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Written submission from the Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Program Integration at CNL

Mémoire de l' Intégration du programme de déclassement et d'assainissement environnemental des LNC

In the Matter of the

À l'égard des

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL)

Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens (LNC)

Application from the CNL to amend its Chalk River Laboratories site licence to authorize the construction of a near surface disposal facility Demande des LNC visant à modifier le permis du site des Laboratoires de Chalk River pour autoriser la construction d'une installation de gestion des déchets près de la surface

Commission Public Hearing Part 2

Audience publique de la Commission Partie 2

May and June 2022

Mai et juin 2022





2022 April 11

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission 280 Slater Street P.O. Box 1046, Station B Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Canadian Nuclear

Laboratories

Laboratoires Nucléaires

Canadiens

## Letter of support for Canadian Nuclear Laboratories' application to construct a near surface disposal facility (IAA Reference Number: 80122)

Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Program Integration supports CNL's proposed Near Surface Disposal Facility project to address radioactive waste currently at Chalk River Laboratories.

The undersigned staff from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation (D&ER) Program Integration organization supports CNL's proposed Near Surface Disposal Facility project to address radioactive waste currently at Chalk River Laboratories (CRL) site.

Our organization is responsible to support all the activities at following site CRL, DP, G1, NPD and WR-1 to reduce the risks and liabilities of historic facilities, wastes, and contaminated lands on the above listed site. This includes Planning, Engineering, Program Control, Innovation, Commercial and continuous improvement to support the facilities during decommissioning, we support the generation of the largest volumes of low level waste, and to progress our clean up mission we require a long term solution. We are leaders in nuclear decommissioning and soil remediation in Canada, and execute our work reflective of the safety standards that the industry demands and society expects.

Chalk River Laboratories is central to Canada's nuclear industry, and has been the source of breakthroughs in science and technology for the past 70 years.

Research at Chalk River Laboratories directly supports the nuclear industry in many ways, including conducting cancer research, and producing innovative technology for the sustainability of nuclear reactors in Canadian communities that provide power for millions of people.

Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Program Integration is aware of CNL's current efforts to modernize Chalk River Laboratories. The revitalization of Chalk River Labs is critical for continued research in nuclear science.

We are also aware of the issue of legacy radioactive waste from previous industrial activities, and the burden this puts on future generations. CNL's application to construct a near surface disposal facility at Chalk River is critical to the current modernization of the laboratory as well

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as CNL's overall activities. The proposal to construct an engineered disposal facility for the waste at Chalk River represents a major step forward for Canada's waste management industry as it provides a permanent solution for low-level radioactive waste.

This proposal also requires CNL to engage with members of the public to ensure accurate information about the project is made available. As staff, we have been engaged about the NSDF proposal and we believe that the information that has been made available for the public has been fulsome, accurate and transparent.

The approval of this project is not only important for the future of Chalk River Laboratories, but also for the overall approach to nuclear waste management to address future waste liabilities in Canada.

As Canada's independent nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission is internationally recognized as a world leader in evidence-based decision making. Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Program Integration is confident in the regulatory process to ensure that the NSDF proposal will meet the highest standards for safety. The proposal has been extensively studied and the engineered near surface design is an appropriate solution for disposal of low-level radioactive waste.

Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Program Integration is satisfied with the results of the NSDF Environmental Assessment and supports CNL's proposal for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste at Chalk River Laboratories.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to intervene in this process,

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