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Barclay Howden is a professional engineer who graduated from Queen's University in 1981. Mr. Howden worked seven years in nuclear reactor operations at Chalk River Laboratories, three years in nuclear safety assessment with a private engineering firm and, since 1991, he has been in nuclear regulation with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). His experience has been in areas such as new nuclear power plants, nuclear emergency preparedness, non-power reactor licensing and compliance, and regulation of uranium mining. He is presently the Director General of the Directorate of Regulatory Improvement and Major Projects Management and is responsible for regulatory oversight of new nuclear power plants, vendor pre-project design reviews, and improvements to the management system for the CNSC's nuclear regulatory regime.