



CMD 26-H109

Date: 2026-02-20

**Written Submission from  
CNSC Staff**

**Mémoire du  
personnel de la CCSN**

In the matter of

À l'égard de

**Best Theratronics Ltd.**

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**Best Theratronics Ltd.**

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Redetermination of the Commission's  
October 22, 2025 Amendment to  
Designated Officer Order 7396415

Nouvelle détermination de la  
modification par la Commission  
le 22 octobre 2025 de l'ordre 7396415  
du fonctionnaire désigné

**Hearing in writing**

**Audience par écrit**

February 2026

Février 2026



## MEMORANDUM

Security Classification

**Unclassified**

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To Candace Salmon  
A Commission Registry

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Yes

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Kim Campbell  
Director General, DNCFR

Subject CNSC Staff Update to the Commission on Best Theratronics Ltd.

**Purpose:** To respond to the request from the Commission [1] regarding the status of Best Theratronics Ltd. (herein, the licensee), its efforts to comply with the Commission's direction and CNSC staff's views on the requested extension date of May 31, 2026.

### 1. Status

On October 22, 2025, the Commission redetermined its order [2] following a review under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*. The amendment was made because the licensee was unable to put in place an acceptable financial guarantee for the future decommissioning of its facility.

Therefore, the Commission ordered the licensee to reduce its inventory of regulated nuclear material stored onsite in accordance with CNSC regulatory requirements. The Commission also ordered the licensee to submit a preliminary plan for decommissioning that accounts for a reduced inventory and establish a financial guarantee acceptable to the Commission. To allow the inventory reduction to proceed, the redetermination removed previous restrictions on the transfer and export of nuclear substances.



With respect to inventory reduction, the Commission ordered:

*within 125 calendar days of the Commission's decision on this matter, BTL is to ship all Category 1 and Category 2 (Co-60 and Cs-137 sources) in its possession under its Class 1B licence. **The 125-calendar day deadline is February 24, 2026, and the licensee has not removed all Category 1 and Category 2 sources in its possession.***

With respect to establishing a financial guarantee acceptable to the Commission, the Commission ordered:

*within 140 calendar days of the Commission's decision on this matter, BTL is to provide a proposed Financial Guarantee in accordance with REGDOC-3.3.1, Financial Guarantees for Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities and Termination of Licensed Activities for the Commission's consideration and acceptance. **The 140-calendar day deadline is March 11, 2026.***

The licensee informed the Registry on February 18, 2026, that while it has made progress in reducing its inventory, it will not be able to meet the Commission ordered deadlines for inventory reduction and a financial guarantee. The licensee requested the Commission grant an extension until 31 May 2026.

**The licensee's inventory remains under safe and secure storage.**

## **2. The licensee's efforts to comply with the Commission's direction**

As per CNSC staff's December 2025 update to the Commission, the licensee complied with respect to the submission of monthly reports to CNSC staff and its preliminary decommissioning plan (PDP).

The below information provides an overview of the interactions between the licensee and CNSC staff following the December Commission proceeding.

- On January 5, 2026, the licensee submitted its monthly report indicating shipment activities completed in December 2025 and provided limited details on upcoming shipment plans.
- On January 16, 2026, the licensee stated by email to CNSC staff that all sealed sources would be shipped by the end of February 2026.[3]
- On January 27, 2026, given the minimal progress made by the licensee to reduce its inventory and the absence of a plan to meet the Commission ordered deadline of February 24, 2026, CNSC staff sent a letter to the licensee to request them to provide a detailed shipment schedule outlining the planned dates and quantities for the remaining sources before the deadline set by the Commission order. CNSC staff requested that the detailed shipment schedule be included in the licensee's February 5, 2026, monthly report.[4]



- The licensee's February 5, 2026, monthly report did not include the detailed shipment schedule. CNSC staff provided an extension to February 6, 2026. No response was received, and it became clear that the licensee had no established plan for shipment of its remaining inventory ahead of the February 24, 2026, deadline. CNSC staff concluded it was unlikely that the licensee would ship all Category 1 and Category 2 sources in its possession by the deadline.
- On February 9, 2026, CNSC staff instructed the licensee by letter to inform the Commission as soon as possible, and no later than February 12, 2026, that they would not meet the Commission ordered deadlines for inventory reduction and financial guarantee.[5]
- On February 12, 2026, the licensee provided an updated shipment plan for the month of February 2026. The submission confirmed CNSC staff's conclusions that the licensee would be unable to ship all Category 1 and Category 2 sources by the February 24, 2026, deadline.
- During this same timeframe of early February, CNSC staff completed their review of the preliminary decommissioning plan (PDP), which was submitted on December 16, 2025. CNSC staff's review against the criteria contained in [REGDOC- 2.11.2 Decommissioning](#), identified many information gaps that required the licensee to submit additional information by February 24, 2026. As a result, CNSC staff concluded it was unlikely that the licensee would meet the March 11, 2026, Commission ordered deadline to provide a financial guarantee.
- On February 13, 2026, CNSC staff recommended issuance of an administrative monetary penalty (AMP) to a designated officer. The violation is failure to comply with an order of the Commission, a designated officer or an inspector in violation of section 48(e) of the NSCA. The decision to issue the AMP remains with the designated officer.
- On February 17, 2026, CNSC staff informed the Registry [6] that the licensee will not make the Commission ordered deadline for removal of all Category 1 and Category 2 sources from its premises by February 24, 2026. CNSC staff noted its February 9, 2026, request to the licensee to inform the Registry. The communication also shared the efforts made by CNSC staff since January 2026.
- On February 18, 2026, CNSC staff was onsite for a reactive inspection to observe the shipment of cesium-137 sources from the licensee's premises.
- On February 18, 2026, CNSC staff sent a second demand to the licensee instructing them to inform the Registry by February 20, 2026, that the Commission ordered deadlines related to inventory reduction and financial guarantee will not be met. The licensee was also instructed to provide the status of its inventory by the same date.
- On February 18, 2026, the licensee [7] informed the Registry that while progress had been made in reducing its inventory, it will not be able to meet the Commission ordered deadlines for inventory reduction and a financial guarantee. The licensee requested the Commission grant an extension until 31 May 2026.



- On February 18, 2026, the licensee provided the status of its inventory following the 18 February shipments.

#### Licensee inventory as of February 2026

The Commission's October 2025 redetermination ordered the licensee to ship all Category 1 and Category 2 (Co-60 and Cs-137) sources in its possession under its Class IB licence within 125 days. The 125-calendar day deadline is February 24, 2026, and the licensee has not removed all Category 1 and Category 2 sources in its possession. As of February 18, 2026, the licensee removed 58% of cesium-137 sources and 86% of cobalt-60 sources.

With respect to regulated material, all the depleted uranium remains onsite.

The licensee's inventory remains under safe and secure storage. This was confirmed during CNSC staff's reactive inspection of February 18, 2026, to observe shipment of cesium-137 sources.

### **3. CNSC staff's views on the requested extension date of May 31, 2026**

On February 18, 2026, the licensee requested that the Commission grant an extension to the two remaining deadlines ordered by the Commission, that is February 24, 2026, shipment of all Category 1 and Category 2 (Co-60 and Cs-137) sources in its possession, and March 11, 2026, provision of a financial guarantee acceptable to the Commission. [7] The licensee noted its progress in reducing its inventory but that it would be unable to meet the Commission ordered deadlines. The licensee requested an extension from the Commission of May 31, 2026.

#### Inventory reduction

With respect to inventory reduction, in the absence of established shipping plans for the remaining Co-60 and Cs-137 sources in its possession, CNSC staff is unable to discern whether the date proposed by the licensee is feasible. In CNSC staff's view, established shipping plans means contractual commitments as opposed to statements by the licensee that it intends to ship its remaining Co-60 and Cs-137 sources by May 31, 2026.

#### Financial guarantee

Regarding the licensee providing a financial guarantee acceptable to the Commission, CNSC's review of the licensee's preliminary decommissioning plan identified many information gaps. These were communicated to the licensee on February 11, 2026.[8] Specifically, CNSC staff requested that the licensee revise their preliminary decommissioning plan to align with criteria in REGDOC 2.11.2 by February 24, 2026.

In CNSC staff's view, the ability of the licensee to submit a financial guarantee acceptable to the Commission by May 31, 2026, is contingent on all inventory being removed before that date and on the level of engagement from the licensee in addressing the information gaps identified by CNSC staff in the preliminary decommissioning plan.



#### **4. Conclusion**

1. On February 18, 2026, CNSC staff confirmed the licensee's inventory remains under safe and secure storage. This was confirmed during a reactive inspection by CNSC inspectors to observe the shipment of cesium-137 sources from the licensee's premises. The licensee's requested extension, if granted by the Commission, will not cause risk to the public or the environment.
2. As of February 18, 2026, the licensee removed 58% of cesium-137 sources and 86% of cobalt-60 sources since the Commission's order of October 2025.
3. In the absence of detailed shipment plans, with contracts in place, CNSC staff is unable to determine whether the May 31, 2026, deadline proposed by the licensee to ship its remaining Co-60 and Cs-137 sources is feasible.
4. The licensee's ability to submit a financial guarantee acceptable to the Commission by the licensee's proposed deadline of May 31, 2026, will depend on the contracts it has in place to ship its remaining Co-60 and Cs-137 sources, as well as its level of responsiveness in addressing the information gaps identified by CNSC staff in the preliminary decommissioning plan. The licensee has until February 24, 2026, to address the gaps identified by CNSC staff.
5. CNSC staff recommends that the Commission require the licensee provides an established shipment plan, including the contracts in place to support those shipments, as soon as possible and no later than March 6, 2026, to determine the feasibility of the licensee meeting its proposed extension of May 31, 2026.

#### **5. CNSC staff recommendation to the Commission**

The licensee should provide to CNSC staff an established shipment plan for its remaining Co-60 and Cs-137 sources, including the contract(s) it has in place to support those shipments, no later than March 6, 2026. CNSC staff will report to the Commission once the licensee provides this information.

On February 18, 2026, CNSC staff confirmed the licensee's inventory remains under safe and secure storage. This was confirmed during a reactive inspection by CNSC inspectors to observe the shipment of cesium-137 sources from the licensee's premises. The licensee's requested extension, if granted by the Commission, will not cause risk to the public or the environment and would still require the licensee to meet the extended deadline of May 31, 2026.



### Acknowledgement of concurrence with Director General:

I approve

**Jammal  
, Ramzi**

Ramzi Jammal  
Executive Vice-President  
and Chief Regulatory Operations Officer

Digitally signed by Jammal, Ramzi  
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I do not approve

Ramzi Jammal  
Executive Vice-President  
and Chief Regulatory Operations Officer

c.c.: R. Jammal, C. Pike, A. O'Connor, D. Carrière

### References:

1. 19 January 2026 Email from Candace Salmon [FW BTL's effort at meeting the deadline in Record of Decision DEC 25-H118.msg](#)
2. [DEC 25-H118 Redetermination of the Commission's February 14, 2025 Amendment to Designated Officer Order 7396415](#)
3. 16 January 2026 [Email from Best Theratronics to CNSC – Re: CNSC Review of Best Theratronics Submission of the Shipping Plan and Source Inventory - Next steps](#)
4. 27 January 2026 [Letter to Best Theratronics – Shipment plan for remaining sources by 24 February 2026 as per Commission order](#)
5. February 9 2026 [Email from CNSC to Best Theratronics – For your immediate action by 6 February: Shipment plan for remaining sources](#)
6. 17 February 2026 [FW request meeting with you as Registrar](#)
7. 18 February 2026 Email from [FW BTL's effort at meeting the deadline in Record of Decision DEC 25-H118](#)
8. 11 February 2026 Letter to BTL on CNSC Review of BTL's [CNSC Assessment of Best Theratronics Ltd.s Preliminary Decommissioning Plan](#)