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**Written submission from
Lac La Ronge Indian Band
and Kitsaki Management
Limited Partnership**

**Mémoire de
Lac La Ronge Indian Band et
Kitsaki Management Limited
Partnership**

**Regulatory Oversight Report for
Uranium Mines and Mills in
Canada: 2019**

**Rapport de surveillance
réglementaire pour les mines et
usines de concentration d'uranium
au Canada : 2019**

Commission Meeting

Réunion de la Commission

December 10, 2020

Le 10 décembre 2020

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Lac La Ronge Indian Band

November 16, 2020

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater St. Ottawa ON
Email: cns.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca

Re: Intervention letter on Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada: 2019

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this intervention letter on behalf of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) and Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership (KMLP).

The LLRIB is the largest First Nation in Saskatchewan, and one of the largest in Canada with over 11,215 band members. The LLRIB lands, 19 reserves in total, extend from farmlands in central Saskatchewan all the way north through the boreal forest to the Churchill River and beyond. We are a Woodland Cree First Nation, members of the Prince Albert Grand Council and we pride ourselves on a commitment to education opportunities, business successes, and improving the well-being of our band members. We manage our own internationally accredited Indian Child and Family Services and have strong business ventures through our Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership and Keethanow Group of Businesses.

Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership performs the for-profit economic development activities of the Lac La Range Indian Band. Kitsaki invests in several sectors including: transportation, hospitality, environmental, mining, engineering, utility vegetation management, and insurance. Kitsaki's focus is on long term sustainable businesses. Kitsaki examines many potential business opportunities and selects only a few that meet appropriate profitability, risk and employment criteria.

Northern Resource Trucking (NRT) and Athabasca Catering (ACLP) are great examples of successful businesses that have been serving Cameco for decades and have provided profits and jobs to LLRIB and northern Saskatchewan communities.

NRT is 71% Indigenous owned. It has a long-term record of success in providing safe transportation in northern Saskatchewan serving the mining industry. Cameco is NRT's largest customer and provided Kitsaki and the LLRIB our very first opportunity more than thirty years ago. Since then, the partnership model has expanded to include 11 First Nation

and Metis communities in northern Saskatchewan and has grown in terms of capacity, employees and profitability. Without business from Cameco, the benefits that go to our communities, our employees and our trainees would not be possible.

ACLP also has a wide ownership base representing over 18,000 people. The 5 owners are Black Lake, Hatchet Lake, Fond du Lac, English River and the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. ACLP provides food service, housekeeping and janitorial services for several customers and Cameco is its largest customer. ACLP is a rare example of a 100% First Nations owned and managed camp catering business that provides many jobs for Residents of Saskatchewan's North. The large majority of the jobs and 100% of the profits go to Indigenous people and their communities. ACLP has sponsored many training programs to help Indigenous people in all areas including Senior Management, Chef, and supervisors.

Over the years NRT and ACLP have paid tens of millions of dollars to its northern Indigenous partners. These funds have been used to make new business investments, and to support much needed social projects for communities such as senior's homes, playgrounds, youth and Elder's programs, and even home renovations. First Nations and Metis communities have very little discretionary governmental funding and the investment income generated for these Indigenous communities is vital to improving their future.

We are also proud of the work being done by Canada North Environmental Services Ltd (CanNorth), 100% owned by Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership, one of the largest environmental service providers in western Canada. CanNorth has been able to provide high quality environmental and heritage services to a diverse portfolio of clients for a wide range of projects. The experience gained through our partnership with Cameco has increased our experience; the technical skills and knowledge to protect the environment, satisfy regulatory requirements, benefit our clients, and support local communities. Being First Nation owned, it is important that we maximize Indigenous community involvement in projects, including integrating traditional knowledge, engaging, and employing local people in environmental programs, and creating employment and education opportunities.

This past summer, the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) awarded Cameco one of its prestigious Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) Excellence Awards in recognition of the Community Based Environmental Monitoring Program (CBEMP) we lead and its innovative and sustainable support that employs local community members, builds capacity with a focus on community engagement and environmental stewardship.

CanNorth also fully supports other community-based monitoring programs such as the Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program (EARMP). The EARMP monitoring work is partially funded by the CNSC and demonstrates that the food and water in the Athabasca Basin of northern Saskatchewan remain safe for consumption.

Northern Saskatchewan and the LLRIB have been hit hard by the loss of jobs and increased unemployment in recent years. The jobs and profits from businesses like NRT, ACLP and CanNorth are the foundation for a brighter future for Indigenous people. Cameco remains very supportive of these efforts and is well aware of the magnitude of the challenges facing the LLRIB and many other northern communities.

In 2019 we completed another full year as partners with Cameco under the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) Collaboration Agreement (CA) ¹ signed in 2017. The LLRIB communities created new activities, employment and programs through the CA and the funds were used for a variety of community-based initiatives.

Under the CA, Cameco continues to build on initiatives for the community in areas of business development, workforce development, LLRIB community investments, scholarship programs and community engagement. The CA has made it possible for infrastructure programs, administrative services, education, health, public safety, environmental protection, culture, sports, recreation, and business development.

Under the agreement, Cameco and the Lands and Resource Management Board (LRMB) maintain open lines of communication to ensure that the LLRIB community is informed, engaged and a mechanism to address issues raised by the communities. In addition, a Traditional Lands and Resource Coordinator was hired in 2019 and coordinates efforts between Cameco and the LRMB. Operational information continues to be shared to keep LLRIB informed on the mine sites and on the methods Cameco executes to avoid and minimize environmental impacts. During engagement opportunities with the communities, we encourage community members to share questions and concerns about the operations and environment.

Cameco and LLRIB have built a long-standing relationship and I am pleased to provide this letter of support regarding the 2019 Regulatory Oversight Report (ROR) for Uranium Mines and Mills in Canada. While in operation and during care and maintenance, we have been well informed about the operations included in the 2019 submission.

Tiniki,



Chief Tammy Cook-Searson
President and Chair, Board of Directors
Kitsaki Management

cc. Kristin Cuddington, Manager, Community and Indigenous Engagement, Cameco
Russell, Roberts, CEO, Kitsaki Management

¹ The Parties to the Lac La Ronge Indian Band Collaboration Agreement are the Lac La Ronge Indian Band and Cameco Corporation.