



Oral presentation

Exposé oral

**Written submission from
Athabasca Basin Development**

**Mémoire de
Athabasca Basin Development**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

**Cameco Corporation, Rabbit Lake
Operation**

**Cameco Corporation, établissement de
Rabbit Lake**

Application for the renewal of uranium
mine/mill licence for Rabbit Lake Operation

Demande visant le renouvellement du permis
d'exploitation de mine et d'usine de
concentration d'uranium pour l'établissement
de Rabbit Lake

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

June 7-8, 2023

7-8 juin 2023

April 21, 2023

Commission Registry, Senior Tribunal Officer
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St.
Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5S9
interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca

Attention: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Tribunal Chair and Commission

Re: Intervention letter on renewal application for Cameco's uranium mine and mill licences for Key Lake, McArthur, and Rabbit Lake

We would like to submit this letter in support of Cameco's application to receive a new licence term for the Key Lake, McArthur, and Rabbit Lake operations.

Through our direct ownership investment in northern enterprises and joint ventures, Athabasca Basin Development (ABD) is a participant in these long-standing operations and our goal is to remain a major contractor to Cameco for years to come.

ABD is an investment company owned by seven remote communities in the Athabasca region. We originally began by providing services primarily to the mining industry that was operating near these communities. However, since our inception 20 years ago, we have grown to include complete and partial ownership in 14 established companies that provide a wide range of services both in and outside the uranium mining industry, with operations that have spanned across 8 Canadian provinces and employs over 1000 people. Our investments include mining security, construction, electrical, aviation, drilling, retail, IT, and more.

For many residents of the Athabasca Basin region of northern Saskatchewan, gaining employment at the mine or at one of the ABD companies is the first step towards permanent employment. Almost all of these northern residents are Indigenous Canadians, most of whom are from predominantly Dene-speaking communities, including Fond du Lac, Stony Rapids, Black Lake, Hatchet Lake, Wollaston, Camsell Portage and Uranium City.

Cameco has been a strong partner for us for many years. During the current licence term, Cameco transitioned Rabbit Lake, Key Lake, and McArthur River into a safe state care and maintenance and recently transitioned Key Lake and McArthur River back into production. Over the years, Cameco has contracted many of our investments and employed local people, providing workforce development programs. We observed that Cameco prioritized health, safety and the environment, and kept us well informed of activities.




We appreciate the mandate of the CNSC and its interest in all matters related to safe uranium mining. We also appreciate the strong safety and health focus within all of Cameco's operations and understand fully that under their contractor management programs all safety rules such as conducting a job hazard analysis before starting on a work site project, apply equally to our investment's workers and managers while they are working at a Cameco site. We appreciate the diligence in which Cameco's safety personnel, including their radiation safety staff, work with contractors to focus on keeping all workers safe and healthy.

We believe Cameco has proven to be a competent operator and we look forward to working with Cameco to support these operations into the future.

I would appreciate the opportunity to appear in person at the hearings on June 7/8 in order to elaborate how our companies are using our strong relationship with Cameco and the uranium industry as a springboard for community and workforce development.

Sincerely,



Geoff Gay
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of the Board
Athabasca Basin Development
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