



Date: 2026-01-05

**Written Submission from
Saskatoon Industry-Education
Council**

In the matter of

NexGen Energy Ltd.

License application to prepare a site for
and construct its Rook I uranium mine and
mill project

Commission Public Hearing

February 2026

**Mémoire de
Saskatoon Industry-Education
Council**

À l'égard de

NexGen Energy Ltd.

Demande de permis concernant la
préparation de l'emplacement et la
construction de son projet de mine et
d'usine de concentration d'uranium Rook I

Audience publique de la Commission

Février 2026



Saskatoon Industry-Education Council

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December 18, 2025

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

c/o Registry

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Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

RE: Saskatoon Industry Education Council Intervention – NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook I Project

Saskatchewan is entering a period of significant economic opportunity, with projected growth across construction, agriculture, mining, manufacturing, energy, tourism, and emerging technologies. At the same time, employers continue to report challenges attracting and retaining skilled workers. The World Economic Forum's *Future of Jobs* report notes that 60% of employers globally express concern about skills gaps, underscoring the importance of aligning education systems with labour market realities.

The Saskatoon Industry Education Council (SIEC) works with school divisions and First Nations communities across Saskatchewan to support youth in exploring meaningful career pathways from kindergarten through Grade 12 and beyond. Our programming creates a continuum of career development by providing early awareness (K–8), intensive exploration and skills development (Grades 9–12), and experiential learning opportunities that support successful transitions into post-secondary education, apprenticeship, and employment.

Through initiatives such as Skills Bootcamps, Safety@Work certifications, sector Spotlights, and the Saskatchewan Youth Internship Program, young people gain clarity of direction, real-world competencies, and direct connections to industry. By aligning Saskatchewan's youth talent pipeline with the K–12 education framework, SIEC helps reduce learning loss during transitions, accelerate post-secondary success, and create a more predictable flow of skilled, work-ready talent into high-demand sectors. This approach contributes to a stronger, more resilient provincial workforce and positions Saskatchewan as a leader in coordinated education-to-employment pathways.

SIEC works in partnership with the Saskatchewan Mining Association to educate young people about the minerals and resources found throughout our province. This includes programming such as Spotlight on Mining events, mine tours, coding and robotics activities, Skills Bootcamps, and hands-on mineral and resource kits delivered to classrooms (new in 2026). As attention and investment in nuclear energy continue to grow, it is increasingly important to ensure students, educators, and families understand the role of uranium, nuclear power, and the opportunities this sector presents for Saskatchewan's future. With guidance from organizations across the nuclear space, SIEC is exploring the development of nuclear education curriculum beginning in 2026.

In this context, we applaud NexGen Energy's commitment to working alongside schools in both provincial and federal education systems to create meaningful employment and learning opportunities in northern Saskatchewan. Our goal is to collaborate with uranium mining partners to provide experiential learning through Spotlights, Bootcamps, mining kits, mentorship, and other initiatives that help young people understand the global importance of uranium and the long-term career opportunities available close to home.

NexGen Energy has consistently demonstrated advocacy for youth and is exploring thoughtful, community-informed approaches to engage northern students, supporting mentorship, skills development, and pathways that allow young people to live and work in their home communities. Through ongoing dialogue with school communities, we are confident that NextGen will continue to respond to local needs and priorities.

SIEC strongly supports NexGen Energy's application to advance the Rook I Project. We believe this project will play an important role not only in Saskatchewan's economic future, but also in cultivating the skilled workforce of tomorrow through sustained investment in youth, education, and northern communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Uchacz-Hart".

Janet Uchacz-Hart
Executive Director
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