CMD 19-H4.3

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## Written submission from the Whiteshell Laboratories Public **Liaison Committee**

## Mémoire du Whiteshell Laboratories Public **Liaison Committee**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

## Whiteshell Laboratories

Application to renew the Nuclear Research and Test Establishment Decommissioning Licence for the Whiteshell Laboratories site for a period of ten years

## Laboratoires de Whiteshell

Demande pour le renouvellement, pour une période de dix ans, du permis de déclassement d'un établissement de recherche et d'essais nucléaires pour les Laboratoires de Whiteshell

**Commission Public Hearing** 

Audience publique de la Commission

October 2-3, 2019

Les 2 et 3 octobre 2019





Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

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August 19, 2019

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission 280 Slater Street, P.O. Box 1046, Station B Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

RE: Application from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Ltd. (CNL) to renew its Nuclear Research and Test Establishment Decommissioning Licence (NRTEDL) for the Whiteshell Laboratories (WL)

The Public Liaison Committee (PLC) offers this letter as documentation of the committee's awareness and involvement in the CNL application to renew its Nuclear Research and Test Establishment Decommissioning Licence (NRTEDL) for the Whiteshell Laboratories (WL).

The committee has been in place since 2003 to facilitate two-way communication and consultation with surrounding communities and stakeholders. The committee meets approximately two times a year and includes the following representatives: Acsion Industries Inc.; RM of Lac du Bonnet; Town of Beausejour; Town of Lac du Bonnet; RM of Whitemouth; RM of Brokenhead; The Local Government District of Pinawa; Powerview/Pine Falls; RM of Alexander; Manitoba Sustainable Development (formerly Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship).

As per the committee's Terms of Reference, its mandate is to provide a forum to share information and discuss health, safety, environment and regulatory issues and projects related to the WL decommissioning. The PLC also provides members with an opportunity to report on input and questions received from their constituents and will provide members with timely, accurate information to share back to constituents.

The PLC meets two times per year at minimum. Recent activity of the PLC related to the licence renewal process includes meeting presentations & discussions on May 17, 2018, November 14, 2018 and May 21, 2019.

Topics discussed:

- Environmental protection and monitoring
- Transportation safety
- Fall 2019 license renewal process
- End state planning and value components
- Local economic development
- Asset donation program

The PLC was also notified by email of the Participant Funding Program to assist interested parties in participating in the license renewal hearing process.

In meetings and in feedback provided to the committee's facilitator, the PLC has recommended that CNL continue to maintain current level of effort to communicate with the public. Specific feedback from the committee on effective tactics for communications and engagement have included:

- Social media/Facebook
- The Lac du Bonnet Clipper Newspaper
- Fact Sheets/FAQ

- Attendance at industry events and conferences
- Presentations with Q&A on request
- Indigenous engagement including direct outreach, tours

The PLC continues to discuss the above topics and others related to health, safety, environment and regulatory issues and projects related to the WL decommissioning. At the May 21, 2019 meeting of the PLC, members in attendance expressed satisfaction with the level of information made accessible by CNL regarding river safety. One member noted expressly that "the river is well-protected, with environmental monitoring happening now and post project closure".

Prepared on August 19, 2019 by:

Muly

Michelle Kuly, Blueprint Inc. Whiteshell Laboratories Public Liaison Committee Facilitator

Reviewed and accepted August 31 2019 Whiteshell Laboratories Public Liaison Committee