

MEMORANDUM

NOTE DE SERVICE

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Yes

To Candace Salmon
A Commission Registrar, CNSC

2026-07-17

From X Karen Owen-Whitred
De

Karen Owen-Whitred, Director General, DNCFR

Signed by: OwenWhitred, Karen

Subject CNSC Staff's Review of Cameco's Request for Confidentiality in Relation to the Licence Renewal
Objet Application for Cameco's Port Hope Conversion Facility / Examen par le personnel de la CCSN de la demande de confidentialité de Cameco concernant la demande de renouvellement du permis pour l'installation de conversion de Cameco à Port Hope

PURPOSE/OBJECTIF

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide CNSC staff's comments to the Commission regarding the matter of Cameco Corporation's (Cameco) request to protect from public disclosure the documents submitted in the request for confidentiality in relation to references in the CNSC staff CMD (26-H3 – Application to Renew Class 1B Nuclear Fuel Facility Licence for Port Hope Conversion Facility) : [Request for Confidentiality - Cameco Corporation - PHCF - July 2026](#). Cameco also provided [Cameco Corporation - PHCF Public Summary Environmental Risk Assessment - June 2016](#) and [Cameco Corporation - PHCF Public Summary Site Wide Environmental Investigation Report](#).

The CNSC Registry subsequently requested that CNSC staff provide their advice to the Commission on the Matter.

DISCUSSION

CNSC staff reviewed the list of documents and related details provided by Cameco. This information, along with CNSC staff comments, is included in Table 1. For the 2 documents, Cameco has requested the entire content be kept confidential.

CONCLUSION

CNSC staff reviewed Cameco's requests for confidentiality and, as requested, provided comments on the proposed confidentiality requests in Table 1. To CNSC staff's knowledge, the Cameco documents identified in the confidentiality request have not been made available elsewhere publicly. The documents listed in Table 1 have consistently been treated as confidential in CNSC staff's dealings with Cameco. Finally, the document summaries provided by the licensee are considered to be reasonable.

Prepared by: Mike Jones, Senior Project Officer (CNSC)

Attachment: Table 1

Contact/Personne-ressource: Mike Jones, 613-293-2986
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Table 1: Material subject to the request for confidentiality

	Item Name	Portion(s) covered by the request for confidentiality	Reason for Request	Applicant's Rationale	CNSC Staff Comments
1.	Cameco Corporation, Port Hope Conversion Facility, Environmental Risk Assessment for the Cameco Port Hope Conversion Facility, March 2016	☒ Entire content ☐ Redacted content as clearly identified in the document	☐ The information involves national or nuclear security elements ☐ The information pertains to Indigenous Knowledge The information is: ☐ Financial, ☒ Commercial, ☒ Scientific, ☒ Technical, ☐ Personal, or ☐ Other (specify), and ☐ Is consistently treated as confidential and the person affected has not consented to disclosure. Or: ☐ Disclosure of the information would likely endanger the life, liberty, or security of a person or person(s)	The information contained in the 2016 Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) Report should be restricted or prohibited pursuant to paragraph 12(1)(b) of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure for the following reasons: The 2016 ERA contains confidential scientific and technical information that is consistently treated as confidential by Cameco and was provided to the CNSC in confidence. The report includes detailed, site-specific environmental data, modelling approaches, contaminant characterization, exposure assessments, and risk characterization methodologies. Disclosure of the detailed models, methodologies, assumptions, and supporting data could prejudice Cameco's competitive position by revealing proprietary approaches to	CNSC staff are not aware of this information being publicly available elsewhere. This information has consistently been treated as confidential in CNSC's Interactions with Cameco. Cameco's provided public summary is reasonable in that it presents an accurate summary of the assessment findings, approach, and conclusions.

	Item Name	Portion(s) covered by the request for confidentiality	Reason for Request	Applicant's Rationale	CNSC Staff Comments
				environmental risk assessment and facility specific environmental management practices that are not otherwise publicly available. The ERA includes information describing facility infrastructure, emission sources, environmental control systems, and contaminant pathways. Public disclosure of this information could reasonably be expected to reveal sensitive details related to facility configuration and environmental risk pathways. The report also incorporates information and technical contributions from third-party consultants that are subject to confidentiality obligations and were not intended for public disclosure. All information covered by this request is consistently managed as confidential within Cameco and is not available through public sources.	

	Item Name	Portion(s) covered by the request for confidentiality	Reason for Request	Applicant's Rationale	CNSC Staff Comments
				Cameco has made a summary version of the ERA publicly available, which provides a summary of the assessment findings, approach, and conclusions sufficient to support public understanding, while excluding detailed proprietary, technical, and site-specific information.	
2.	Cameco Corporation, Port Hope Conversion Facility, Site Wide Environmental Investigation Report	☒ Entire content ☐ Redacted content as clearly identified in the document.	☐ The information involves national or nuclear security elements ☐ The information pertains to Indigenous Knowledge The information is: ☐ Financial, ☒ Commercial, ☒ Scientific, ☒ Technical, ☐ Personal, or ☐ Other (specify), and ☐ Is consistently treated as confidential and the person affected has not consented to disclosure.	The information contained in the Site-Wide Environmental Investigation Report (SWEIR) should be restricted or prohibited pursuant to paragraph 12(1)(b) of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure for the following reasons: The SWEIR contains confidential scientific and technical information that is consistently treated as confidential by Cameco and was provided to the CNSC in confidence. The report includes detailed site investigation data, contaminant delineation results, hydrogeological characterization, and interpretation of soil, groundwater, and surface water conditions across the PHCF site.	CNSC staff are not aware of this information being publicly available elsewhere. This information has consistently been treated as confidential in CNSC's Interactions with Cameco. Cameco's provided public summary is reasonable in that it conveys high-level information on the purpose, approach and results of the report.

	Item Name	Portion(s) covered by the request for confidentiality	Reason for Request	Applicant's Rationale	CNSC Staff Comments
			Or: ☐ Disclosure of the information would likely endanger the life, liberty, or security of a person or person(s)	Disclosure of detailed investigation methodologies, analytical results, and site-specific interpretations could prejudice Cameco's competitive position by revealing proprietary approaches to environmental investigation, data integration, and site characterization that are not otherwise publicly available. The SWEIR includes detailed descriptions of facility areas, subsurface conditions, contaminant source areas, and groundwater flow and transport pathways. Public disclosure of this information could reasonably be expected to reveal sensitive details related to site configuration and contaminant migration pathways. The report also incorporates information and technical contributions from third-party consultants that are subject to confidentiality obligations and were not intended for public disclosure.	



	Item Name	Portion(s) covered by the request for confidentiality	Reason for Request	Applicant's Rationale	CNSC Staff Comments
				All information covered by this request is consistently managed as confidential within Cameco and is not available through public sources.	