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**Written submission from the  
Saskatchewan Ministry of  
Government Relations**

**Mémoire du Ministère des  
relations gouvernementales de  
la Saskatchewan**

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

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

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Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

December 13-14, 2023

13-14 décembre 2023

November 7, 2023

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

Re: Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium Mines, Mills in Canada: 2022

Senior Tribunal Officer:

I am pleased to provide a letter regarding the 2022 Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada (ROR), and activities related to the Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee (NSEQC).

The NSEQC is a Saskatchewan provincial government advisory committee currently representing 22 municipalities and First Nations communities, representing a broad cross-section of First Nations and Métis across our north. The representatives include people of First Nations (Dene and Cree), Métis and non-Indigenous heritage. The body has a long history, 28 years, of providing northerners an effective and informed voice on the uranium industry. My branch within the Ministry of Government Relations provides direct support and budget for the NSEQC.

Your ROR occurs at a time when we have hired a new manager for the NSEQC, and also approved a new slate of community appointments. The new community representatives and new manager meet for the first time on Nov. 14-15, 2023, which narrowly misses your deadline for submissions on the ROR. Given that the NSEQC will not have time to create its own submission on the ROR, I will comment as my ministry's Director of Northern Engagement.

The NSEQC cultivates and reinforces positive relationships with northern communities, northern resource developers and federal and provincial government regulators. It builds trust and confidence in decisions related to developments in the resource sector, particularly uranium. This work is aided greatly by developers and regulators. The NSEQC is not a regulatory body itself.

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In 2022, the NSEQC met twice, in March and June, and its agenda received good input and participation from Cameco and Orano as well as the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). The companies provided updates on their individual sites – operations, regulatory applications and performance - and also added to community representatives' general knowledge of the nuclear industry. Our two producing resource companies were energetic in seeking to communicate with the NSEQC, and they have continued that practice into 2023 as we prepare for our November meeting.

I will say the same about the support from the CNSC staff. They have responded quickly to any requests from the community representatives or my staff, and they have sought to provide clarity on current topics and the regulatory framework for this industry. The staff have been proactive in engaging with northern residents, ensuring that all partners have a common, accurate understanding of any meeting or discussion.

Regarding the ROR report, I appreciate the Plain Language Summary as a tool to improve the report's accessibility. I also commend the CNSC's report out on site inspections; northern residents want to know that authorities are showing up on site and seeing things with their own eyes.

In closing, I am satisfied with the ROR report. I thank the staff and the industry members for their ongoing attention to working directly with northern representatives. I am confident that the NSEQC will continue to have a good working relationship with these partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Boyes", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Scott Boyes, Director of Northern Engagement  
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