



**Written submission from the  
Lac La Ronge Indian Band**

**Mémoire de  
Lac La Ronge Indian Band**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

**Cameco Corporation,  
Cigar Lake Operation**

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**Cameco Corporation,  
établissement de Cigar Lake**

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Application for the renewal of Cameco's  
uranium mine licence for the Cigar Lake  
Operation

Demande de renouvellement du permis de mine  
d'uranium de Cameco pour l'établissement de  
Cigar Lake

**Commission Public Hearing**

**Audience publique de la Commission**

**April 28-29, 2021**

**28 et 29 avril 2021**

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# Lac La Ronge Indian Band

March 16, 2021

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St. Ottawa ON  
Email: [cncs.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cncs.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca)

## **Re: Intervention letter on renewal application for Cameco's uranium mine license for the Cigar Lake Operation**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this intervention letter on behalf of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB).

The LLRIB is the largest First Nation in Saskatchewan, and one of the largest in Canada with over 11,408 band members. The LLRIB lands, 19 reserves in total, extend from farmlands in central Saskatchewan all the way north through the boreal forest to the Churchill River and beyond. We are a Woodland Cree First Nation, members of the Prince Albert Grand Council and we pride ourselves on a commitment to education opportunities, business successes, and improving the well-being of our band members. We manage our own internationally accredited Indian Child and Family Services and have strong business ventures through our Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership and Keethanow Group of Businesses.

In 2020 we completed another full year as partners with Cameco under the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) Collaboration Agreement (CA)<sup>1</sup> signed in 2017. The LLRIB communities created new activities, employment and programs through the CA and the funds were used for a variety of community-based initiatives.

Under the CA, Cameco continues to build on initiatives for the community in areas of business development, workforce development, LLRIB community investments, scholarship programs and community engagement. The CA has made it possible for infrastructure programs, administrative services, education, health, public safety, environmental protection, culture, sports, recreation, and business development.

Under the agreement, Cameco and the Traditional Lands and Resource Advisory Committee maintain open lines of communication to ensure that the LLRIB community is informed, engaged and has a mechanism to address issues raised by the communities. In addition, a Lands and Resource Executive Coordinator was hired in 2019 and directs efforts between Cameco and the committee. Operational information continues to be shared to keep LLRIB informed on the mine sites and on the methods Cameco employs to mitigate environmental impacts and ensure worker safety. During engagement opportunities with the communities, we encourage community members to share questions and concerns about the operations and environment. Traditional land and resource use is of importance to members and Cameco takes measures to ensure that country foods remain safe.

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<sup>1</sup> The Parties to the Lac La Ronge Indian Band Collaboration Agreement are the Lac La Ronge Indian Band and Cameco Corporation.

The LLRIB continues to adapt to a new normal, within the global COVID-19 pandemic. The support Cameco provided through the \$1 Million COVID Relief Fund for Saskatoon and northern Saskatchewan helped us with the challenges we continue to face adapting to the rapidly changing situation. We have been kept well informed of Cameco's proactive precautionary measures at site to ensure the safety of its workers, families, and our community.

Cameco has over 30 years' uranium mining and milling experience in northern Saskatchewan. During this time, Cameco and LLRIB have built a long-standing relationship and I am pleased to provide this letter of support regarding the renewal application for Cameco's uranium mine license for the Cigar Lake Operation. Cigar Lake successfully transitioned through commissioning to full production during the current license term, while maintaining strong performance in the safety and control areas of worker safety, radiation protection, and environmental protection. While in operation and during care and maintenance, we have been well informed about the site and believe Cameco to be an experienced and qualified operator.

Sincerely,



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Chief Tammy Cook-Searson  
Lac La Ronge Indian Band

cc Kristin Cuddington, Manager, Community and Indigenous Engagement, Cameco