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**Written submission from the
Saskatchewan Mining Association**

**Mémoire de la Saskatchewan
Mining Association**

**Regulatory Oversight Report for
Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada:
2022**

**Rapport de surveillance réglementaire
des mines et usines de concentration
d'uranium au Canada : 2022**

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

December 13-14, 2023

13-14 décembre 2023

November 10, 2023

Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9
via e-mail: cnscc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

RE: SMA Written Intervention – Regulatory Oversight Report for Operating Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada: 2022

The Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) is the voice of the mining industry in Saskatchewan and has the role of liaison and consultant with government and the public to ensure the safe, profitable and sustainable development of the mineral resources of the province. The SMA represents over 45 mining and exploration companies. Environmental protection and stewardship are important to SMA members as demonstrated by their commitment to environmental planning, monitoring, compliance and reclamation. Our members are also among the largest industrial employers of Indigenous people in Canada.

In 2022, the Saskatchewan mining sector ranked number one in Canada by value of mineral production at \$19.5 billion. Saskatchewan's potash sector was number one in the world with 37% of global potash sales and Saskatchewan's uranium sector was number two globally with 15% of uranium sales.

Our industry annually contributes approximately \$2 billion in federal and provincial royalties and taxes. Saskatchewan's minerals sector accounts for approximately 12% of provincial GDP. Saskatchewan also has deposits or occurrences of 23 of 31 minerals on Canada's Critical Minerals list. These minerals are integral to Canada achieving its transition to a net-zero economy by 2050.

The SMA is providing this intervention in support of Cameco Corporation (Cameco) and Orano Canada Inc.'s (Orano) ongoing management of uranium operations in northern Saskatchewan.

Both Cameco and Orano continue to demonstrate strong management and have met performance expectations regarding the health and safety of persons and protection of the environment. Cameco has also safely and effectively brought their Key Lake and McArthur River operations out of care and maintenance.

Their ongoing commitment to environmental monitoring and support for community-based monitoring programs such as the Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program that are conducted in northern Saskatchewan, continue to highlight that water and country foods are not being impacted and that they are safe to drink and eat.

The decommissioned and reclaimed Cluff Lake uranium mine and mill, which operated from 1980 until 2002 are working through the final part of the process to be transferred into the provincial Institutional Control program. Orano has demonstrated an ongoing professional and effective approach in transitioning this former uranium mine and mill back to an environmentally, physically stable and safe site that is under passive care and that has unrestricted access. The site is available for traditional land use.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to share our views in this written intervention to indicate our support for Cameco Corporation and Orano Canada Inc.'s ongoing management of uranium operations in northern Saskatchewan.

Yours sincerely,



Brad Sigurdson

Vice President – Environment, Safety and Regulatory Affairs

cc Liam Mooney – Vice President, Safety, Health, Environment & Quality and Regulatory Relations (Cameco)
Colin Braithwaite - Vice President, Safety, Health, Environment and Regulatory (Orano)
Kevin Nagy – Director, Compliance and Licensing (Cameco)
Brady Balicki– Manager, Environment and Licensing (Cameco)
Tina Searcy – Manager, Regulatory Relations (Orano)
Pam Schwann – President (SMA)