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OCNI Welcomes Federal Budget 2025: A Framework for Stability, Predictability, and Critical Infrastructure Investment in Nuclear

The Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI) welcomes the measures outlined in the 2025 Federal Budget. OCNI noted that the Budget builds on government announcements over recent years and provides stability and predictability essential for advancing the role of Canada's nuclear sector in strengthening global competitiveness, increasing energy security, and providing sustainable energy for economic growth.

"Budget 2025 reinforces a commitment to building critical, generational infrastructure that will underpin Canada's future economy and provide clean, reliable power for decades," said Ivette Vera-Perez, President & CEO of OCNI. "The support for policy predictability, combined with clear mechanisms to accelerate major projects, will enable our industry and supply chain to meet the significant demand for nuclear technology both at home and abroad."

Accelerating Generational Infrastructure and Improving Regulatory Efficiency

The Budget outlines concrete steps to streamline the approval and construction of major projects, which OCNI views as a critical measure to de-risk investment:

- OCNI welcomes the establishment of the Major Projects Office (MPO), which is
 designed to accelerate the delivery of nation-building infrastructure. The
 inclusion of the Darlington New Nuclear Project as one of the first projects
 referred to the MPO highlights the project's strategic national importance. This
 project is positioned to make Canada the first G7 country to deploy a grid-scale
 Small Modular Reactor (SMR).
- OCNI supports the government's commitment to achieving the goal of "one project, one review", an important step towards reducing regulatory duplication and providing a more efficient, coordinated process for complex nuclear projects.

Certainty in Clean Energy Investment Tax Credits (ITCs)

The clarity provided in the Budget regarding Investment Tax Credits offers essential financial predictability for the supply chain:

- The commitment to introduce legislation for the Clean Electricity ITC, alongside confirmation of its retroactive eligibility provides a secure investment framework for developers.
- The expanded eligibility requirements for nuclear power production under the Clean Technology ITC, with retroactive effect to March 28, 2023, ensures nuclear technology is fully supported by federal incentives, allowing for predictable planning and financing.

Strengthening Nuclear Export Potential

The Budget also proposes strategic investments to enhance the nuclear sector's global market access:

- The proposal to provide \$4.2 million over three years to Natural Resources Canada to maintain and strengthen capacity to promote nuclear energy exports and strategic engagement in key international markets acknowledges the sector's global potential.
- The Budget explicitly identifies Canadian nuclear technology as a clean technology for export to the Indo-Pacific Region, recognizing the opportunities for Canadian expertise and innovations in sustainable urbanization abroad.
- Additional funding through CanExport will assist small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the nuclear supply chain in diversifying their exports and pursuing international business development.

OCNI will continue to work with its partners to engage with governments at all levels, advocating for Canada's world-class nuclear supply chain and the multiple benefits it brings to the country including long-term and well-paying jobs, healthy communities, and sustainable economic growth.

To download the federal budget Click Here