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Supplementary Information

Renseignements supplémentaires

Presentation from the Manitoba Métis Federation

Présentation de la Fédération des Métis du Manitoba

Regulatory Oversight Report on the Use of Nuclear Substances in Canada: 2023

Rapport de surveillance réglementaire sur l'utilisation des substances nucléaires au Canada : 2023

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

November 7, 2024

7 novembre 2024

Manitoba Métis Federation

Regulatory Oversight Report: Use of Nuclear Substances in Canada

Key Issues and Concerns



Manitoba Métis Federation

- The MMF is mandated to promote, protect, and advance the collectively held Aboriginal Rights of the Red River Métis.
- Red River Métis Citizens rely on the lands and water throughout the National Homeland, and resources they provide. The MMF maintains an important role in working on behalf of Red River Métis Citizens to ensure enduring stewardship of the land and water.
- Red River Métis Citizens have great interest in ensuring that transport, use, and disposal of nuclear or radioactive material throughout the National Homeland is done so responsibly.



Strengthen Oversight and Accountability

- Need for improved collective understanding of how nuclear substances and radioactive materials are produced, handled and transported, used, stored, and disposed of.
- Nuclear substances must be managed and controlled responsibly, minimizing the opportunity for environmental release and development of legacy contamination.
- The ROR only reports on 4 of 14 Safety Control Areas (SCAs). The ROR provides limited information on environmental protection and emergency preparedness SCAs.



Enhance Environmental Protection Measures

- The MMF is disappointed that CNSC have completed relatively few inspections related to environmental protection.
- There is a need for more frequent and focused environmental inspections, especially in areas where nuclear substances are transported, stored, or disposed of.
- Inspection efforts should ensure potential environmental contamination risks are identified early and addressed to prevent long-term impacts on the environment.



Promote a Proactive Regulatory Framework

- The MMF recommends CNSC develop and implement a proactive regulatory framework that prepares licensees for future regulatory changes.
- Including advance communication and resources to assist licensees in meeting new standards, ensuring Red River Métis communities are protected from radiation exposure or environmental contamination.



Establish Monitoring and Feedback Mechanisms

- The MMF recommends CNSC create a structured monitoring feedback loop to track the effectiveness of regulatory changes and performance improvement initiatives.
- This system would improve the CNSC's ability to monitor improvement program performance and provide transparency demonstrating effective implementation of corrective measures



Ensure Framework for Timely CNSC Interventions

- The MMF recommends the CNSC ensure mechanisms are in place to ensure for timely and decisive intervention by CNSC when licensees face financial instability or other operational risks.
- Measures must include the ability to secured nuclear substances and radioactive waste materials ensuring that there are no gaps in safety protocols that could pose a threat to public safety or the environment.



Improve Transparency in Assessment of Emergency Preparedness

- Within the ROR, it is unclear how CNSC evaluates emergency preparedness for small-scale facilities that use nuclear substances.
 - e.g., industry, academic institutions, medical and commercial institutions
- The MMF recommends that future Regulatory Oversight Reports (RORs) on the use of nuclear substances in Canada feature additional information evaluating licensees and emergency responders near licensees or along core transportation routes to be able to respond effectively.

