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**Written submission from the
English River First Nation**

**Mémoire de
l'English River First Nation**

**Regulatory Oversight Report for
Uranium Mines and Mills in
Canada: 2019**

**Rapport de surveillance
réglementaire pour les mines et
usines de concentration d'uranium
au Canada : 2019**

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

December 10, 2020

Le 10 décembre 2020

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November 10, 2020

Jenny Wolverine
General Delivery
Patuanak, SK
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Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St. Ottawa ON
Email: cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

Re: Intervention letter on Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada:
2019

Senior Tribunal Officer:

The English River First Nation (ERFN) and industry have a long history of working together and signed a Collaboration Agreement (CA)¹ in May 2013. The agreement provides a level of stability and predictability around 4 Pillars: Workforce Development, Business Development, Community Investment, and Community Engagement and Environment Stewardship, and formalizes how benefits from uranium mining will be shared with the community.

ERFN is in Treaty 10, with a main settlement at Patuanak, along the Churchill River. The First Nation is composed of seven different reserves with approximately 1400 members: Porter Island, Cree Lake, Elak Dase, Knee Lake, Dipper Rapids, Wapachewunak and La Plonge. In addition, we have lands on the outskirts of Saskatoon. We have focused on opportunities in the mining, construction, forestry, tourism, and service industries for economic development through our business arm, Des Nedhe Management.

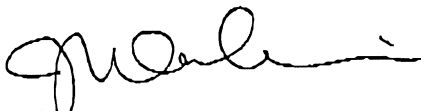
Although Key Lake and McArthur River have remained in care and maintenance since 2018, we continue to make the most of the benefits from our CA and regularly engage with our industry partners. We continue to build on a 25-year history of working together to ensure a mutually beneficial relationship. We share an interest in ensuring that the industry continues to succeed in northern Saskatchewan, while maintaining strong environmental stewardship.

¹ The Parties to the ERFN Collaboration Agreement are Cameco Corporation, Orano Canada Inc., and English River First Nation.

As detailed in the CA, Cameco, Orano, and our community created the Joint Implementation Engagement and Environmental Subcommittee (JIEES), representation from both the community and industry. The JIEES shares information on matters related to the environment, the operations, proposed authorizations, and to address issues raised by the community. The JIEES work to ensure that adequate operational and regulatory updates are reaching the community and ensuring community members are informed and concerns are addressed regarding uranium operations. Related to the 2018 Key Lake Molybdenum Plant release of uranium in the groundwater, Cameco continues to meet with the subcommittee and leadership in to explain the situation, present the site assessment and proposed remediation plan. In response to the concerns raised, we are satisfied with the level of engagement provided so far and the identified path forward.

As Vice-Chief of ERFN, I am pleased to provide a letter regarding the 2019 Regulatory Oversight Report (ROR) for Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada. We feel Cameco has successfully managed the Key Lake, McArthur River and Rabbit Lake operations into a state of safe and stable care and maintenance. We have reviewed the ROR submission and have been well informed and are satisfied with CNSC staff's summary on the performance of the operations.

Sincerely,



Vice-Chief Jenny Wolverine

cc. Kristin Cuddington, Manager, Community and Indigenous Engagement
Glenn LaFleur, Manager, Northern Affairs