Former COG CEO appointed new AECL leader

JAN. 8, 2021 — Former CANDU Owners Group (COG) President and CEO Fred Dermarkar has been appointed by the federal government to take the helm of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), effective Feb. 7.

Dermarkar will replace Richard Sexton as AECL’s president and CEO. Sexton served in the role for two years (including two additional years as interim president) and retires after 38 years in the nuclear industry.

Dermarkar joins AECL following six years leading COG. During his tenure, Dermarkar advanced the COG collaboration model and strengthened the organization through enhanced program delivery, continuous improvement in services and improved business efficiency.

In 2019, Dermarkar received the Ian McRae Award given to an individual for substantive contributions, other than scientific, to the advancement of nuclear energy in Canada. He brings approximately 40 years of nuclear industry experience to AECL.

AECL is currently a COG program participant and was one of COG’s founding members in 1984. It transferred its membership to Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) in 2015 after CNL became accountable for management of AECL’s sites, facilities and assets.

AECL is a federal Crown corporation with a mandate to enable nuclear science and technology and to protect the environment by fulfilling the government’s radioactive waste and decommissioning responsibilities.

Click here for the full AECL announcement.