CMD 23-H6.35

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## Written submission from the Des Nedhe Group

Mémoire du Des Nedhe Group

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

## **Cameco Corporation, McArthur River Operation and Key Lake Operation**

Cameco Corporation, établissements de McArthur River et de Key Lake

Application for the renewal of uranium mine/mill licences for McArthur River Operation and Key Lake Operation

Demande visant le renouvellement des permis d'exploitation de mines et d'usines de concentration d'uranium pour les établissements de McArthur River et de Key Lake

## **Commission Public Hearing**

Audience publique de la Commission

June 7-8, 2023

7-8 juin 2023





April 24, 2023

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission 280 Slater St. Ottawa ON Email: cnsc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

Subject: Intervention letter in support of Cameco's Application for Licence Renewals for the Key Lake and McArthur River operations

Established in 1991, Des Nedhe Group is the economic development organization of the English River First Nation (ERFN). It was designed initially in response to opportunities created by the fact of uranium activity on ERFN's ancestral homelands. Its purpose is to generate wealth for ERFN, and sustainable employment and business opportunities for ERFN community members.

Tron Construction & Mining Limited Partnership (Tron) is one of the companies that makes up Des Nedhe Group. Tron delivers construction projects to Cameco operations, and has for many years. Tron provides training and employment opportunities for ERFN Band members.

Managed in part by Tron, Mudjatik Thyssen Mining Joint Venture also brings substantial benefits to multiple communities in northern Saskatchewan, providing northern residents and communities with the opportunity to participate in and benefit from the mining industry.

Generally, we believe Cameco is an experienced and qualified operator.

Des Nedhe Group supports the renewal of the operating licences *per se* for the Key Lake and McArthur River operations and asks that the CNSC see fit to renew those licences so that Des Nedhe can continue its important work in northern Saskatchewan, providing opportunities for ERFN band members.

In providing this letter of support, Des Nedhe Group is mindful that its owner ERFN has notable concerns about the length of licence term being requested by Cameco in the within application, and that ERFN plans to bring those concerns forward in its own intervention. Des Nedhe is also mindful that ERFN has communicated to Cameco the need to revisit the terms of the Collaboration Agreement between the two sides aimed, among other things, at growing the level of Des Nedhe participation at Cameco operations. I support those critical efforts and objectives.

Sincerely,

Sean Willy

President and CEO