

CMD 25-H9.29A

Date: 2025-11-28

Supplementary Information

Renseignements supplémentaires

Presentation from the Metis Nation - Saskatchewan

Présentation de la Nation métisse de la Saskatchewan

In the matter of

À l'égard de

Denison Mines Corporation

Denison Mines Corporation

Licence Application to Prepare Site and Construct for Denison Mines' Wheeler River Mine and Mill Project

Demande de permis pour la préparation de l'emplacement et la construction du projet de mine et d'usine de concentration d'uranium Wheeler River de Denison Mines

Commission Public Hearing Part 2

Audience publique de la Commission Partie 2

December 8-11, 2025

8-11 décembre 2025



DENISON WHEELER RIVER PROJECT CNSC COMMISION HEARING 2025-H-09

NORTHERN REGION 1, NORTHERN REGION 3 AND THE MÉTIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN









Who are the Métis?

The Métis emerged in the historic Northwest during the 18th and 19th centuries.

The Métis Nation has a shared history, common culture (song, dance, dress, national symbols, etc.), unique language (Michif, with various regional dialects), extensive kinship connections, distinct way of life, traditional territory, and collective consciousness.







Métis are connected to the Métis Homeland

The "historic Métis homeland" includes the 3 prairie provinces and extends into Ontario, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, and the Northern United States.











The Métis Nation claims Métis Title

The Métis Nation claims Aboriginal title to the historic Métis homeland, which the Government of Canada attempted to extinguish through the issuance of "scrip" and land grants in the late 19th and 20th centuries.

The Métis Nation is pursuing its claim to Métis Title, including in the 1994 Northwest Saskatchewan Claim. In January, the MN-S produced more than 3,000 pages of research material and 24,000 records in the 1994 Claim.

The Métis Nation's Title claim is not limited to the 1994 Claim.





The Supreme Court of Canada has Affirmed the Importance of the Métis Title Claim

Saskatchewan (Environment) v. Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, 2025 SCC 4):

- "The 1994 Action is not, in and of itself, MNS's asserted claim. Rather, it is the legal vehicle which MNS selected in order to *vindicate* its claim." (para 53)
- "it is clear that Saskatchewan has knowledge of MNS's claim for Aboriginal rights and title" (para 54)





Canada has Agreed to Processes for Negotiating the Métis Title Claim

- Framework Agreement for Advancing Reconciliation, July 20,
 2018
 - Section 2.1.2
 - Section 4.7
- Métis Nation within Saskatchewan Self-Government
 Recognition and Implementation Agreement, February 24, 2023
 - Section 3.01(c)(iii)
 - Section 5.01(e)(iii)
 - Section 11.09
 - Section 11.10



CNSC Commission HEARING 2025-H-09



The Métis Nation is Self-Governing

The Métis have long wanted to have their voices heard in the decision-making process that affect their lives and generations to follow.

In the 1800s, the Métis Nation wanted to elect their own government, rather than have British-European politicians in Ottawa govern them.

Now, nearly 150 years later, the Métis in Saskatchewan have a recognized government which represents the political, socioeconomic, cultural and educational interests of the province's 80,000+ Métis citizens through a representative system of 12 regions and approximately 130 locals.



The Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Today Governs the Métis Nation

The MN-S was established by a Constitution in 1993 and since then has worked towards implementing Métis self-government through litigation and strategic partnerships with other governments.









The Métis Nation are Section 35 Rights Holders

Métis people are recognized under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, which affirms existing Aboriginal rights. *Powley* answered the question "Who is Métis for the purpose of Section 35?":

"The term 'Métis' in S.35 does not encompass all individuals with mixed Indian and European heritage; rather it refers to distinctive peoples who, in addition to their mixed ancestry, developed their own customs, way of life and recognizable group identity separate from their Indian or Inuit and European forebears."

The Métis Nation in Saskatchewan meets every aspect of this definition.





Canada has affirmed the Rights of the Métis Nation with Saskatchewan

Métis Nation within Saskatchewan Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement, Feb 24, 2023:

- 5.02 ... <u>Canada recognizes that:</u>
 - ... (e) the Métis Government is <u>exclusively mandated</u> to represent the
 Métis Nation within Saskatchewan based on the authorizations it receives
 from its Citizens and the Métis collectivity throughout Saskatchewan
 comprised of those Citizens, in respect of collectively held Métis Rights,
 interests, and claims, and in particular to:
 - ... (ii) engage in consultation with Canada, and, where appropriate, accommodation where Canada's conduct has the potential to adversely impact Métis Rights within Saskatchewan as the Crown's duty to consult and accommodate may require, and
 - (iii) address any outstanding collective Métis claims against Canada, including *Morin v Canada* [(i.e., the 1994 Métis Title claim)]





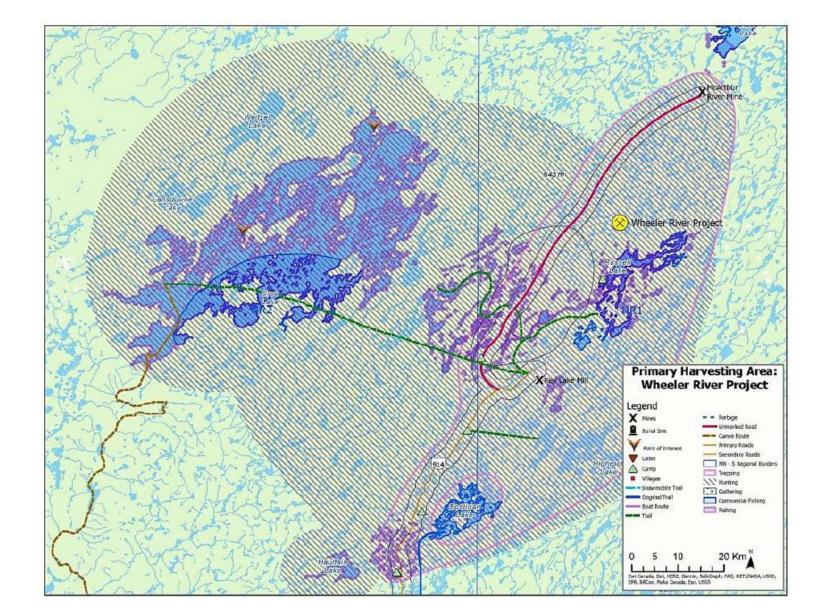
The Métis Nation is Connected to the Land

"The distinct Métis culture of symbols, language, beliefs, and values reflects a profound connection to the land" (Métis Knowledge Study Report, Wheeler River Project, 4)

"My uncle, he's a pretty quiet man, but he's the kind of guy that could come across and talk about lands and resources but he doesn't have time. He loves his land ... you know, that's beautiful to see – our culture." (Métis Knowledge Study Report, Wheeler River Project, 26)



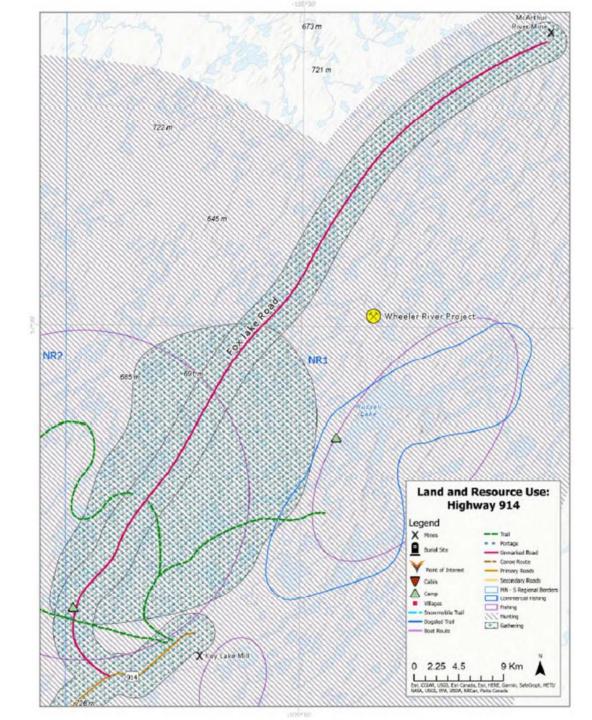
Métis Citizens use the Project Area for Traditional Activities





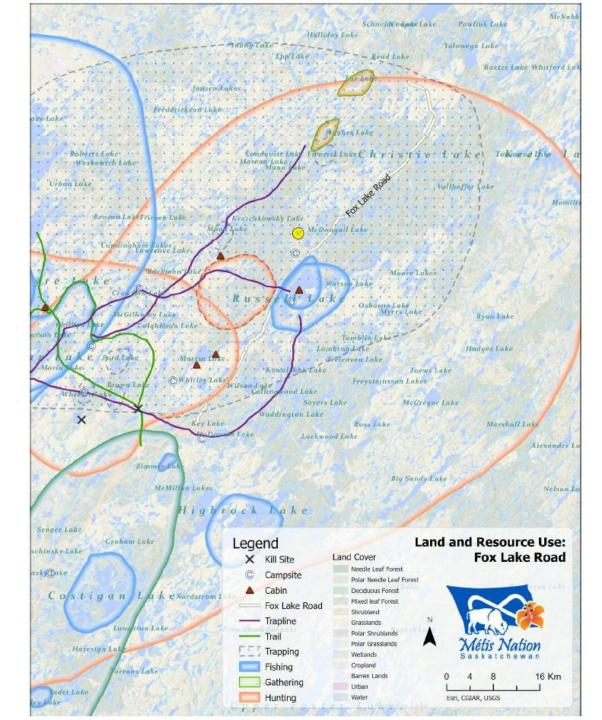






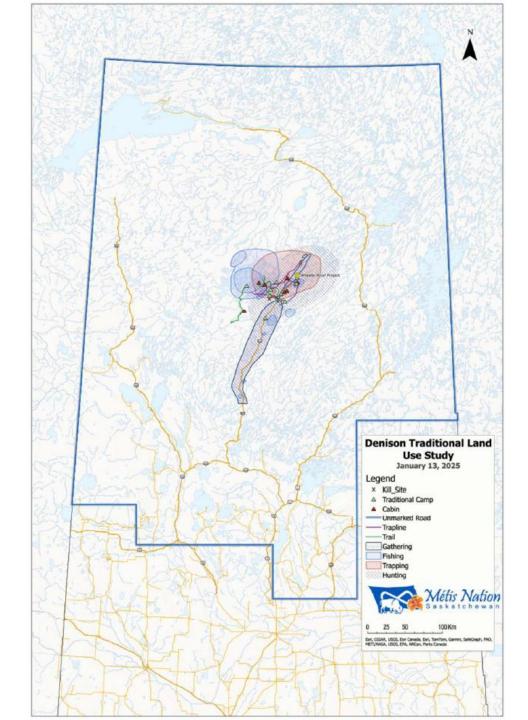
















The Project could affect the Métis rights of Citizens in NR1, NR3 and MN-S

The Project could affect Métis rights such as:

- The right of Métis Title to the lands and resources within the Project boundaries, including as set out in the 1994 Métis Land Claim which Canada has committed to resolve;
- The right for Métis to freely access and use said land as they
 have in previous generations, without interruption, and
 without individual and community anxiety regarding the
 health of plants, animals, and fish around and within the
 Project boundaries;





The Project could affect the Métis rights of Citizens in NR1, NR3 and MN-S

Potentially affected Métis rights continued:

- The right to pass on Métis teachings, Métis traditional knowledge, and Métis ways of life to future generations, including through undisturbed land use in and around the project boundaries;
- The right to transit over our lands to exercise our rights, including the modern application of our historic commercial rights; and
- The right to harvest berries, medicinal plants and fungi, to hunt, to fish and to trap for food, social, ceremonial, and commercial purposes.





Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Consent for the Project

The Métis Nation has a significant interest in ensuring the Project is developed responsibly in a manner that protects and respects Métis rights and Métis Title.

The Métis Nation (NR1, NR3, MN-S, and the 13 Locals) have concluded an agreement with Denison in respect of the Project. Denison has made procedural and substantive commitments that satisfactorily address the Métis Nation's concerns regarding the Project, including in the context of the Métis Nation's Aboriginal rights, Métis Title and interests under section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982.





Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Consent for the Project

The Métis Nation's agreement with Denison includes accommodation of Métis Title, including through ongoing collaboration and monitoring for the life of the Project.

Subject to Denison materially fulfilling these and other commitments, the Métis Nation consents to and supports the Project and intends to continue to participate in the ongoing regulatory approval processes for the Project in a manner consistent with our agreement with Denison.

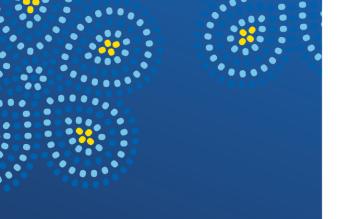




Conclusion

NR1, NR3, MN-S, and the 13 Locals support Denison's Phoenix
Project as described in the environmental assessment undertaken
by Saskatchewan and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, and
to the development of the Project in a manner that respects and
recognizes the importance of Métis rights and interests, including to
Métis Title, through the consent-based commitments that have
been resolved with Denison. These commitments are important to
advance and protect the rights and interests of future generations.





QUESTIONS DISCUSSION



