



CMD 26-H3.46

Date: 2026-10-02

**Written Submission from
Women in Nuclear Canada**

**Mémoire de
Women in Nuclear Canada**

In the matter of

À l'égard de

Cameco Corporation

Application to renew the Class IB nuclear fuel facility operating licence for the Port Hope Conversion Facility for a period of 20 years

Cameco Corporation

Demande visant à renouveler, pour une période de 20 ans, le permis d'exploitation d'une installation de combustible nucléaire de catégorie IB pour l'installation de conversion de Port Hope

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

November 2026

Novembre 2026



October 1, 2026

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
c/o Registry
280 Slater St. PO Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

RE: Support from Women in Nuclear Canada for Cameco Corporation's application to renew the Class IB nuclear fuel facility operating licence for the Port Hope Conversion Facility for a period of 20 years

Women in Nuclear (WiN) Canada is a national not-for-profit organization representing more than 7,000 professionals working across Canada's nuclear and radioactive waste materials sectors. WiN Canada is dedicated to advancing gender equality, diversity, and inclusion, while supporting the safe, sustainable, and socially responsible development of nuclear projects that contribute positively to communities and Canada's clean energy future.

Cameco Corporation is seeking approval from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to renew the Class IB nuclear fuel facility operating license for the Port Hope Conversion Facility for a period of 20 years. The current license, issued on March 1, 2017, expires on February 28, 2027. The renewal application does not seek any changes to the licensed activities currently authorized at the facility.

The Port Hope Conversion Facility plays a critical role in Canada's nuclear fuel cycle and the broader nuclear energy supply chain. The facility processes uranium trioxide received from Cameco's Blind River Refinery into uranium dioxide and uranium hexafluoride for use in nuclear fuel production in Canada and around the world. As the sole commercial supplier of natural uranium dioxide conversion services for CANDU fuel production and one of the only two uranium hexafluoride conversion facilities in North America, the facility is an important component of a secure, reliable and domestically supported nuclear fuel supply chain.

The proposed license renewal for a period of 20 years would support the continued operation of this nationally significant facility while providing Cameco with greater regulatory certainty and predictability for long-term planning and investment.

Cameco has a strong track record of operating safely. In the CNSC's *Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium and Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities in Canada: 2024*, CNSC staff assigned satisfactory ratings across the applicable Safety and Control Areas at the Port Hope Conversion Facility. The report notes that six CNSC inspections were conducted in 2024, covering ten Safety and Control Areas, in addition to compliance verification activities associated with Cameco's Vision in Motion project.



While instances of non-compliance were identified, Cameco implemented, or committed to implement, corrective actions that were acceptable by CNSC staff. CNSC staff concluded that these findings did not affect the health and safety of workers, people or the environment, or the safe operation of the facility and remained satisfied that the Port Hope Conversion Facility operated safely in 2024 and in accordance with its licensing basis.

With respect to radiation protection, CNSC staff concluded that applicable regulatory requirements were met and that performance remained satisfactory. Worker and public doses remained well below regulatory limits throughout the reporting period.

Collectively, these findings provide confidence in Cameco's ability to continue operating the Port Hope Conversion Facility safely and in accordance with regulatory expectations.

Environmental protection is another area in which Cameco has demonstrated strong performance. In the CNSC's *Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium and Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities in Canada: 2024*, Environmental Protection was rated satisfactory. CNSC staff concluded that environmental protection programs were effective, that airborne and waterborne releases remained below regulatory limits, and that estimated public doses remained well below the annual regulatory limit (1 mSv per year).

These findings are reinforced by CNSC's *Independent Environmental Monitoring Program for the Port Hope Conversion Facility and Cameco Fuel Manufacturing*, where CNSC staff concluded that Cameco's environmental protection program is effective and that people and the environment in the vicinity of the facility remain protected. The CNSC further stated that no health impacts are anticipated from facility operations.

Cameco's own reported environmental initiatives further demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement and responsible site stewardship. This includes the transition to closed-loop cooling water systems and the ongoing cleanup and remediation activities being undertaken through the Vision in Motion project, both of which support the long-term environmental performance of the facility.

From a rights-holder and stakeholder relations standpoint, CNSC reporting includes positive observations regarding engagement with Indigenous Nations and communities. In the CNSC's *Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium and Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities in Canada: 2024*, CNSC staff reported that licensees continued to engage and share information with interested Indigenous Nations, communities and organizations and encouraged continued collaboration to support meaningful participation in regulatory processes. The CNSC also noted the participation of Indigenous community representatives in environmental monitoring activities conducted at the Port Hope Conversion Facility, reflecting opportunities for ongoing dialogue and involvement in activities related to environmental stewardship.

Particularly of interest to WiN Canada, Cameco plays an important role in supporting a strong, diverse and future-ready nuclear workforce. In its 2025 Sustainability Report, Cameco reported that women represented a significant portion of its organization, including 25% of its Canadian workforce, 29% of management positions, 41% of senior management positions (including officers and vice-presidents) and held 50% of Board positions by the end of 2025. These results are noteworthy and reflect meaningful progress in advancing women into positions of leadership and decision-making across the organization.

The report further highlights Cameco's commitment to fostering an inclusive workforce through workplace inclusion initiatives, leadership development programs, implementation of a pay equity plan and a corporate objective to maintain a complement of women in senior management that reflects or exceeds the proportion of women in its workforce.

WiN Canada commends these efforts and the progress achieved in advancing women into leadership and governance positions. WiN Canada encourages Cameco to continue building on this success by supporting pathways for women at all stages of their careers and maintaining transparent reporting on workforce representation and diversity outcomes.

Based on the information supporting this application, together with Cameco's demonstrated commitment to operational safety, environmental stewardship, stakeholder engagement and workforce development, WiN Canada supports the Commission's consideration of Cameco Corporation's application to renew the Class IB nuclear fuel facility operating license for the Port Hope Conversion Facility for a period of 20 years.

Sincerely,



Priya Malik
Vice President
Women in Nuclear Canada



Maude-Emilie Pagé
Director, Regulatory & Policy
Women in Nuclear Canada