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**Written submission from the
Saskatchewan Mining Association**

**Mémoire de la
Saskatchewan Mining Association**

**Regulatory Oversight Report for
Uranium Mines, Mills, Historic and
Decommissioned Sites in Canada: 2023**

**Rapport de surveillance réglementaire
des mines et usines de concentration
d'uranium et des sites historiques et
déclassés au Canada : 2023**

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

January 29, 2025

29 janvier 2025

December 8, 2024

Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9
via e-mail: cnscc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

RE: SMA Written Intervention – Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium Mines, Mills, Historic and Decommissioned Sites in Canada: 2023

The Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) is the voice of the mining industry in Saskatchewan and works to advance a safe, sustainable and globally competitive exploration and mining industry in Saskatchewan that benefits all residents of the province. The SMA represents over 45 mining and exploration companies and our members are among the largest industrial employers of Indigenous people and purchasers of goods and services from Indigenous-owned businesses in Canada. Mining is essential in ensuring that Canadians and our trading partners have access to the critical minerals they need to support clean technology growth, agricultural production and non-emitting nuclear power.

In 2023, Saskatchewan's mining sector claimed the second spot in Canada in terms of mineral production value, reaching \$12.5 billion (top spot at 19.5 billion in 2022). The province's potash industry held the global lead with 34% of worldwide sales, while our uranium sector ranked second globally with more than 20% of uranium sales.

Annually, our industry contributes roughly \$2 billion in federal and provincial royalties and taxes, constituting about 12% of Saskatchewan's GDP. Notably, Saskatchewan boasts deposits or occurrences of 27 out of 34 minerals listed as critical by Canada, essential for the nation's transition to a net-zero economy by 2050.

The SMA is providing this intervention in support of Cameco Corporation (Cameco) and Orano Canada Inc.'s (Orano) ongoing management of uranium operations in northern Saskatchewan.

Both Cameco and Orano continue to demonstrate strong management and have met performance expectations regarding the health and safety of persons and protection of the environment. Cameco has continued to safely and effectively operate their Key Lake and McArthur River operations after successfully bringing these operations out of care and maintenance.

Orano's efforts with respect to decommissioning, reclamation and post-reclamation management have seen the former Cluff Lake uranium mine and mill, which operated from 1980 until 2002 be transferred into the provincial Institutional Control Program (ICP). The first "new generation" mine and mill to do so. Cameco has also safely and effectively demonstrated that the final 27 Beaverlodge properties are ready to transition into the provincial ICP once the CNSC licence is no longer in place and the province has accepted the properties into the ICP. We look forward to this incredible outcome.

Their ongoing collective commitment to environmental monitoring and support for community-based monitoring programs such as the Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program, that are conducted in northern Saskatchewan, continue to highlight that water and country foods are not being impacted and that they are safe to drink and eat.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to share our views in this written intervention to indicate our support for Cameco Corporation and Orano Canada Inc.'s ongoing management of Uranium Mines, Mills, Historic and Decommissioned Sites in northern Saskatchewan.

Yours sincerely,



Brad Sigurdson

Vice President – Environment, Safety and Regulatory Affairs

cc Liam Mooney – Vice President, Safety, Health, Environment & Quality and Regulatory Relations (Cameco)
Colin Braithwaite - Vice President, Safety, Health, Environment and Regulatory (Orano)
Kevin Nagy – Director, Compliance and Licensing (Cameco)
Brady Balicki– Manager, Environment and Licensing (Cameco)
Mike Webster –Reclamation Lead, Beaverlodge (Cameco)
Lesley Schmalz – Manager, Regulatory (Orano)
Pam Schwann – President (SMA)