, located away from the shorelines and out of future flood risk (i.e., at higher elevations) to prevent the storage facilities from becoming compromised by flooding and erosion."