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# Notice of Public Hearing and Participant Funding

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March 4, 2024

Ref. 2024-H-07

## **CNSC to conduct public hearing on application from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Ltd. for 3-year renewal of decommissioning licence for Whiteshell Laboratories site**

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will hold a public hearing to consider an application from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Ltd. (CNL) for a 3-year renewal of its nuclear research and test establishment decommissioning licence for the Whiteshell Laboratories site. The Whiteshell Laboratories site is located in the municipality of Pinawa, Manitoba and in the homeland of the Red River Métis, Treaty 1 and Treaty 3 territories and the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Ojibway Peoples.

The current decommissioning licence for CNL's Whiteshell Laboratories site is valid until December 31, 2024. The licence authorizes CNL to conduct decommissioning activities at the Whiteshell Laboratories site, including the decommissioning of the Whiteshell Reactor #1 (WR-1), waste management areas, storage facilities, and other nuclear and non-nuclear buildings. In its licence renewal application, CNL is not requesting the authorization of any new licensed activities.

With respect to the decommissioning of WR-1, the decommissioning approach authorized under the current licence is a complete dismantlement and removal of the facility. In its licence renewal application, CNL indicates that it intends to submit a separate licence amendment application related to the potential *in-situ* decommissioning of WR-1. As such, consideration of the potential *in-situ* decommissioning of WR-1 is out of the scope of this licence renewal hearing.

### **Hearing details**

Date: October 23–24, 2024  
Place: In the community (location to be determined) and 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](https://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 from CNL and CNSC staff related to CNL's application. The Commission will also consider oral and written interventions from members of the public, Indigenous Nations and communities, and other interested parties.

CNL's application is available [on its website](#). CNL's hearing submission and CNSC staff's recommendations to be considered at the hearing will be available on the CNSC website, or on request to the Commission Registry, after **July 18, 2024**.

## **Participant funding**

In advance of the public hearing, the CNSC is making available up to **\$75,000** in funding through its [Participant Funding Program](#). The purpose of the 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, and in participating in the hearing process by providing topic-specific interventions to the Commission. Participant funding applications must clearly demonstrate how the proposed submission will provide the Commission with information directly related to CNL's request to renew the decommissioning licence for its Whiteshell Laboratories for a period of 3 years. Please note that the \$75,000 will be disbursed among all successful applicants. The deadline for submitting a completed participant funding application form is **April 19, 2024**.

## **Interventions**

Pursuant to rule 19 of the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure](#), 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 **September 16, 2024**, 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
- 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 who wish to use a PowerPoint presentation are asked to submit their slide decks to the Commission Registry by **October 10, 2024**. 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 **May 10, 2024**, to request interpretation services.

**For further information on the Participant Funding Program, contact:**

Participant Funding Program Administrator, CNSC

Tel.: 613-415-2814 or 1-800-668-5284

Email: [pfpc@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pfpc@cnsc-ccsn.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.: 613-858-7651

Fax: 613-995-5086

Email: [interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)

Web: [Participate in a public Commission hearing](#)

**For inquiries to the applicant, contact:**

Whiteshell Laboratories Communications

1 Ara Mooradian Way

Pinawa, MB R0E 1L0

Tel: 204-753-2311

Email: [wocommunications@cnl.ca](mailto:wocommunications@cnl.ca)

Web: [Whiteshell Laboratories Decommissioning](#)