



**Written submission from the
Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy
and Resources**

**Mémoire du
Ministère de l'Énergie et des
Ressources de la Saskatchewan**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

Orano Canada Inc., Cluff Lake Project

Orano Canada Inc., Projet de Cluff Lake

Request to Revoke the Current Licence and
Release the Cluff Lake Project to the
Institutional Control Program

Demande visant à révoquer le permis pour le
projet de Cluff Lake et à transférer la propriété
au Programme de contrôle institutionnel

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

March 1, 2023

1^{er} mars 2023

The Institutional Control Program (ICP)

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Hearing – Cluff Lake Project
March 1-2, 2023

Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources

saskatchewan.ca

Saskatchewan! 

Institutional Control Program - Defined

- According to internationally accepted definitions, **Institutional Control** consists of those actions, mechanisms, or arrangements implemented in order to maintain control or knowledge of a waste management site
- A **formal regulatory process** that allows a proponent of a closed mine or mill site on Crown land to transfer the site responsibility back to the province when activities have ended, and remediation is complete
- The Government of Saskatchewan's **successful administration** of the ICP promotes sustainable mining in the province and has been recognized nationally and internationally

Institutional Control Program - Framework

- An interdepartmental **Institutional Control Working Group** was initiated to be responsible for the development of the ICP
- Consultations between the Government of Saskatchewan, federal regulators, Indigenous Nations and communities, special interest groups, and the public resulted in an understanding of the necessary process to establish the ICP
- *The Reclaimed Industrial Sites Act* and *The Reclaimed Industrial Sites Regulations* provide the legislative authority to implement and enforce the ICP
- The Ministry of Energy and Resources was assigned the administrative role

Institutional Control Program - Benefits

Local area residents

- Instills confidence for proper mine closure and allows opportunities to regain access to reclaimed areas for traditional land use

Public

- Confirms funding for long-term monitoring and maintenance of sites by placing the associated costs on the mining companies
- Ensures the health, safety, and well-being of future generations

Mining companies

- Relieves prior agreed upon environmental and financial commitments
- Achieves an operational endpoint that can help facilitate new business decisions

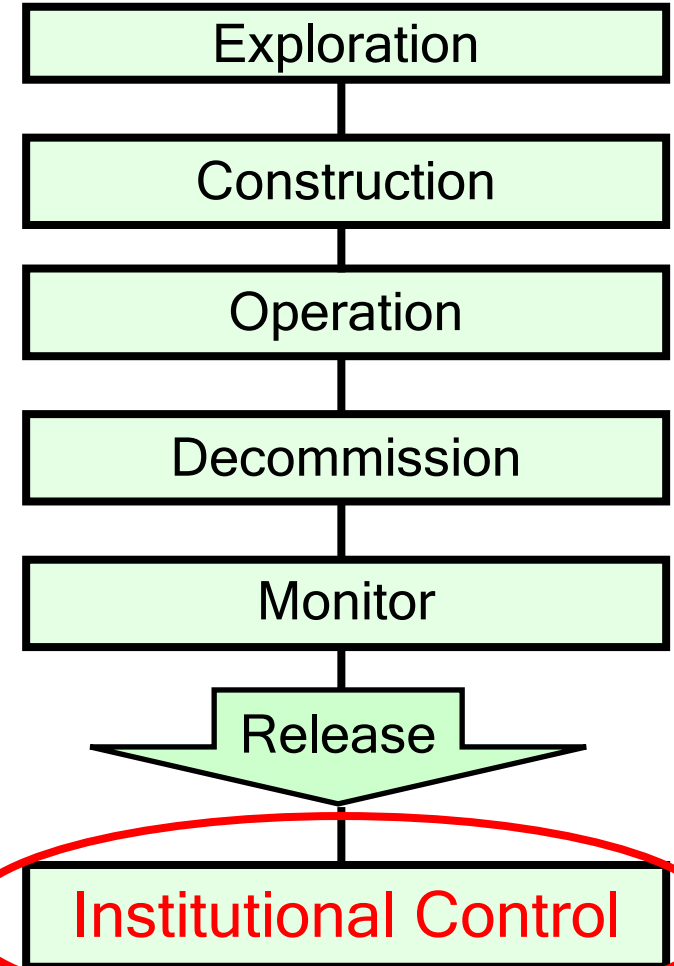
Regulators

- Establishes environmental benchmarks to measure performance objectives
- Improves on the province's regulatory processes

Province

- Mines have a finite lifespan
- Allows the province to regain responsibility of Crown lands

Institutional Control Program – Mining Life Cycle



Institutional Control Program

ICP purpose

- Support the safe, environmentally-sound decommissioning of industrial sites
- Ensure the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of reclaimed sites
- Provide a funding mechanism to cover costs associated with the long-term monitoring and maintenance of reclaimed sites
- Ensure that records and information on the reclaimed sites are preserved through the establishment of a registry

*The
Reclaimed Industrial
Sites Act*

being

Chapter R-4.21 of *The Statutes of Saskatchewan, 2006* (effective March 1, 2007), as amended by the *Statutes of Saskatchewan, 2014, c.E-13.1*; and *2018, c.32*.

NOTE:

This consolidation is not official. Amendments have been incorporated for convenience of reference and the original statutes and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpretation and application of the law. In order to preserve the integrity of the original statutes and regulations, errors that may have appeared are reproduced in this consolidation.

Institutional Control Program

ICP confirms

- Protection of human health and safety
- Consideration for the environment
- Ensure future generations are not burdened with costs of the long-term monitoring and maintenance
- Recognize all jurisdictional regulatory obligations

ICP components

- The Funds
- The Registry

Institutional Control Program - Funds

- Established and protected by legislation
- Proponent contributions are based on site specific responsibility
- One fund for the monitoring and maintenance costs
- One fund for the future unforeseen events costs
- The funds are reviewed and monitored by a Fund Advisory Committee

Letters of Transmittal



The Honourable Bronwyn Eyre
Minister of Energy and
Resources

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Institutional Control Monitoring and Maintenance Fund and the Institutional Control Unforeseen Events Fund for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021.

The Honourable Bronwyn Eyre
Minister of Energy and Resources



Susanna Laaksonen-Craig
Deputy Minister of Energy
and Resources

The Honourable Bronwyn Eyre
Minister of Energy and Resources

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Institutional Control Monitoring and Maintenance Fund and the Institutional Control Unforeseen Events Fund for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021.

Susanna Laaksonen-Craig
Deputy Minister of Energy and Resources

Annual Fund Report

The Institutional Control Monitoring and Maintenance Fund and the
Unforeseen Events Fund 2020-21 Annual Report

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Institutional Control Program – Registry

- Establishes a formal site record
- Defines site specific requirements for acceptance
- Maintains site activities
- Provide public access to records
- Maintains fund records and financial assurances

Institutional Control Registry – Report 2022

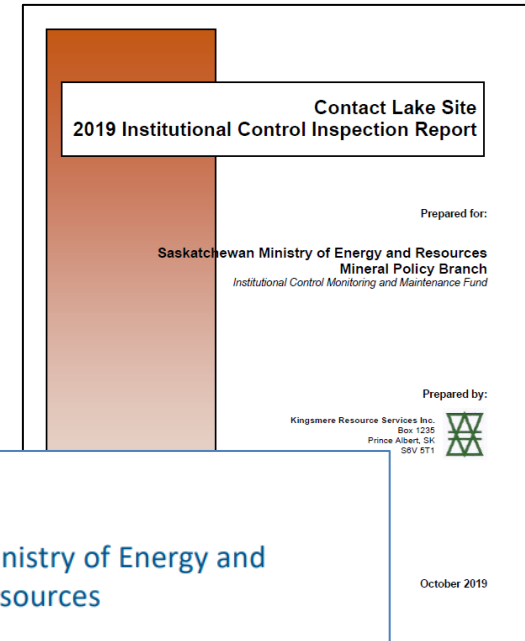
IC REGISTRY	ICR NUMBER	ICR - 01
	Date of Acceptance	May 11, 2009
SITE DATA	Name	Contact Lake Mine
	Site Holder/Operator	Cameco Corporation
	Original Operator	Cameco Corporation
SITE LOCATION	Region	La Ronge
	NTS-50	73P07
SITE DESCRIPTION	Commodity/Mineral	Gold
	Operational History	December 1994 to June 1998
	Operation Description	Mine/mill development including portal, ventilation shafts and tailings facility.
	Decommissioning Description	Mill and tailings facility (Turtle Lake) decommissioned, site reclaimed, revegetation, portal closed.
SITE PERMITS	Release from Decommissioning and Reclamation	IR-15
	Mineral Release/Crown Mineral Reserve	CR-853
	CNSC Exemption (if applicable)	N/A
SITE CONTROLS	Land Use Restrictions	Miscellaneous Use Permit #603089 - no development without application/approval - casual access permitted
	Monitoring/Inspection Results	Inspection in 2019 continued to indicate the site is safe, stable, and secure. Turtle Lake outflow and Scythe Lake surface water samples continued to meet all DWQ objectives and SEQG values.
	Date of Last Monitoring/Maintenance	October 2019
	Monitoring and Maintenance Plan	Visual inspections and environmental monitoring every 5 years. Mine opening closure monitoring and evaluation. After 2024, inspections move to 10 years, after 2044 move to 25 years.
SITE RECORDS	Financial Assurance Plan/Type	Promissory Note
	Monitoring and Maintenance Fund Deposit	\$32,255.72
	Unforeseen Events Fund Deposit	\$6,451.14

Institutional Control Program – Acceptance Process

- **Application** of industrial site for acceptance into the ICP
- Proponent submits a satisfactory **monitoring and maintenance plan** and fulfills all **financial** requirements
- Issuance of a **Release from Decommission and Reclamation Requirements**
- In the case of a nuclear waste or storage site, a release from **licensing** from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
- Proponent **surrenders surface and mineral dispositions**
- **Administrative controls** are implemented to monitor future land use
- Formal **acceptance** of site recorded in the Registry

Institutional Control Program - Management

- Publish an **annual report** describing the business of the **funds** along with financial statements
- Prepare an **Institutional Control Report** every **five** years to be laid before the Legislative Assembly
- Administer the monitoring and maintenance schedule and **communicate inspection outcomes**
- Publish and update the **Registry Report** as new sites enter the ICP
- Review the **program legislation** every **five** years



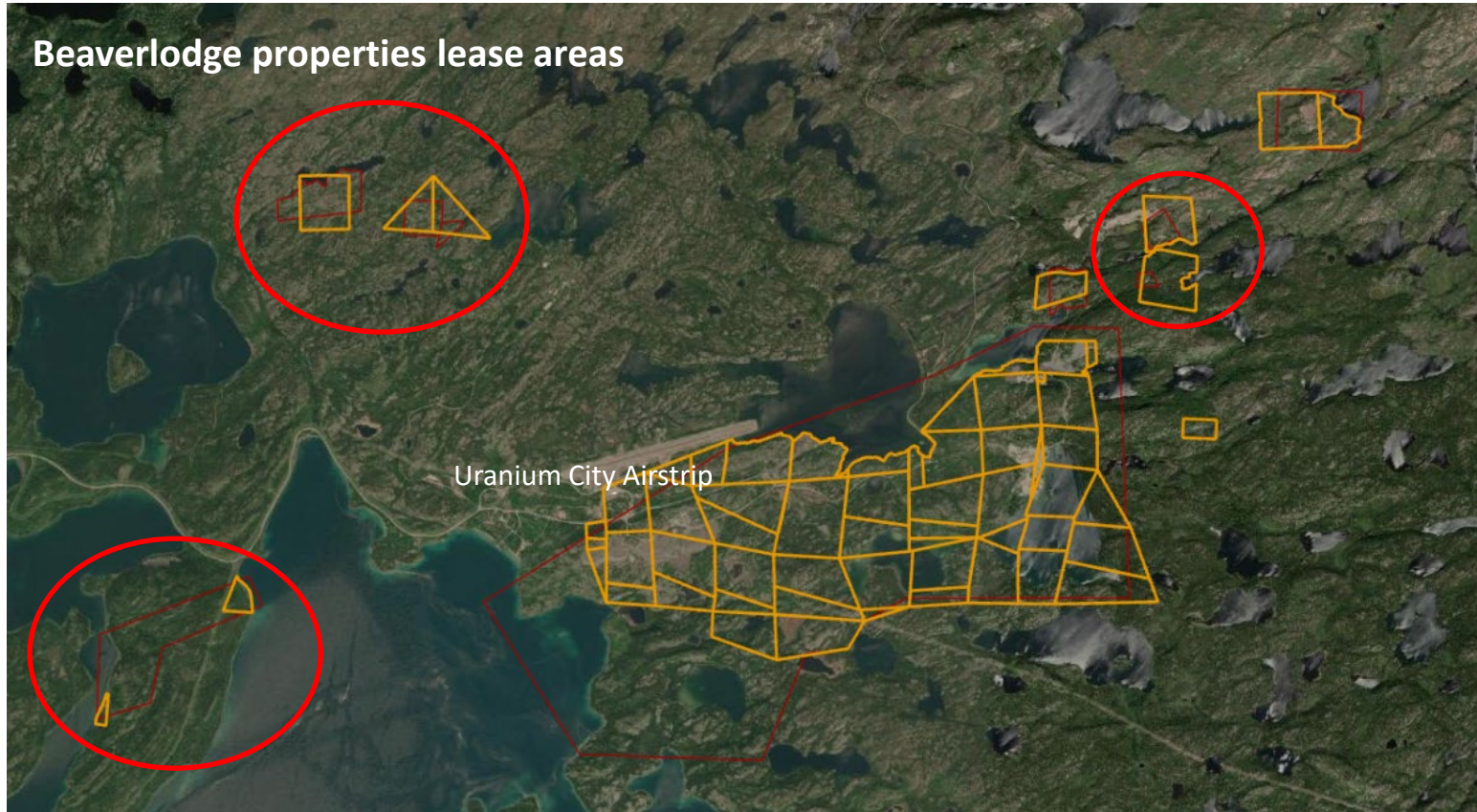
Institutional Control Program - Administration

- In 2009, the former Contact Lake gold mine operation became the first site accepted into the ICP



Institutional Control Program - Administration

- Also in 2009, five Beaverlodge uranium mine properties were accepted into the ICP



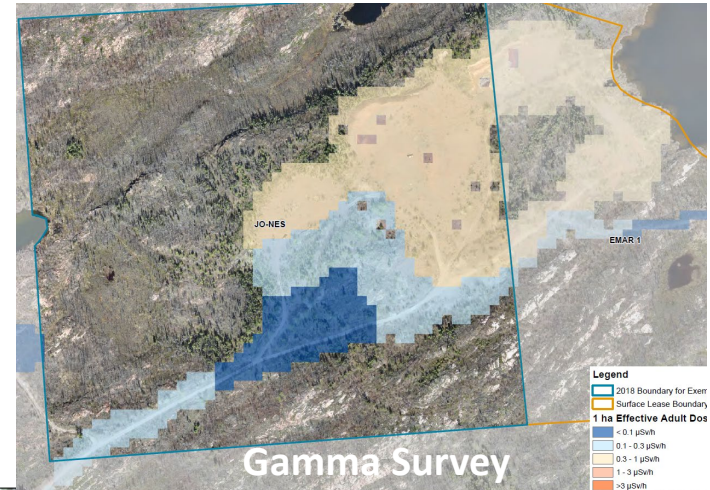
Institutional Control Program - Inspections

- Inspections will include but are not limited to geotechnical analysis of site features, future proposed studies, scheduled site maintenance and continued public engagement



Institutional Control Program – Current Uptake

- 30 accepted closed mining or milling sites:
 - 24 – Beaverlodge uranium properties
 - 4 – Project CLEANS satellite uranium sites (Cleanup of Abandoned Northern Sites)
 - 1 – Gold mine site
 - 1 – Silica sand mine site



Keiller site Adit closure



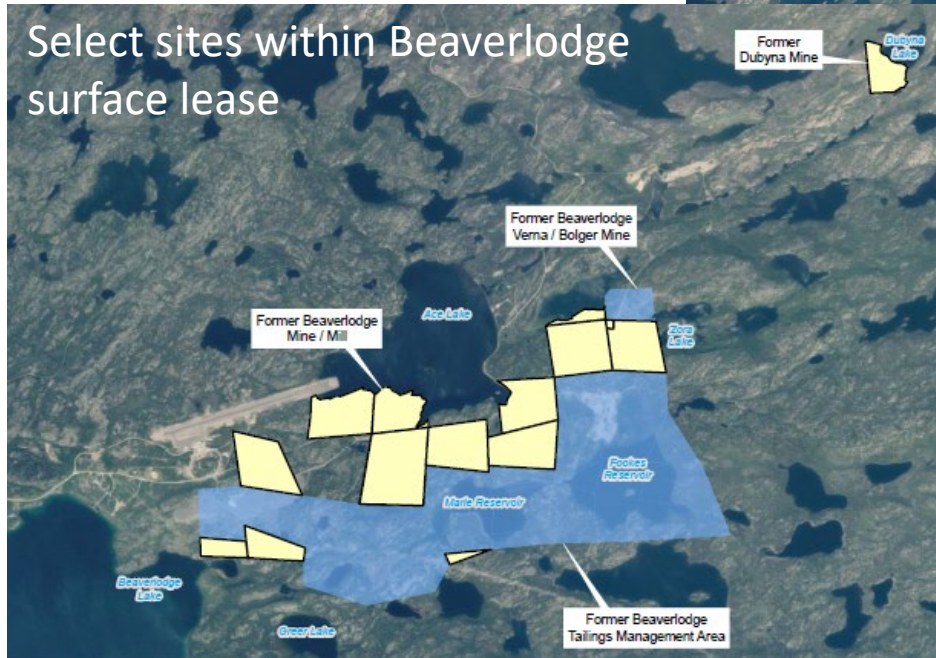
Hanson Lake sand mine site

Institutional Control Program – Immediate Future

- Review and assessment of 18 Beaverlodge uranium sites subject to the March 2022 Commission Hearing



Select sites within Beaverlodge surface lease



Faye Shaft closure

Institutional Control Program – Immediate Future

- Review and assessment of former Cluff Lake uranium mine site



Institutional Control Program – Distant Future

- Review and assessment of the remaining Beaverlodge sites
- Review and assessment of sites associated with Project CLEANs
ie. Saskatchewan Research Council's Lorado Mill site
- Review and assessment of other abandoned mine sites on Crown lands



Cinch/Cenex mine site



Newcor mine site

Institutional Control Program - Summary

- Administered by the Ministry of **Energy and Resources**
- **Collaborative** effort with **provincial and federal regulators** to ensure all aspects of a site are being satisfied
- Accepts fully **remediated mining and milling sites** that are located on Crown lands
- Ensures sites are **monitored and maintained** into the future
- Allows opportunity to **regain access** to former industrial sites
- Establishes an **endpoint** for mining company activities
- **Improves regulatory process** and **advances from historical mining practices**

Institutional Control Program - Information



EN Language

Residents and Visitors

Business and Industry

Government

Home > Business and Industry > Agriculture, Natural Resources and Industry > Mineral Exploration and Mining > Institutional Control

Institutional Control Program

In 2005, Saskatchewan began development of an institutional control framework for the long-term management of decommissioned mine and mill sites on provincial Crown lands. The framework established a formal regulatory process for the long-term monitoring and maintenance of industrial sites when mining or milling activities have ended, remediation has been completed, and the sites are ready to be transferred to provincial responsibility. The process is designed to:

- ensure the health, safety and well-being of future generations;
- protect the environment;
- provide closure for the mining industry; and
- meet national and international standards and requirements.

In 2007, the Institutional Control Program (ICP) was established pursuant to [The Reclaimed Industrial Sites Act](#) and [The Reclaimed Industrial Sites Regulations](#). The ICP's purpose is to:

- support the safe, environmentally-sound decommissioning of mining and mill sites;
- ensure the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of reclaimed sites;
- provide a funding mechanism to cover costs associated with long-term monitoring and maintenance of reclaimed sites; and
- ensure that records and information on the reclaimed sites are preserved through the establishment of a registry.

The two primary components of the ICP are:

- the [Institutional Control Registry](#), which will maintain a formal record of closed sites, manage the funding and perform any required monitoring and maintenance work; and
- the [Institutional Control Funds](#):
 1. the Monitoring and Maintenance Fund: to pay for long-term monitoring and maintenance of a reclaimed site after it is accepted into the ICP; and,
 2. the Unforeseen Events Fund: to pay for any unforeseen future events that are not covered by the Monitoring and Maintenance Fund

The [Institutional Control Program: Post Closure Management of Decommissioned Mine/Mill Properties Located on Crown Land in Saskatchewan](#) discussion paper outlines the operation of the Institutional Control Registry and the requirements for a company to enter a site into the registry.

Publications

Find reports and supporting information related to the sites accepted into the ICP.

Institutional Control Program

The Institutional Control Program (ICP) implements the process for the long-term management of decommissioned mine and mill sites on Crown land after an owner/operator has ended activities, completed decommissioning and reclamation and submits an application to transfer the remediated site into provincial custody.

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[Monitoring and Maintenance Fund and Unforeseen Events Fund Annual Report](#)



[Institutional Control Five-Year Report](#)



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Documents

Institutional Control Registry Report - 2012

The Institutional Control Registry Report provides detailed closed site information. The report is updated as new sites are entered and accepted in the Registry, or as site status changes.

Institutional Control Program: Post Closure Management of Decommissioned Mine/Mill Properties Located on Crown Land in Saskatchewan

December 2018 - This Institutional Control Program discussion paper outlines how the program operates and the requirements for a company to transfer a remediated site into provincial custody and enter the site into the Institutional Control Registry.

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