



CMD 26-M3.1

Date: 2026-01-09

**Written Submission from the
Saskatchewan Mining Association**

**Mémoire de la
Saskatchewan Mining Association**

In the matter of the

À l'égard du

**Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium
Mines and Mills in Canada: 2024**

**Rapport de surveillance réglementaire
des mines et usines de concentration
d'uranium au Canada : 2024**

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

March 2026

Mars 2026

January 9, 2026

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: interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca

RE: Saskatchewan Mining Association Written Intervention – Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada: 2024

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 that benefits all residents of the province. The SMA represents over 50 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 2024, Saskatchewan's mining sector ranked third in Canada in terms of mineral production value, reaching more than \$12.4 billion (top spot at \$19.5 billion in 2022). The province's potash industry held the global lead with 31% of worldwide sales, while our uranium sector ranked second globally with more than 22% of uranium sales.

Annually, our industry contributes roughly \$2 billion in federal and provincial royalties and taxes and, in 2024, contributed 13.5% 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 personnel and environmental protection. As operator, Cameco has demonstrated tremendous success since bringing their Key Lake and McArthur River operations out of care and maintenance in late 2022, achieving production of 20.3 million pounds U₃O₈ in 2024. This not only represented a new annual production record for the Key Lake mill but also established a world record for annual production from any uranium mill, while maintaining a strong record for worker health and safety and protection of the environment.

In 2024, Orano's efforts with respect to decommissioning, reclamation and post-reclamation management have resulted in the transfer of the former Cluff Lake uranium mine and mill, which operated from 1980 until 2002, into the provincial Institutional Control Program (ICP). This was the first "new generation" uranium mine and mill, and the 50th site of any type, to be transferred into the program.

Cameco and Orano's ongoing commitment to environmental monitoring and support for community-based monitoring programs conducted in northern Saskatchewan - such as the Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program (EARMP) - continue to highlight that water and country foods are not being impacted and 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 and Mills in northern Saskatchewan.

Yours sincerely,

R Morelli

Ryan Morelli, Ph.D., P.Geo.
Vice President – Environment, Safety and Regulatory Affairs
Saskatchewan Mining Association

cc Kevin Nagy – Vice President, Safety, Health, Environment & Quality and Regulatory Relations (Cameco)
Colin Braithwaite - Vice President, Safety, Health, Environment and Regulatory (Orano)
Kent England – Senior Director, Compliance and Licensing and GEE (Cameco)
Brady Balicki– Director, Environment and Licensing (Cameco)
Lesley Schmalz – Manager, Regulatory (Orano)
Pam Schwann – President (SMA)