



CMD 25-H12.28

Date: 2025-01-09

**Written Submission from
Triall Consulting**

**Mémoire de
Triall Consulting**

In the matter of

À l'égard de

NexGen Energy Ltd.

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

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

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

February 2026

Février 2026

January 9, 2026

Commission Registry
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St
PO Box 1046 Stn B
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

Email: interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca

Subject: Request for Oral Presentation — Rook I Public Hearing (CMD 25-H12)

Dear Commission Members,

I am writing to request the opportunity to make an **oral presentation** at the **Rook I public hearing**, Part 2, scheduled **February 9–13, 2026** in Saskatoon and virtually. ([IAAC](#))

I have an interest and expertise relevant to the matter before the Commission. I intend to provide comments that add value and context for the Commission's decision-making.

Please accept this letter as my formal **request to intervene with both a written submission and an oral presentation** during the hearing.

Attached are:

- A brief summary of the topics I plan to address (see next page).
- Confirmation that I wish to make both a written submission and an oral presentation.

If the Commission permits me to use a PowerPoint deck as part of my oral presentation, I will submit the slides to the Commission Registry **by January 19, 2026**, as outlined in the Revised Notice. (api.cnscccsn.gc.ca)

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,



Vern Bachiu
President and CEO
Triall Consulting

Triall Consulting Submission to CNSC re NexGen Energy Rook I Project

(1) Who I am

- I am Vern Bachiu, founder of Triall Consulting.
- I have worked with First Nations for close to 50 years.
- Roles include: 20 years at Meadow Lake Tribal Council, 10 years at SIIT, 8 years teaching at Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan
- I hold the ICD.D professional governance designation.
- I co-develop the Indigenous Business Toolkit with 21 case studies and 18 how-to modules.
- My focus is governance, strategy, business readiness, and investment planning for Indigenous EDCs. I have spent my career in seeing indigenous Nations achieve economic prosperity.

(2) What NexGen is doing

- NexGen is advancing the Rook I uranium project in northwest Saskatchewan
- The company invested early in relationships with Indigenous Nations.
- Actions include supplier access, workforce planning, and long-term careers.
- NexGen funds capacity building instead of waiting for ideal conditions.
- Example: supporting suppliers while they grow into full supply-chain roles.
- NexGen has negotiated Mutual Benefit Agreements (MBAs) with Indigenous Nations in the Local Priority Area (LPA)
 - These agreements give priority access to opportunities during the life cycle of the mine. While they give priority access, this does not mean exclusive access to opportunities. NexGen maintains “good neighbour” relationships with many Indigenous Nations in secondary areas.

(3) Why this is important and credible

- Indigenous prosperity comes at least in part by own-source revenue. Sustainable own-source revenue comes from business. Indigenous Nations need willing industry partners. My observation is that NexGen is on the cutting edge of being a willing industry partner.
- Projects succeed when governance and institutions are strong.
- NexGen’s approach aligns with research that shows rules and organization matter more than resources alone.
- Relationship building and supplier development are priorities for them.
- My direct experience includes working with a Nation that negotiated a benefit agreement with NexGen.
- I also saw NexGen follow-through on supplier and employment commitments.
- They are business-focused. They walk the talk.
- Their actions show intent. Their investment shows consistency.
- That is why their engagement is credible.
- That is why regulatory approval for Rook I matters for Indigenous economic participation.
- Another thing that demonstrates that their commitment to Indigenous engagement is not just part of a checkbox approach is that they have made substantial time, effort, and financial commitments to the process before they are producing revenue – this is all coming from owners’ equity. This demonstrates a deep commitment from investors, the board, and management.