



Notice of Public Hearing and Participant Funding

September 9, 2026

Ref. 2027-H-02

CNSC to conduct a public hearing on Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Ltd.'s application to renew the nuclear research and test establishment decommissioning licence for Whiteshell Laboratories

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will hold a one-part public hearing in the week of October 4, 2027, to consider an application from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Ltd. (CNL) to renew its nuclear research and test establishment decommissioning licence for [Whiteshell Laboratories](#) for a period of 8 years. The Whiteshell Laboratories site is located in Treaty 1 and Treaty 3 territories, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene Peoples, and the Homeland of the Red River Métis. The Whiteshell site is also located in the vicinity of Treaty 5 territory.

CNL's current nuclear research and test establishment decommissioning licence for Whiteshell Laboratories is valid until December 31, 2027. As part of its application, CNL is seeking to consolidate the Whiteshell Laboratories onsite transport licence with the nuclear research and test establishment decommissioning licence.

Purpose and scope of hearing

The Commission will be considering whether to renew CNL's licence pursuant to section 24 of the [Nuclear Safety and Control Act](#).

As an agent of the Crown, the Commission's responsibilities include the duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous Nations and communities where the Crown contemplates conduct that may adversely impact their potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights. To assist the Commission in meeting its duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate, the Commission may rely on the following:

- consultation undertaken by CNSC staff, as well as the opportunities for Indigenous Nations and communities to make submissions directly to the Commission and to participate in the hearing process, as a key component of the consultation process

- engagement work done by CNL, including with respect to avoidance, mitigation or other measures adopted or proposed by CNL for potential accommodation purposes (see [REGDOC-3.2.2, Indigenous Engagement](#))

This does not mean that the consultation undertaken by CNSC staff stops or is replaced by CNL's engagement. Rather, consultation by CNSC staff and engagement by CNL continue concurrently.

Hearing details

Date: Week of October 4, 2027
Place: To be determined (Winnipeg, Manitoba, and/or virtually via Zoom)
Time: As set by the agenda published prior to the hearing date

The public hearing will be webcast live and available on the CNSC website at cnsccsn.gc.ca. Additional details about the public hearing will be issued at a later date.

During the hearing, the Commission will consider oral and written submissions related to CNL's application from CNL and CNSC staff. The Commission will also consider oral and written interventions from Indigenous Nations and communities, members of the public and other interested parties.

CNL's licence renewal application is available [on the CNSC website](#) or upon request to the Commission Registry. CNL's submission and CNSC staff's recommendations to be considered at the hearing will be available on the CNSC website, or on request to the Registry, after **May 27, 2027**.

Participant funding

In advance of the public hearing, the CNSC will be making funding available through its [Participant Funding Program](#). The purpose of this funding is to assist Indigenous Nations and communities, members of the public and interested parties in reviewing CNSC staff's and CNL's submissions to the Commission, as well as in participating in the hearing process by providing topic-specific interventions to the Commission. Additional details about the funding will be available after September 21, 2026.

Interventions

Pursuant to rule 19 of the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure](#) (the Rules), persons who have an interest or expertise in this matter or information that may be useful to the Commission in coming to a decision are invited to comment on CNL's application. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Commission Registry by **July 22, 2027**, using the [online request form](#), [email](#), or the contact information below. **The request to intervene must include the following information:**

- a written submission of the comments to be presented to the Commission, including an appendix with all documents mentioned as references in the written submission
- a statement setting out whether the requester wishes to intervene by way of written submission only or by way of written submission and oral presentation
- the requester's name, address, telephone number and email address

Oral presenters that wish to use a PowerPoint presentation are asked to submit their slide decks to the Commission Registry by **September 22, 2027**. All submissions will be available for [download](#) on the CNSC website or on request to the Commission Registry. Personal information, such as email address and telephone number, is essential for linking the submission to its author. If you wish to ensure the confidentiality of your personal information, please submit it on a separate page.

Individuals who require Indigenous language interpretation for the hearing are asked to contact the Commission Registry by **July 5, 2027**, to request interpretation services. If the request is received after this date, the Commission Registry will do its best to provide interpretation services.

Obligation for providing documentary material for the record

Under rule 15 of the Rules, any documentary evidence, written submission or other material filed with the Commission shall be open to the participants and the public (subject to any confidentiality measures taken by the Commission, as described below).

Submissions must follow the guidance in the [Directive on Submitting Documentary Evidence for the Record](#).

Confidentiality

Under rule 12, the Commission may take steps to protect confidential information. Persons intending to submit information that could be confidential must follow the guidance in the [Directive on Requesting Confidentiality](#).

For further information on the Participant Funding Program, contact:

Administrator, Participant Funding Program
Tel.: 613-415-2814 or 1-800-668-5284
Email: pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca
Web: [Participant Funding Program](#)

For further information on the public Commission hearing process, or on the licensee or the facility being considered in this matter, or to request documents, contact:

Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St
PO Box 1046 Stn B
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

Tel.: 613-462-7489
Fax: 613-995-5086
Email: interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca
Web: [Participate in a public hearing](#)

For inquiries to the applicant, contact:

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