



**CMD 25-H12.B-C1**

Date: 2026-02-09

## **Supplementary Information**

### **Appendix C of CMD 25-H12.B Volume 1**

In the matter of the

#### **NexGen Energy Ltd.**

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License application to prepare a site for  
and construct its Rook I uranium mine and  
mill project

#### **Commission Public Hearing**

February 2026

## **Renseignements supplémentaires**

### **Annexe C du CMD 25-H12.B Volume 1**

À l'égard du

#### **NexGen Energy Ltd.**

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Demande de permis concernant la  
préparation de l'emplacement et la  
construction de son projet de mine et  
d'usine de concentration d'uranium Rook I

#### **Audience publique de la Commission**

Février 2026

## **C.1      General Correspondence with Indigenous Nations and communities**





April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865699

Chief Elmer Campbell  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
P.O. Box 40  
Dillon, SK S0M 0S0

[elmercampbell35@gmail.com](mailto:elmercampbell35@gmail.com)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Campbell:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

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- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment circuit and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.

## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

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As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

## **Participant Funding Program**

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### **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project and encourages you, during the review process, to:

- advise the CNSC of any adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights; and if so
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on the right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated as well as any evidence that will help in understanding these concerns
- provide local and traditional knowledge to support determination of potential impacts and potential mitigation measures
- advise the CNSC of how you and your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown as part of the regulatory review process for this project

### **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

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We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:

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If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

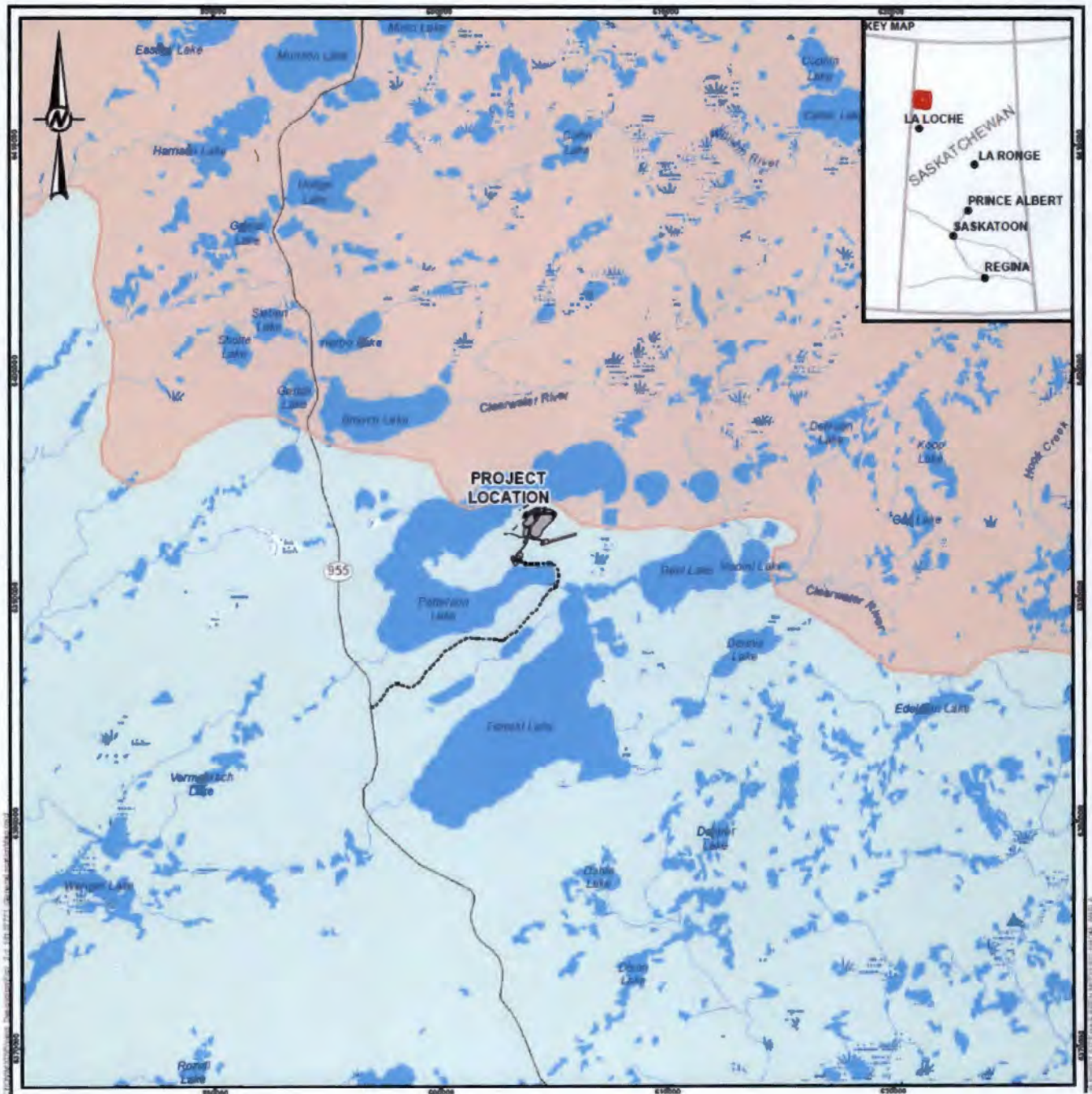
c.c.: P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

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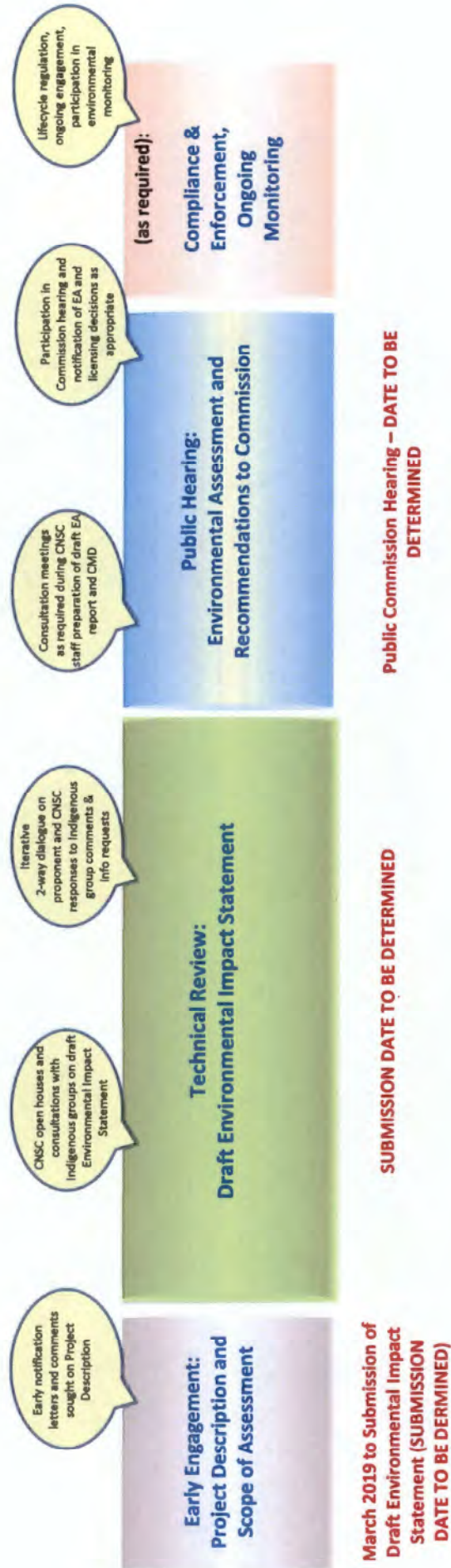
Métis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
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Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council



# Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project



## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079





April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865685

Mr. Glenn McCallum, President  
Métis Nation – Saskatchewan  
Northern Region 11  
Suite 201, 208-19th St W,  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 5X8

[glenmccallum@mns.work](mailto:glenmccallum@mns.work)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear President McCallum:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

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Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

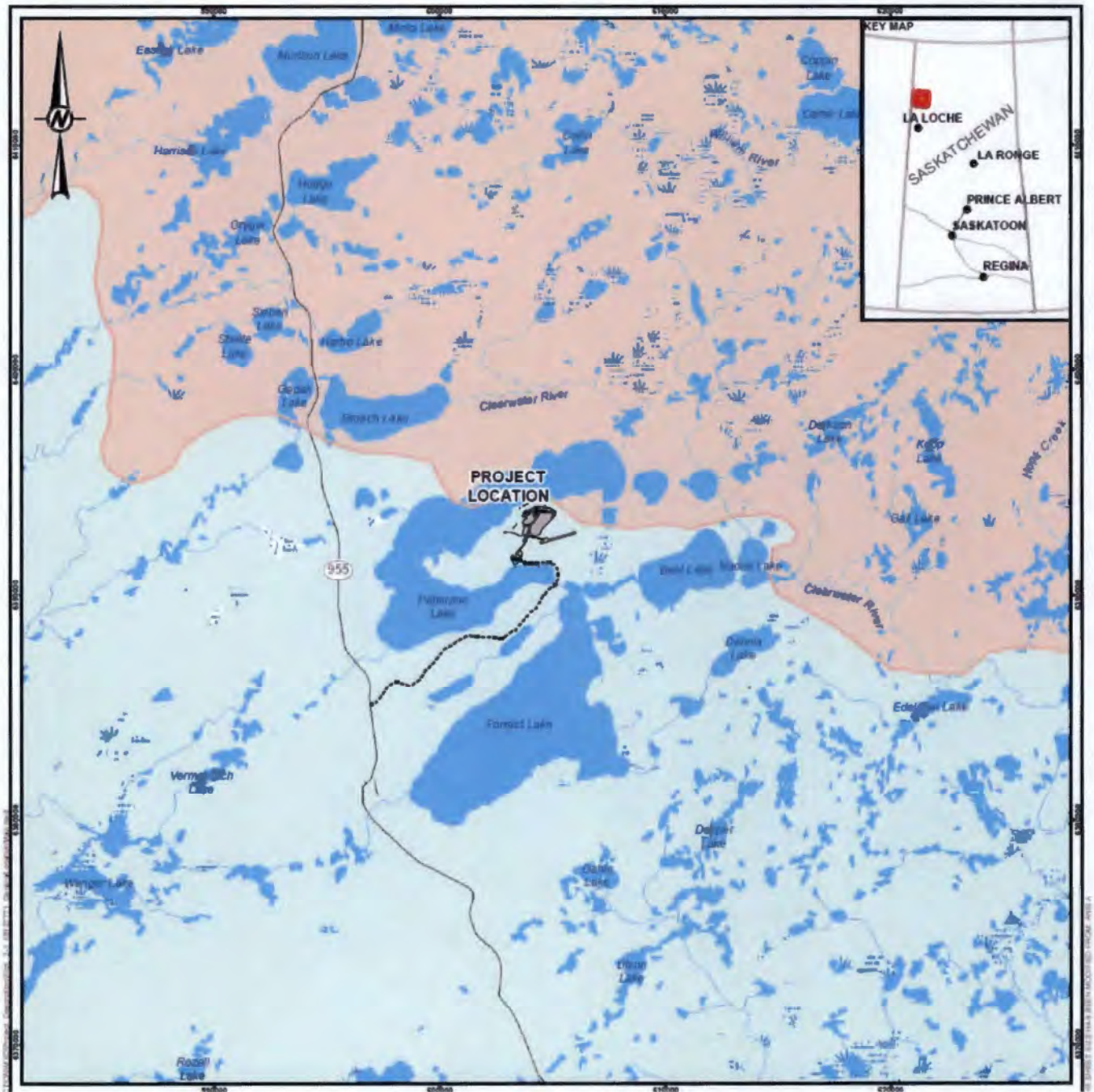
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c.c.: [nvp.glen@sasktel.net](mailto:nvp.glen@sasktel.net), [leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca](mailto:leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca), [mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)  
P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
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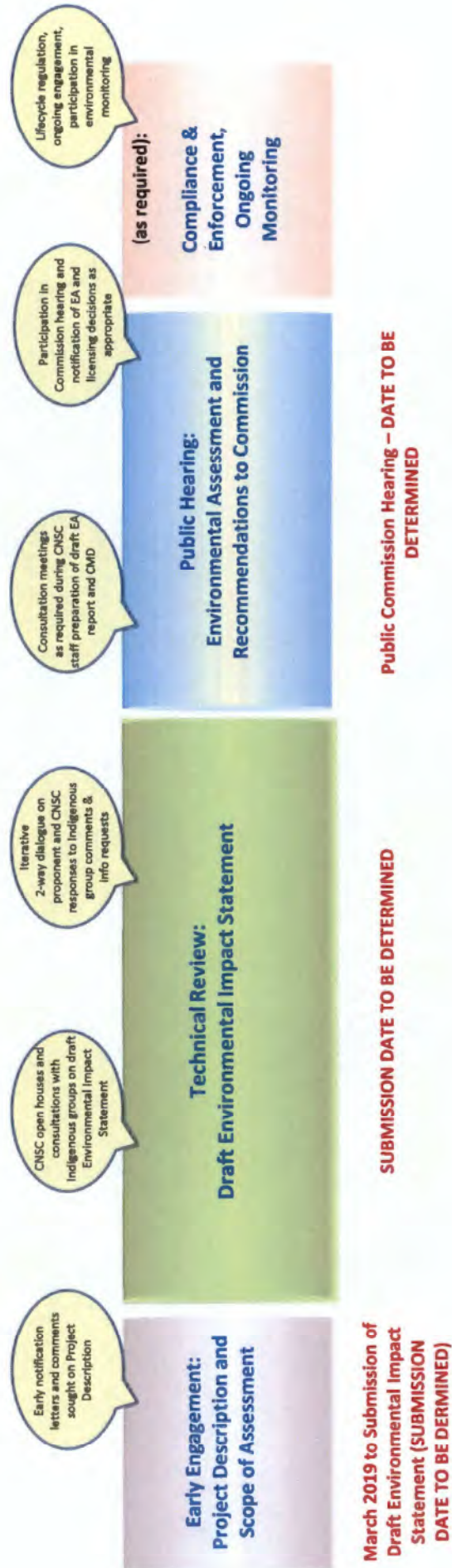
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## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865489

Chief Allan Adam  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Box 336  
Fort Chipewyan, AB T0P 1B0

[aadam@acfn.com](mailto:aadam@acfn.com)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Adam:

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Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: [lisa.tssessaze@acfn.com](mailto:lisa.tssessaze@acfn.com), [jay.telegdi@acfn.com](mailto:jay.telegdi@acfn.com), [jflett50@hotmail.com](mailto:jflett50@hotmail.com)  
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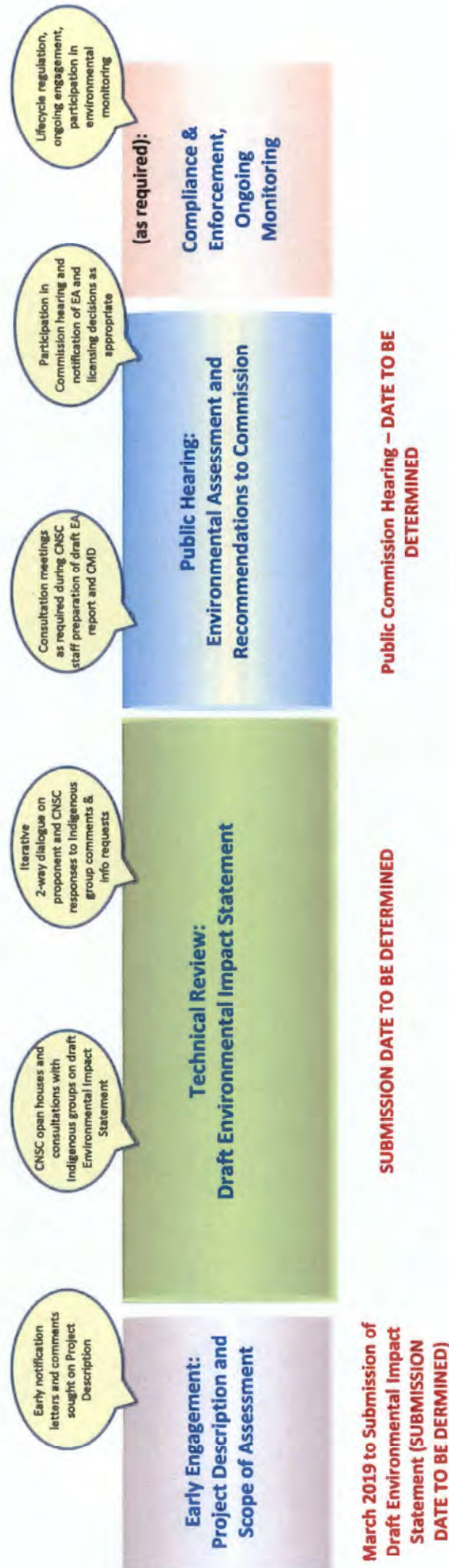
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## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079





April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865693

Chief Teddy Clarke  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
P.O. Box 5050  
Clearwater River, SK S0M 3H0

[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Clarke:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

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- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

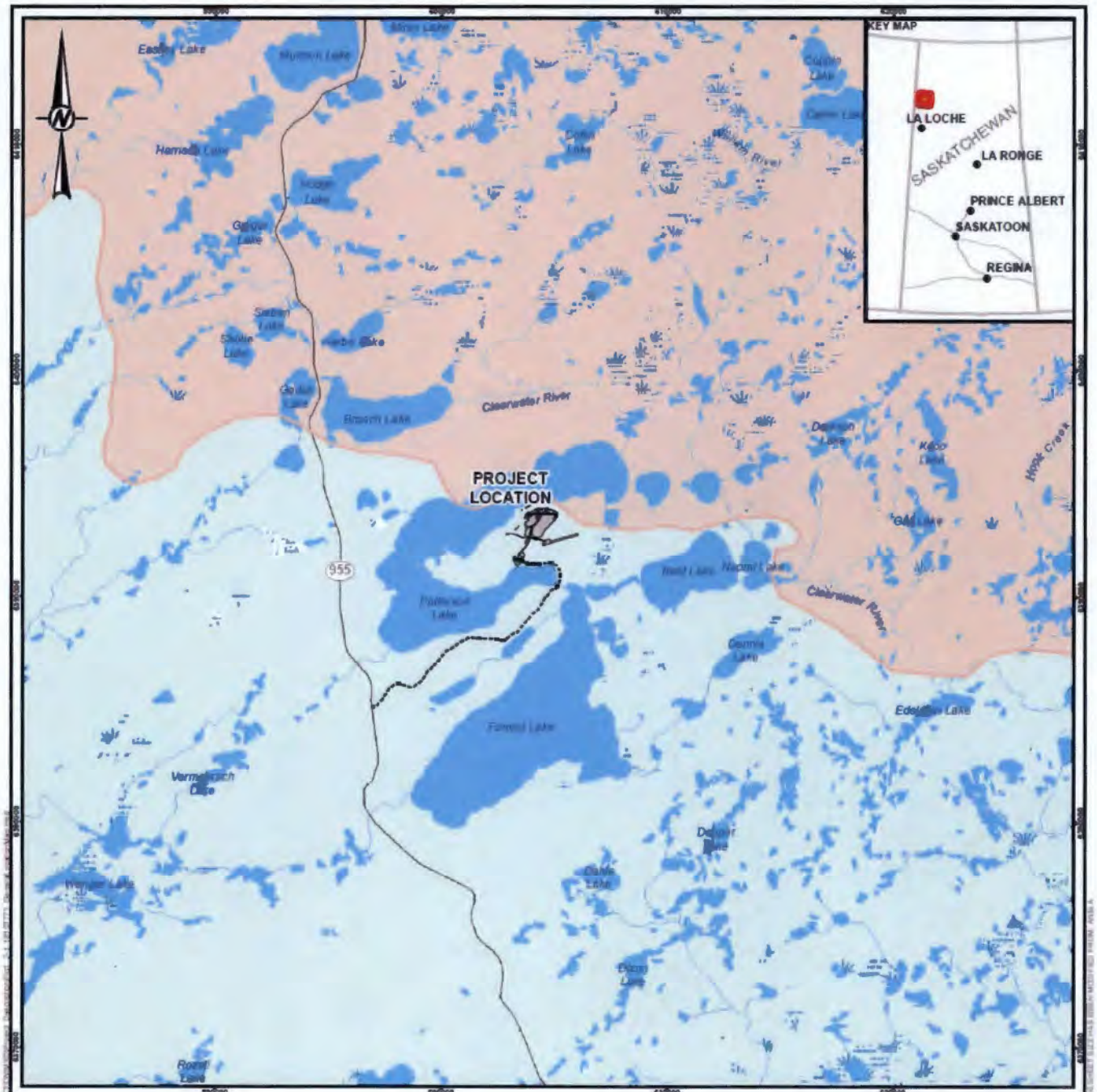
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: [MGeneral@jfkclaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkclaw.ca), [walter.hainault@crdn.com](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.com), [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)  
P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

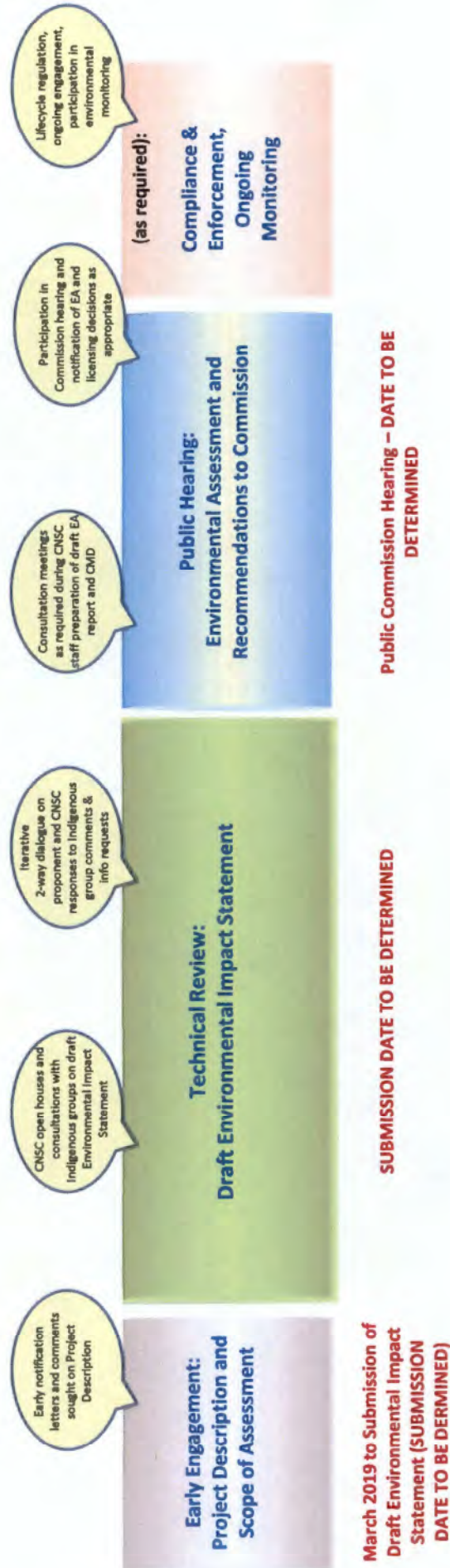
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Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079





April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865651

Chief Coreen Sayazie  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
P.O. Box 27  
Black Lake, SK S0J 0H0

[csayazie@hotmail.com](mailto:csayazie@hotmail.com)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Sayazie:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
- an on-site mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.



## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

## **Participant Funding Program**

The CNSC has established a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to enhance participation in the CNSC’s regulatory processes. Funding for this project will be offered for participation in both the EA/licensing and Commission hearing processes. The availability of PFP will be announced within the next few months (around the same time as the official posting of the Notice of Commencement for the project). Once the availability of funding is announced we will provide you with further details on the application process, scope of funding and amounts available.

Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnsccfp@canada.ca](mailto:cnsccfp@canada.ca).



## **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project.

## **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

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## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

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Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC

c.c.: tlbbeavereye@hotmail.com

P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC

A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

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Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

Clearwater River Dene Nation

Fond-de-Lac Denesuline First Nation

Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office

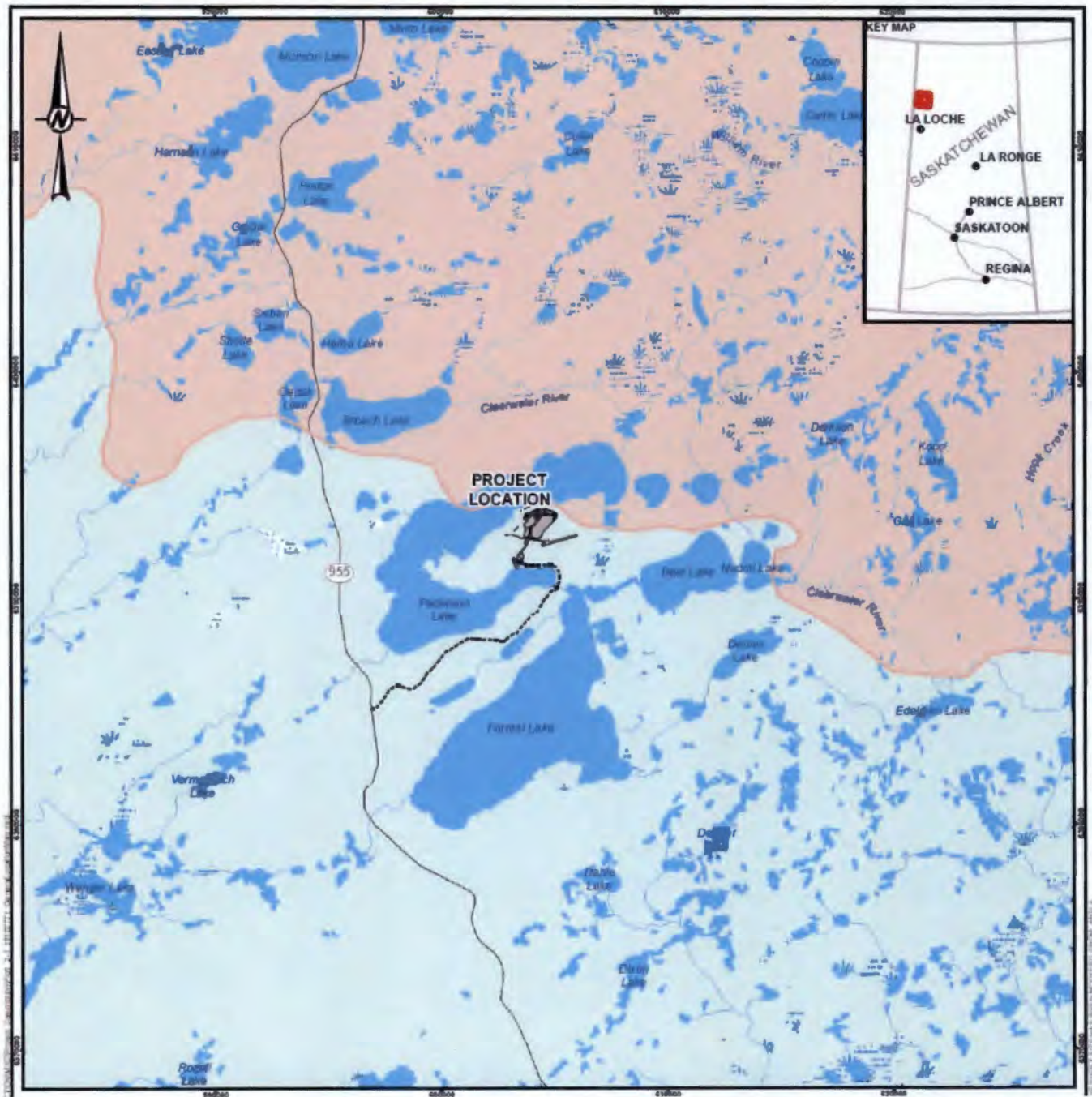
Buffalo River Dene Nation

Birch Narrows Dene Nation

English River First Nation

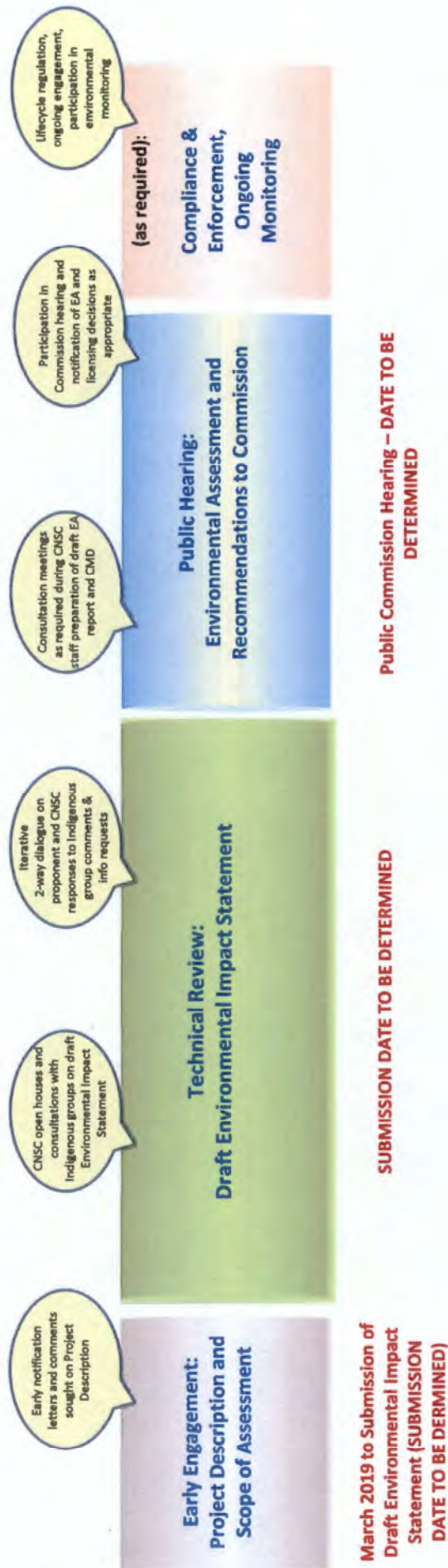
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

**Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project**





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865646

Chief Louis Mercredi  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
P.O. Box 211  
Fond-du-Lac, SK S0J 0W0

[louis.mercredi@fonddulac.ca](mailto:louis.mercredi@fonddulac.ca)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Mercredi:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

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Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.



## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

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## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

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Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnscc.pfp@canada.ca](mailto:cnscc.pfp@canada.ca).



## **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project.

## **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

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## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

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If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

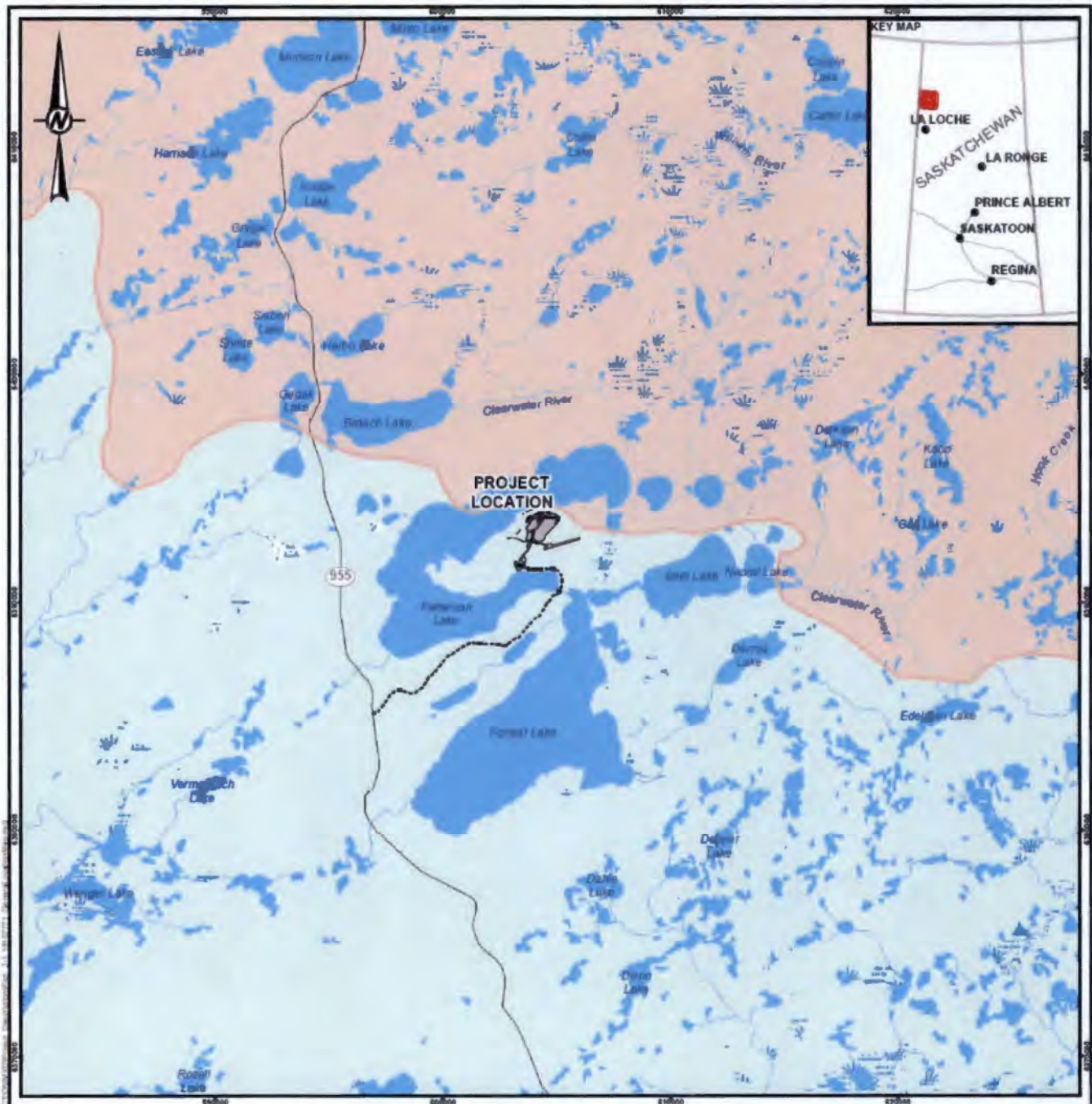
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC

c.c.: P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

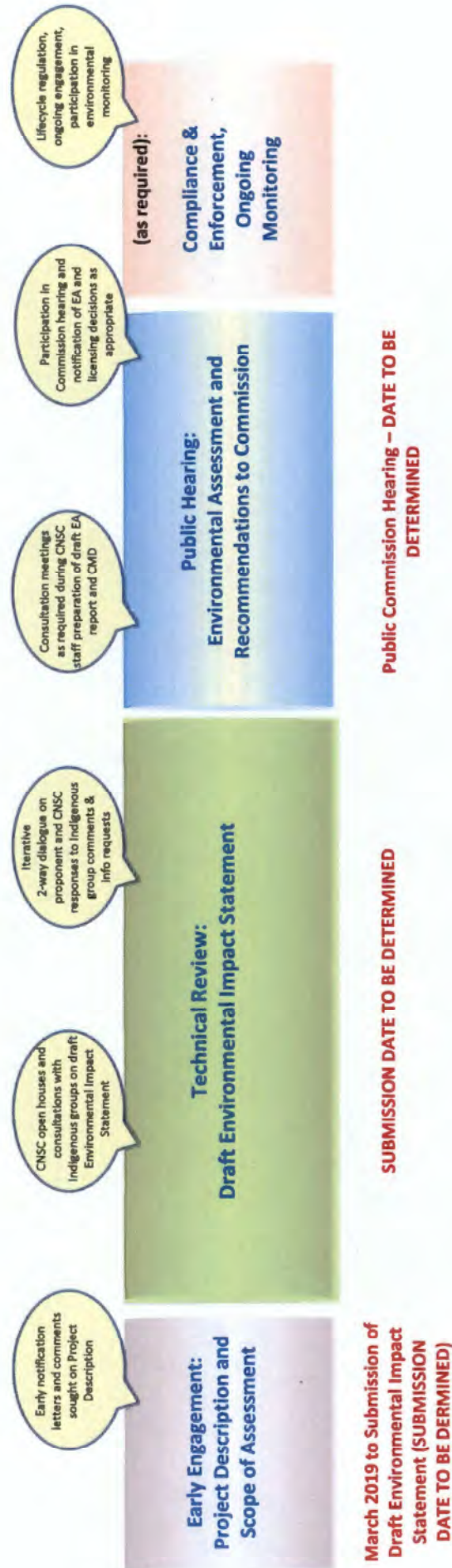
Metis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865657

Mr. Garrett Schmidt  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office

[garrett.schmidt@yathinene.com](mailto:garrett.schmidt@yathinene.com)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

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Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.



## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
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## **Participant Funding Program**

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Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

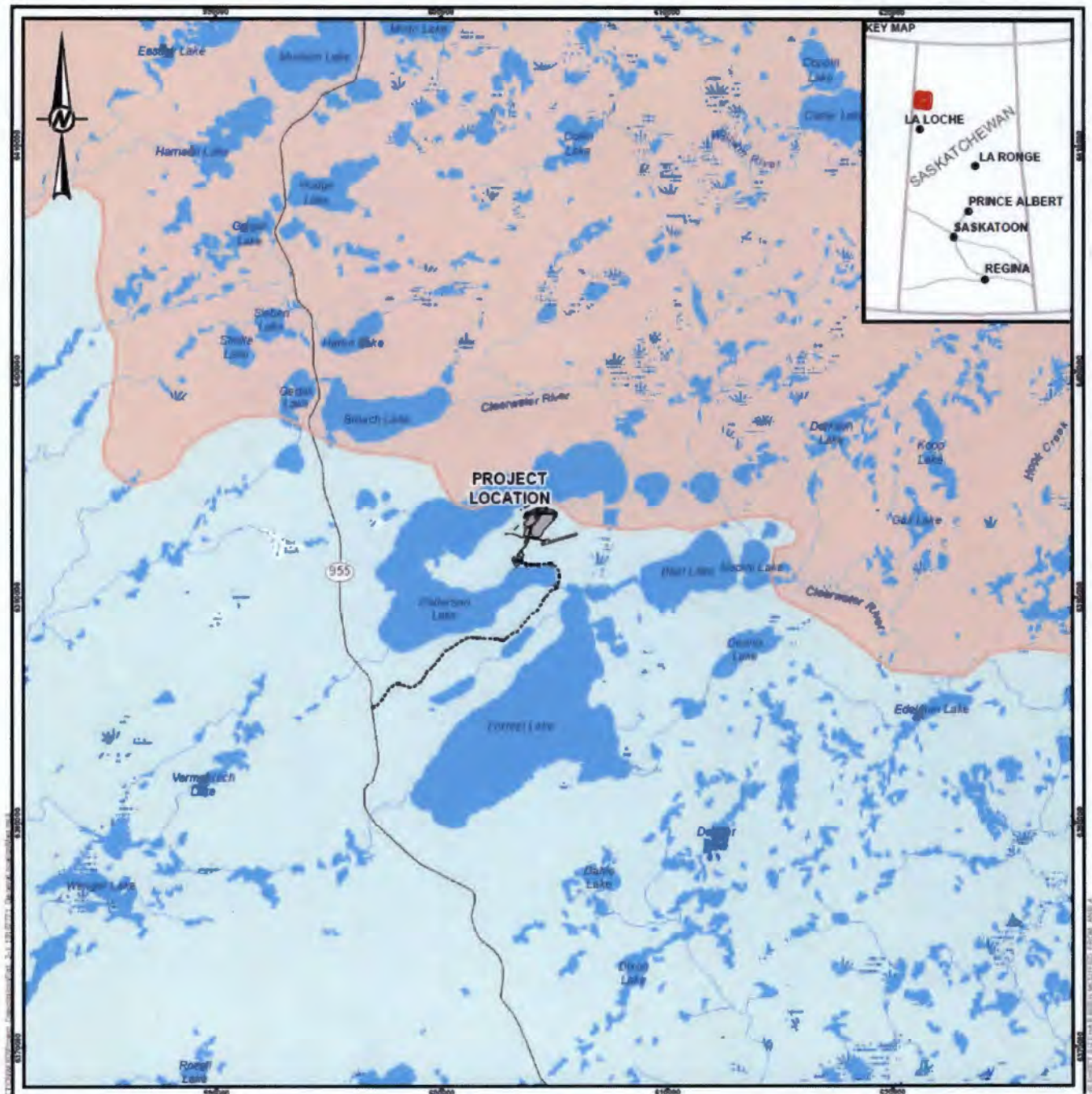
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: [linda.mcnabb@yathinene.com](mailto:linda.mcnabb@yathinene.com), [louis.mercredi@fonddulac.ca](mailto:louis.mercredi@fonddulac.ca), [csayazie@hotmail.com](mailto:csayazie@hotmail.com),  
[tlbbeavereye@hotmail.com](mailto:tlbbeavereye@hotmail.com)  
P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
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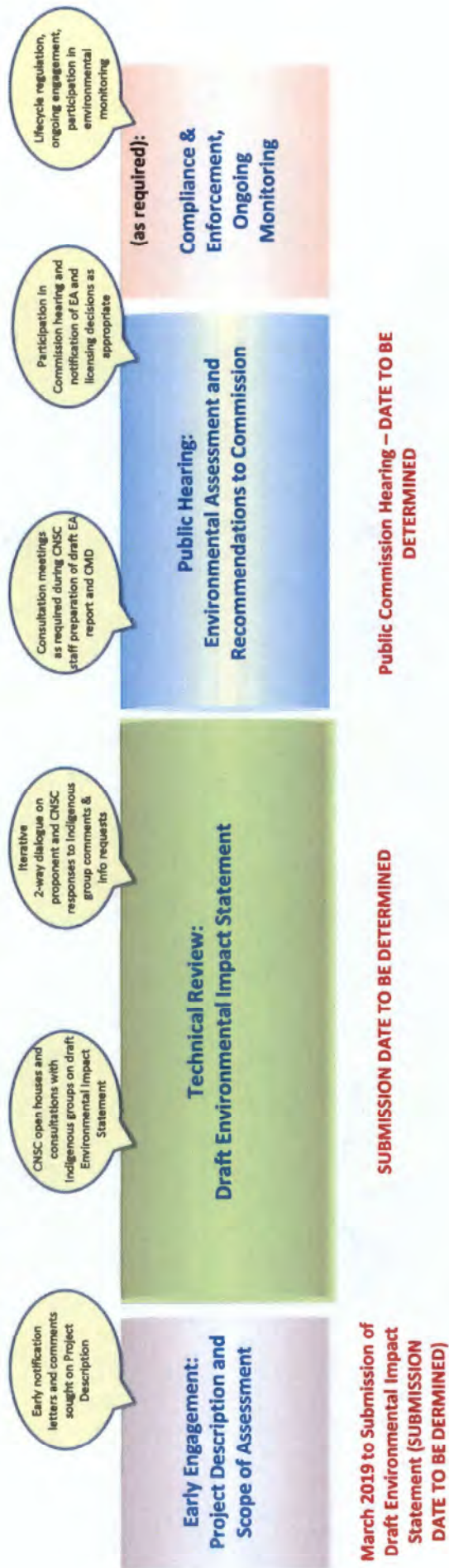
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Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865717

Chief Jonathan Sylvester  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
General Delivery  
Turnor Lake, SK S0M 3E0

[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Sylvester:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

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Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnscc.pfp@ccsn.ca](mailto:cnscc.pfp@ccsn.ca).

### **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project and encourages you, during the review process, to:

- advise the CNSC of any adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights; and if so
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on the right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated as well as any evidence that will help in understanding these concerns
- provide local and traditional knowledge to support determination of potential impacts and potential mitigation measures
- advise the CNSC of how you and your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown as part of the regulatory review process for this project

### **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.



## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:

<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

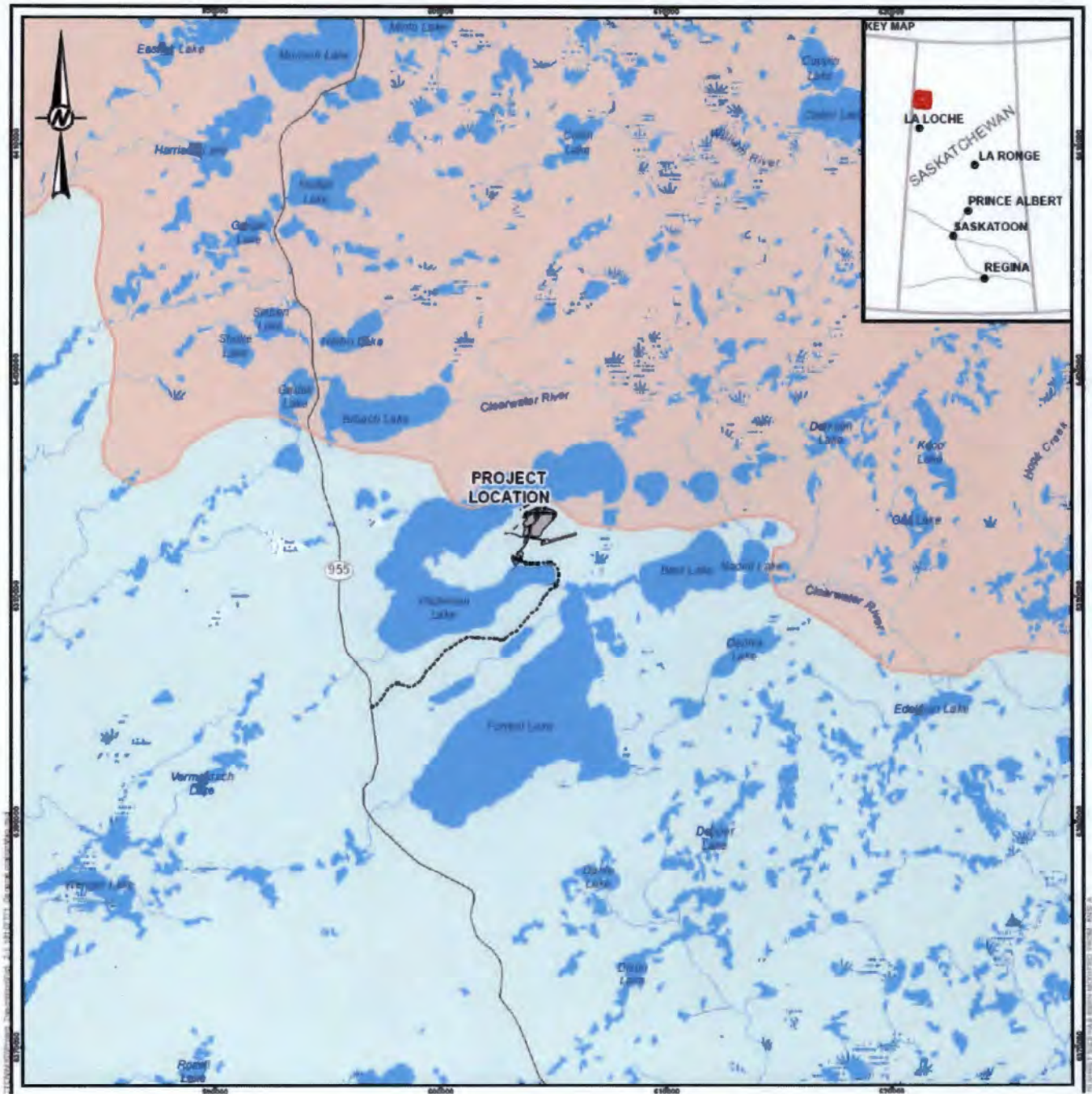
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

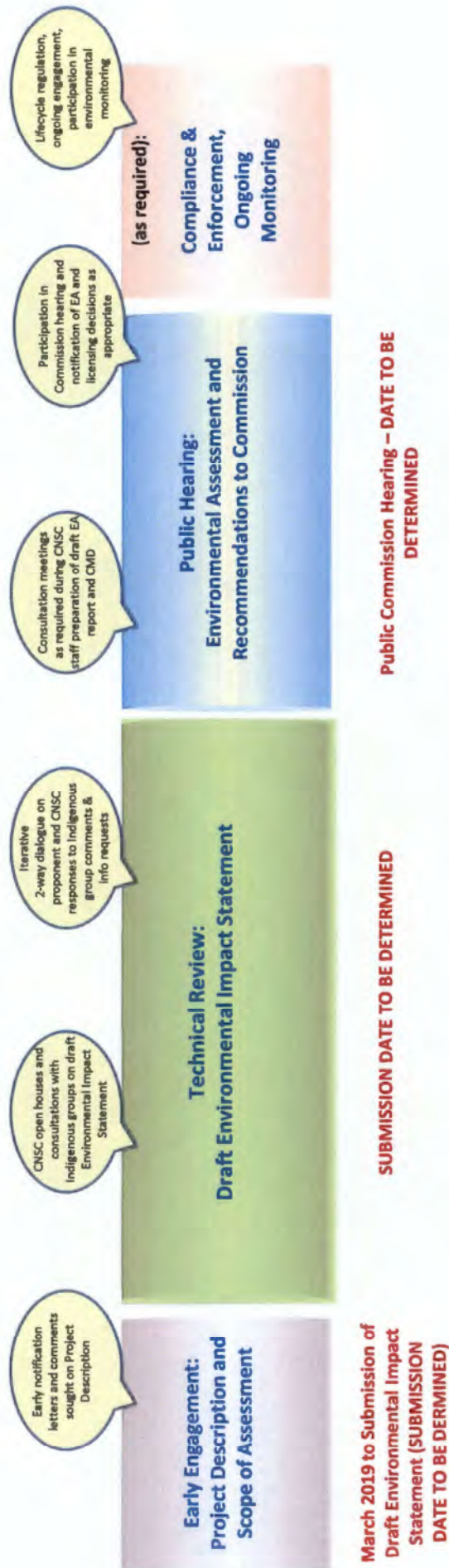
Métis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I ranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865661

Chief Lawrence McIntyre  
English River First Nation

[lawrence.mcintyre@erfn.net](mailto:lawrence.mcintyre@erfn.net)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief McIntyre:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
- an on-site mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.



## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

## **Participant Funding Program**

The CNSC has established a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to enhance participation in the CNSC’s regulatory processes. Funding for this project will be offered for participation in both the EA/licensing and Commission hearing processes. The availability of PFP will be announced within the next few months (around the same time as the official posting of the Notice of Commencement for the project). Once the availability of funding is announced we will provide you with further details on the application process, scope of funding and amounts available.

Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnsccfp@canada.ca](mailto:cnsccfp@canada.ca).



## **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project.

## **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: [cheyenna.campbell@desnedhe.com](mailto:cheyenna.campbell@desnedhe.com)

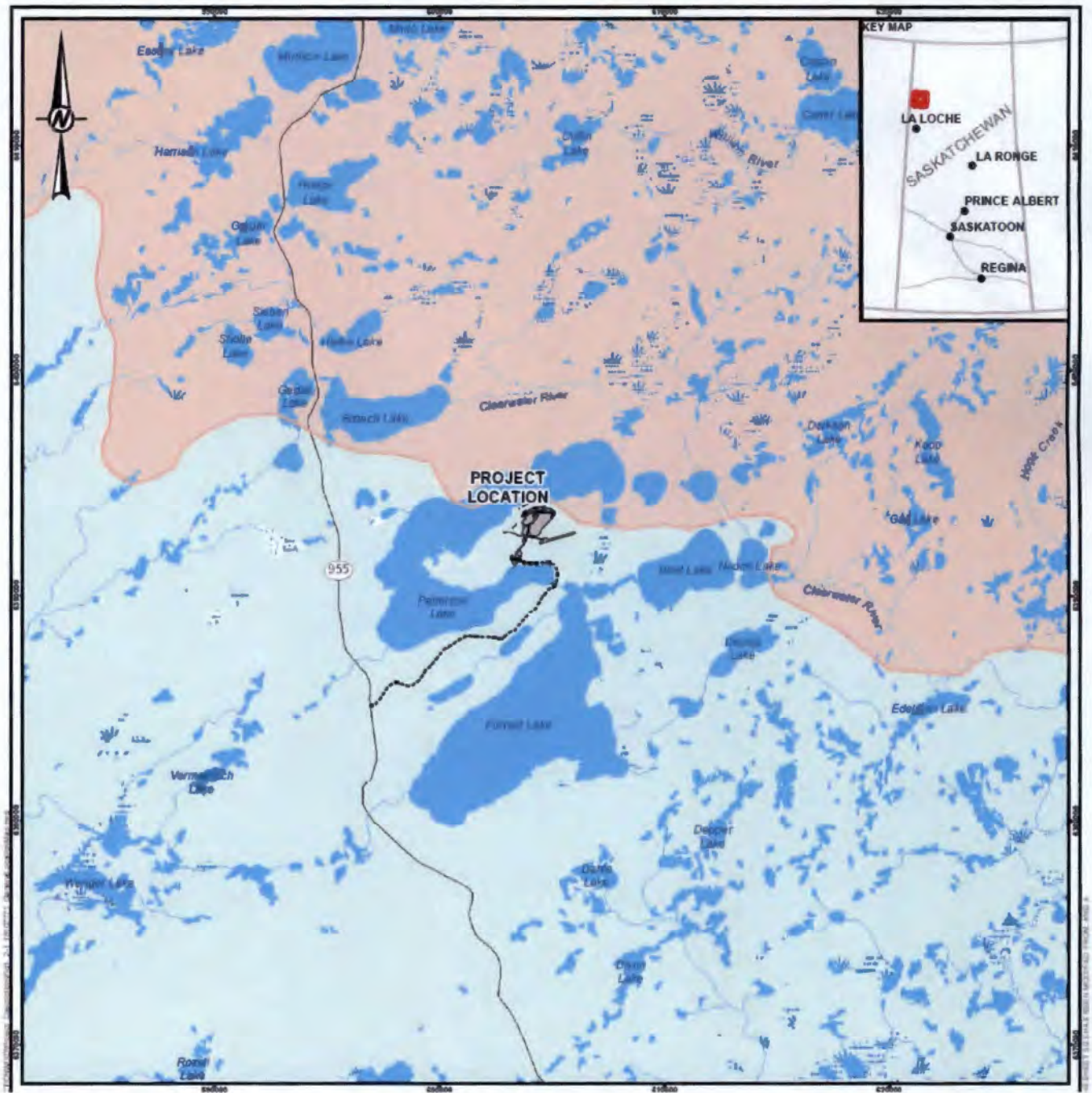
P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC

A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

Metis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-de-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865670

Tribal Chief Richard Ben  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council  
8003 Flying Dust Reserve  
Meadow Lake, SK S9X 1T8

[info@mltc.net](mailto:info@mltc.net)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Ben:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
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- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.



## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

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As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project.

## **Next Steps:**

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- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:

<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



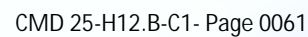
Enclosure:     Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

                  Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.:            P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
                  CNSC  
                  A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

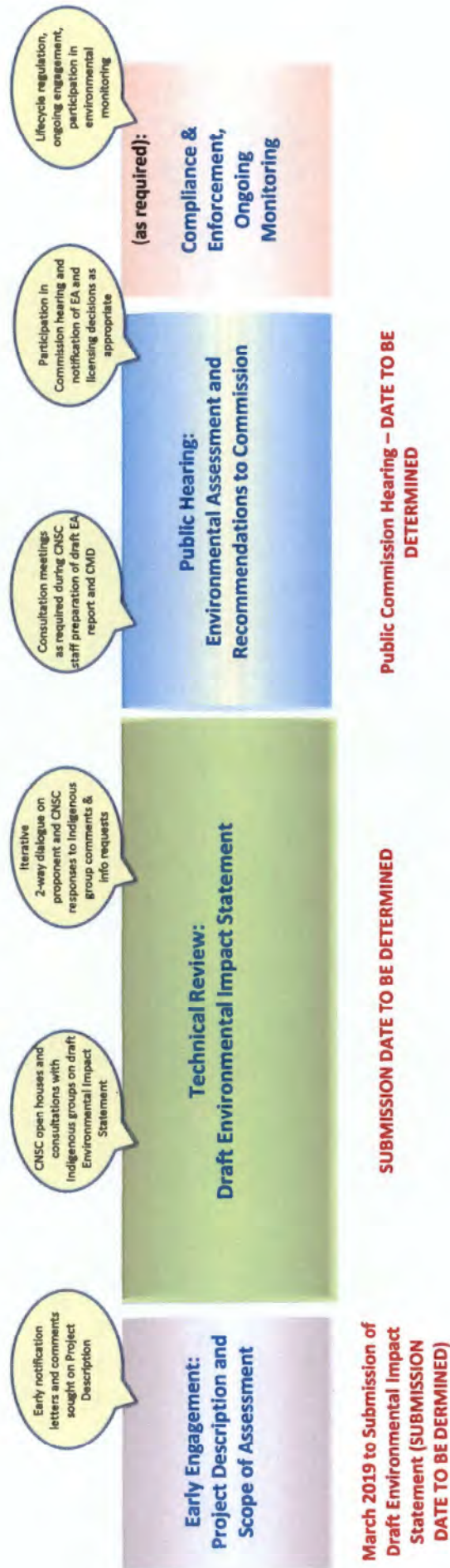
A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

Metis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-de-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079

**From:** [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Bcc:** ['louis.mercredi@fonddulac.ca'; 'info@mltc.net'; 'MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca'; 'walter.hainault@crdn.com';](#)  
**Subject:** Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description  
**Sent:** 2019-05-03 2:34:00 PM

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Good afternoon,

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) is [seeking comments](#) from the public and Indigenous groups on the project description for the proposed Rook I Project (<https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p80171/129514E.pdf>).

The project involves the construction of a new uranium mining and milling operation located on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan.

The CNSC reviewed the project description and determined that it was written in accordance with the Prescribed Information for the Description of a Designated Project Regulations. (These regulations are made under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012). Detailed information about the project will be available in the environmental impact statement, which NexGen Energy Ltd., the proponent, will submit at a later stage of the environmental assessment (EA) process.

Comments on the project description should be based on local, regional or traditional knowledge of the site or surrounding environment, or provide any other relevant information that may help with the conduct of the EA. All comments received will be considered public.

**Written comments must be submitted by June 1, 2019, to:**

Nicole Frigault, Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
P.O. Box 1046 Station B  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9  
Telephone: 613-995-7948 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
Email: [cnscc.ea-ee.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnscc.ea-ee.ccsn@canada.ca)

Following receipt of comments on the project description, CNSC staff will consider all submissions received and make recommendations to inform the Commission's decision on the scope of the factors to be considered in the EA. In addition, CNSC staff will respond to all comments received from members of the public and Indigenous groups. The comments and responses will be placed in a table and publicly posted to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry. Effort will be made to group common issues together.

Following the Commission's decision on the EA scope, NexGen Energy Ltd. will then be required to provide to the CNSC an environmental impact statement (EIS) for review. An EIS is a report that a proponent writes to present the technical studies and findings of an EA. The CNSC's Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>) provide general instructions on preparing the EIS and information that must be included in it in order to comply with CEAA 2012 requirements.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.frigault@canada.ca) or by telephone at 613-995-7948.

Kind regards,

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948





**From:** [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [glenmccallum@mns.work](#); [nvp.glen@sasktel.net](#); [leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca](#); [mcalette@mns.work](#); [aadam@acfn.com](#); [lisa.tsessaze@acfn.com](#); [jay.telegdi@acfn.com](#); [jflett50@hotmail.com](#); [cno@sasktel.net](#); [mgemeral@jfkllaw.ca](#); [walter.hainault@crdn.com](#); [cammer7@shaw.ca](#); [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [tlbbeavereye@hotmail.com](#); [louis.mercredi@fonddulac.ca](#); [elmercampbell35@gmail.com](#); [brdnreception@gmail.com](#); [chief1@birchnarrows.ca](#); [cheyenna.campbell@desnedhe.com](#); [info@mltc.net](#);  
**Bcc:**  
**Subject:** REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description  
**Sent:** 2019-05-31 3:42:00 PM

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Good afternoon,

I am just following up with you to see if you and/or or your community plan to submit comments on the project description for the proposed Rook I Project (<https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p80171/129514E.pdf>).— as detailed in the e-mail correspondence below that was sent to you on May 3, 2019.

If you are planning on submitting comments, and would like an extension to the June 1, 2019 deadline, please let me know and we can certainly find a date that works for you.

Please do not hesitate to phone me at 613-995-7948 or simply respond by e-mail [Nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948



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**From:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 3, 2019 2:30 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description

Good afternoon,

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) is [seeking comments](#) from the public and Indigenous groups on the project description for the proposed Rook I Project (<https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p80171/129514E.pdf>).

The project involves the construction of a new uranium mining and milling operation located on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan.



The CNSC reviewed the project description and determined that it was written in accordance with the Prescribed Information for the Description of a Designated Project Regulations. (These regulations are made under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012). Detailed information about the project will be available in the environmental impact statement, which NexGen Energy Ltd., the proponent, will submit at a later stage of the environmental assessment (EA) process.

Comments on the project description should be based on local, regional or traditional knowledge of the site or surrounding environment, or provide any other relevant information that may help with the conduct of the EA. All comments received will be considered public.

**Written comments must be submitted by June 1, 2019, to:**

Nicole Frigault, Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
P.O. Box 1046 Station B  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9  
Telephone: 613-995-7948 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
Email: [cnscc.ea-ee.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnscc.ea-ee.ccsn@canada.ca)

Following receipt of comments on the project description, CNSC staff will consider all submissions received and make recommendations to inform the Commission's decision on the scope of the factors to be considered in the EA. In addition, CNSC staff will respond to all comments received from members of the public and Indigenous groups. The comments and responses will be placed in a table and publicly posted to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry. Effort will be made to group common issues together.

Following the Commission's decision on the EA scope, NexGen Energy Ltd. will then be required to provide to the CNSC an environmental impact statement (EIS) for review. An EIS is a report that a proponent writes to present the technical studies and findings of an EA. The CNSC's Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>) provide general instructions on preparing the EIS and information that must be included in it in order to comply with CEAA 2012 requirements.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.frigault@canada.ca) or by telephone at 613-995-7948.

Kind regards,

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948





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# *Notice of Upcoming Commission Decision on the Scope of an Environmental Assessment*

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February 17, 2020

Ref. 2019-H-112

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will render a decision in February 2020, based on written submissions by CNSC staff, on the proposed scope of factors to be considered in the conduct of an environmental assessment (EA) for a project proposed by NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen). NexGen has submitted a project description for its proposed Rook I Project, consisting of a proposal for a new uranium mining and milling operation located on the Patterson Lake peninsula in northern Saskatchewan.

CNSC staff determined that NexGen's proposed [Rook I Project](#) meets the definition of a "designated project" under the *Regulations Designating Physical Activities* and is therefore subject to an EA under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012), with the CNSC as the sole Responsible Authority. Although the *Impact Assessment Act* came into force in August 2019, it includes provisions to allow ongoing projects with EAs initiated under CEAA 2012 to continue under their existing EA processes. On May 31, 2019, NexGen's project description for its proposed Rook I Project was posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for a 30-day public comment period.

The decision in this matter will not represent a licensing decision. Rather, the Commission is required to determine the scope of factors to be considered in the EA for the proposed Rook I Project, taking into consideration all comments received during the public comment period conducted in 2019. Following the completion of the EA and upon application by NexGen, the Commission will hold public hearings, with public participation, in respect of its decisions on whether to approve the EA and to license NexGen's Rook I Project.

The [submissions from CNSC](#) staff are available on the CNSC website at [nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca) or on request to the Secretariat.

Following the deliberations and Commission decision on this matter, a record of decision will be published on the CNSC website at [nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca) and made available on request.



**For further information, please contact:**

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat  
Tel.: 613-996-9063 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
Email: [cnsc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnsc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca)

## Participant funding to review the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project

Participant funding for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project will be open from **May 25 to August 28, 2020**.

### Participant funding notice

The CNSC is offering participant funding to assist Indigenous peoples, members of the public, and stakeholders in the review of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Rook I project by NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen).

NexGen is proposing to develop an underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the village of La Loche, Saskatchewan. The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components include:

- Underground mine development
- An onsite mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- Surface facilities to support the short- and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- An underground tailings management facility
- Water-handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment circuit
- Additional infrastructure to support mining activities

CNSC authorization in the form of a licence issued under subsection 24(2) of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* is required in order for the project to proceed. Before the Commission can make a decision regarding NexGen's proposal, an environmental assessment (EA) conducted under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, is required.

For further details on NexGen's proposal and the EA process, please see [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry project #80171](#). The dates and location of public Commission hearings will be announced at a later date in a notice of public hearing.

Up to **\$150,000** in participant funding will be disbursed among all eligible applicants for the provision of new, distinctive and valuable information on NexGen's upcoming draft EIS and related documentation. The first phase of funding is intended to assist in the review of the draft EIS, which is anticipated to be submitted in late 2020 or early 2021. A second phase of funding to assist with participation in the remainder of the regulatory process, including the review of the EA report and related Commission Member Documents, will be announced at a later date.

To apply, submit a [participant funding application form](#). Certain [terms and conditions](#) apply. An application form can be submitted by:

- Email: [cpsc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cpsc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca)
- Mail: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
c/o Participant Funding Program Administrator  
P.O. Box 1046, Station B  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON, Canada K1P 5S9
- Fax: 613-995-5086

**Deadline for submitting a participant funding application: August 28, 2020.**

A funding review committee independent of the CNSC will consider all applications for funding and make recommendations on the allocation of funds.

#### Related links

- [Participant Funding Program](#)
- [Rook I project](#)

**Commented [HL1]:** Link to PDF: Participant Funding Application Form - NexGen – English.pdf



For questions about this specific funding opportunity, contact:

Adam Zenobi  
Participant Funding Program Administrator  
613-992-8469  
[cpsc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cpsc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca)

## Financement des participants offert pour examiner l'énoncé des incidences environnementales pour le projet Rook I de NexGen Energy Ltd.

Les demandes de financement des participants pour le projet Rook I de NexGen Energy Ltd. seront acceptées **du 25 mai au 28 août 2020**.

### Avis de financement des participants

La CCSN offre du financement pour aider les peuples autochtones, le public et les parties intéressées à examiner l'énoncé des incidences environnementales (EIE) pour le projet Rook I de NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen).

NexGen propose d'exploiter une mine d'uranium souterraine dans la péninsule du lac Patterson, au sud-ouest du bassin d'Athabasca situé dans le nord de la Saskatchewan, à environ 155 km au nord de la ville de La Loche (Saskatchewan). Le projet proposé comprend des installations souterraines et de surface destinées à soutenir l'extraction et le traitement du minerai d'uranium. Les principales composantes comprennent :

- le développement d'une mine souterraine
- une usine sur le site pour traiter en moyenne 1 400 tonnes de minerai par jour
- des installations de surface pour le stockage à court et à long terme des stériles et du minerai
- une installation souterraine de gestion des résidus
- une infrastructure de traitement de l'eau et un circuit de traitement des effluents
- de l'infrastructure supplémentaire pour soutenir les activités minières

Pour autoriser le projet, la CCSN doit délivrer un permis en vertu du paragraphe 24(2) de la Loi sur la *sûreté et la réglementation nucléaires* (LSRN). Avant que la Commission ne rende une décision sur la proposition de NexGen, une évaluation environnementale (EE) doit être réalisée conformément à la *Loi canadienne sur l'évaluation environnementale* (2012).

Pour plus de détails sur la proposition de NexGen et le processus d'EE, veuillez consulter [le projet 80171 du Registre canadien d'évaluation d'impact](#). Les dates et l'emplacement des audiences publiques de la Commission seront annoncés à une date ultérieure au moyen d'un avis.

De l'aide financière pouvant atteindre **150 000 \$** sera répartie parmi l'ensemble des demandeurs admissibles pour la présentation de renseignements nouveaux, distincts et utiles sur l'EIE à venir de NexGen et la documentation connexe. La première offre de financement vise à aider les bénéficiaires à examiner l'EIE préliminaire, qui devrait être soumis vers la fin de 2020 ou le début de 2021. Une deuxième offre de financement pour la participation au reste du processus réglementaire, y compris l'examen du rapport d'EE et des documents à l'intention des commissaires connexes, sera annoncée à une date ultérieure.

Pour faire une demande de financement, veuillez soumettre un [formulaire de demande de financement des participants](#). Certaines [conditions générales](#) s'appliquent. Le formulaire de demande peut être soumis par l'un des moyens suivants :

- Courriel : [cnsc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnsc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca)
- Poste : Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
a/s de : Administrateur du Programme de financement des participants  
280, rue Slater, C.P. 1046, succursale B  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 5S9  
Canada
- Télécopieur : 613-995-5086

**Date limite pour soumettre un formulaire de demande de financement : 28 août 2020.**

#### Liens connexes

- [Programme de financement des participants](#)
- [Projet Rook I](#)

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Commented [HL2]: Link to PDF: Participant Funding Application Form - NexGen – French.pdf

Field Code Changed

Field Code Changed



Un comité d'examen de l'aide financière indépendant de la CCSN examinera toutes les demandes et formulera des recommandations sur l'attribution des fonds.

Pour toute question sur cette possibilité de financement, communiquez avec :

Adam Zenobi  
Administrateur du Programme de financement des participants  
613-992-8469  
[ensc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:ensc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca)

Field Code Changed



## ***NOTICE OF MEETING***

Date: September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

eDoc: 6383572

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>CNSC- Saskatchewan Indigenous Leadership Engagement Meeting</b>
<b>1</b>	Opening prayer
<b>2</b>	Introductions, review of the agenda and safety moment
<b>3</b>	Overall summary of the CNSC's 2019 Uranium Mines and Mills Regulatory Oversight Report
<b>4</b>	Site specific information for McClean Lake, Cigar Lake, Rabbit Lake, McArthur River, Key Lake, Beaverlodge, Gunnar & Lorado, and Cluff Lake
<b>5</b>	Update on ongoing Environmental Assessments for new uranium mine projects (NexGen Rook 1 and Denison Wheeler River)
<b>6</b>	Update on CNSC Environmental Monitoring Activities in Northern Saskatchewan (IEMP and EARMP)
<b>7</b>	Update on the Canadian Uranium Workers Study (CANUWS)
<b>8</b>	General questions and discussion
<b>Place</b>	<b>Join Zoom Meeting</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/8042615394">https://zoom.us/j/8042615394</a> Meeting ID: 804 261 5394
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Saskatchewan time)
<b>Contact</b>	Adam Levine Tel: 613-462-5159

---

**Subject:** CNSC Engagement Meeting with Northern Saskatchewan Indigenous Leadership  
\*Agenda and Presentations Attached\*

**Location:** Zoom ID: 804-261-5394

**Start:** Mon 2020-09-28 11:00 AM  
**End:** Mon 2020-09-28 2:00 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)

As a follow-up to our successful engagement and information update meeting held in Prince Albert, SK last September, we are organizing an update meeting from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) on September 28 from 9am to 12pm (Saskatchewan time) with leadership from Indigenous communities and Nations in Northern Saskatchewan. Due to the pandemic we propose to hold this meeting via Zoom (details below). We are wanting to provide you and your community with updates on the following topics, as well as others that you may be interested in (agenda and meeting materials to be added closer to the meeting date):

- Current status, as well as oversight and compliance activities, of all operating and decommissioned uranium mine and mill sites in northern Saskatchewan
- Overview of the CNSC's 2019 Regulatory Oversight Report for uranium mines and mills in Canada
- Update on new projects and environmental assessment processes
- Update on the Canadian uranium workers healthy study
- Update on environmental monitoring activities in northern Saskatchewan
- Other upcoming activities for engagement and collaboration

Please confirm if you, or your delegate(s), would be interested in participating in the meeting. We look forward to touching base soon!

Adam  
613-462-5159

**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://zoom.us/j/8042615394>

Meeting ID: 804 261 5394  
One tap mobile  
+16475580588,,8042615394# Canada  
+17789072071,,8042615394# Canada

Dial by your location  
+1 647 558 0588 Canada  
+1 778 907 2071 Canada  
+1 204 272 7920 Canada  
+1 438 809 7799 Canada  
+1 587 328 1099 Canada



+1 613 209 3054 Canada

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

Meeting ID: 804 261 5394

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/abBNhhLltq>

August 2022

# NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I Project Bulletin



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen) is proposing to develop an underground uranium mine – [the Rook I Project](#) – located on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan. The proposed project is approximately 155 kilometres north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan within the traditional Treaty 8 territory, the Homeland of the Métis, and is within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.

The proposed Rook I project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components include underground mine development; an onsite mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day; surface facilities to support the short- and long-term storage of waste rock and ore; an underground tailings management facility; water-handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment circuit; and additional infrastructure to support mining activities.

NexGen's proposal is undergoing an [environmental assessment](#) (EA) under the [Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012](#) (CEAA 2012) and a licensing review under the [Nuclear Safety and Control Act](#). The project is also under review by the [Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment's Environmental Assessment and Stewardship branch](#).

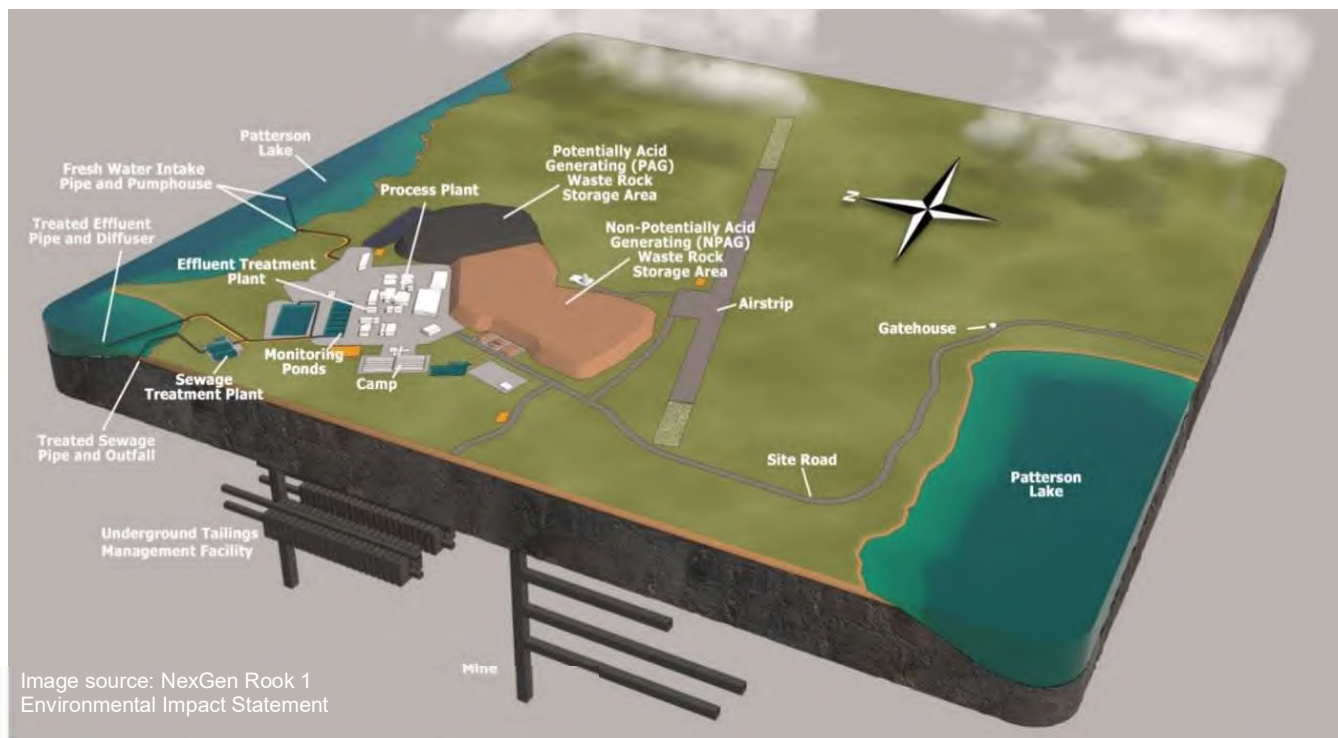


Image source: NexGen Rook 1  
Environmental Impact Statement

## WHERE WE ARE NOW

In 2019, NexGen submitted a [project description](#) to provide a general overview of the proposed Rook I project. From May 2 to June 1, 2019, CNSC staff sought comments from the public and Indigenous Nations and communities on the project description and posted [CNSC staff's responses to the comments](#) received on the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#). NexGen also submitted an initial licence application to prepare and construct the site in which they provided a schedule for the submission of licensing documentation to CNSC staff. NexGen indicated their intent to conduct the EA and licensing process in parallel.

Following the comment period on the project description, in February 2020 the Commission issued a [Record of Decision](#) for the proposed Rook I Project stating the EA will include the factors mandated within CEAA 2012 with no additional factors.

In May 2020, in anticipation of the submission of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), [participant funding was offered](#) to assist Indigenous Nations and communities and members of the public in the review and comment on the draft EIS. NexGen submitted a draft EIS for the proposed project in June 2022. CNSC staff performed a [conformity review](#) of the draft EIS and found the submission has the required information to proceed with the technical review. A 90-day technical assessment and public comment period began on July 14, 2022.

## NEXT STEPS

The draft EIS and technical supporting documents are available for public comment on the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#) (reference number 80171) until October 12, 2022. Concurrently, the federal and Indigenous review team (FIRT) are performing a technical review of the draft EIS. During the technical review, the FIRT will draft information requests, to which NexGen is required to respond. The review of NexGen's responses is an iterative process that can last as long as it takes to ensure the responses meet requirements. Once the draft EIS meets regulatory requirements, CNSC staff will proceed to the development of an EA report.

NexGen has also been submitting licensing documents since 2019, which have been undergoing CNSC staff review. NexGen needs to meet CNSC licensing requirements as found in the [Uranium Mines and Mills Regulations](#), among other requirements, before CNSC staff can proceed with the development of a Commission Member Document on licensing and EA matters. The Commission is the decision making authority for both EA and licensing matters. Before making a decision on NexGen's project, they will hold a public hearing where Indigenous persons and members of the public can intervene.

## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Members of the public and Indigenous Nations and communities are invited to share their views by providing comments on the draft EIS and technical supporting documents. These documents are available for public comment from **July 14, 2022 to October 12, 2022** on the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#) (reference number 80171). Written comments can be submitted to the Rook I mailbox: [rook1@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:rook1@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

### Rook I Project Bulletin

If you have any suggestions on topics or issues that you would like to see covered, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street  
P.O. Box 1046, Station B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9  
Telephone: 1-800-668-5284 (toll free in Canada) or 613-995-5894  
Email: [rook1@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:rook1@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
Website: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
[Anderson, Julie C \(HC/SC\)](#); [cari-lyn.epp@ec.gc.ca](#); [Adam.Downing@tc.gc.ca](#); [maximilien.genest@canada.ca](#); [Lisa.Wren@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](#); [Dutchak, Cassidy \(HC/SC\)](#); [Partridge, Paul \(HC/SC\)](#); [ja / ei \(HC/SC\)](#); [Konopski, Heather \(ECCC\)](#); [Ali, Nardia \(ECCC\)](#); [Kim, Duck \[Ontario\]](#); [Kidd, Scott; brittany.schmidt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](#); [laura.phalen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](#); [Mark Calette](#); [m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net](#); [Dagher, Elias](#); [Su, Grant](#); [Mulye, Hemendra](#); [Lam, Jeffrey](#); [Zheng, Qinghuai](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [Levine, Adam](#); [Pandolfi, Dana](#); [DeCoste, Laura](#); [cno@sasktel.net](#); [dene.cheecham-urich@mltc.ca](#); [DeCoste, Laura](#); [Lane, Rachel](#); [Dodkin, Christina](#); [McConnell, Mandy](#); [Li, Zhenze](#);  
**Cc:** [Wilkie, Steve ENV](#); [England, Brianne ENV](#); [Kwamena, Nana-Owusua](#); [Fabian Mendoza, Melissa](#); [Sauvé, Kiza](#); [Purvis, Caroline](#); [Wylie, Doug](#); [O'Neill, Shannon](#);  
**Subject:** NexGen Rook I Project - Federal-Indigenous-Review-Team draft EIS submission Technical Review  
E-DOCS-#6834582-v1-  
**Attachments:** [Information Requests\\_Federal\\_Indigenous\\_Review\\_Team\\_from\\_the\\_Technical\\_Review\\_of\\_the\\_NexGen\\_Rook\\_I\\_draft\\_EIS\\_July\\_2022.DOCX](#); [E-DOCS-#6834610-v1-FIRT\\_Guidance\\_for\\_Review\\_of\\_EIS\\_for\\_CEEA\\_2012\\_projects.DOCX](#);  
**Sent:** 2022-07-14 11:38:00 AM

Good afternoon all,

CNSC EAD staff [have completed their review](#) of NexGen's June 13, 2022 draft EIS submission and have found the submission to contain the required information to proceed with the technical review of the draft EIS.

The draft EIS and supporting documents can be accessed by visiting the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for the [Rook I Project](#).

Please use the attached information request (IR) template (e-doc 6834582) and send all IRs back to me no later than **October 12, 2022** – at which time I will collate and edit all IRs and advice inputs prior to sending the tables back to NexGen for disposition. I have also included additional guidance to help drafting IRs during your technical review (e-doc 6834610).

Please note that we have a technical review kick off meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, July 19, 2022 – where NexGen will present an overview of the draft EIS along with key findings and will be available to answer any initial questions you might have. I will be sharing their presentation in the next day or so. This meeting should be in your calendars – if not – let me know and I will be sure to forward the invite to you.

Lastly, if you have ANY questions throughout your review, or require clarification on anything, I can be reached via e-mail or phone (below) and can set up meetings with NexGen if and when required.

Best Regards,

Nicole  
**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) / Tel. : 343-542-7657

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** June 15, 2022 7:57 AM  
**To:** Anderson, Julie C (HC/SC) <[julie.c.anderson@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:julie.c.anderson@hc-sc.gc.ca)>; [cari-lyn.epp@ec.gc.ca](mailto:cari-lyn.epp@ec.gc.ca); [Adam.Downing@tc.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Downing@tc.gc.ca); [maximilien.genest@canada.ca](mailto:maximilien.genest@canada.ca); [Lisa.Wren@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Lisa.Wren@dfo-mpo.gc.ca); [Dutchak, Cassidy \(HC/SC\) <Cassidy.Dutchak@hc-sc.gc.ca>](mailto:Dutchak, Cassidy (HC/SC) <Cassidy.Dutchak@hc-sc.gc.ca>); [Partridge, Paul \(HC/SC\) <paul.partridge@hc-sc.gc.ca>](mailto:Partridge, Paul (HC/SC) <paul.partridge@hc-sc.gc.ca>); [ja / ei \(HC/SC\) <ia-ei@hc-sc.gc.ca>](mailto:ja / ei (HC/SC) <ia-ei@hc-sc.gc.ca>); [Konopski, Heather \(ECCC\) <Heather.Konopski@ec.gc.ca>](mailto:Konopski, Heather (ECCC) <Heather.Konopski@ec.gc.ca>); [Ali, Nardia \(ECCC\) <Nardia.Ali@ec.gc.ca>](mailto:Ali, Nardia (ECCC) <Nardia.Ali@ec.gc.ca>); [Kim, Duck \[Ontario\] <Duck.Kim@ec.gc.ca>](mailto:Kim, Duck [Ontario] <Duck.Kim@ec.gc.ca>); [Kidd, Scott <Scott.Kidd@tc.gc.ca>](mailto:Kidd, Scott <Scott.Kidd@tc.gc.ca>); [brittany.schmidt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:brittany.schmidt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca); [laura.phalen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:laura.phalen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca); [Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>](mailto:Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>); [m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net](mailto:m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net); [Dagher, Elias <elias.dagher@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Dagher, Elias <elias.dagher@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Su, Grant <grant.su@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Su, Grant <grant.su@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Mulye, Hemendra <hemendra.mulye@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Mulye, Hemendra <hemendra.mulye@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Lam, Jeffrey <jeffrey.lam@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Lam, Jeffrey <jeffrey.lam@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Zheng, Qinghuai <qinghuai.zheng@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Zheng, Qinghuai <qinghuai.zheng@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Gadbois, Nathalie <nathalie.gadbois@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Gadbois, Nathalie <nathalie.gadbois@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Thériault, Bertrand <bertrand.theriault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Thériault, Bertrand <bertrand.theriault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Levine, Adam <adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Levine, Adam <adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Pandolfi, Dana <dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Pandolfi, Dana <dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca>)  
**Cc:** Wilkie, Steve ENV <[steve.wilkie@gov.sk.ca](mailto:steve.wilkie@gov.sk.ca)>; England, Brianne ENV <[brianne.england@gov.sk.ca](mailto:brianne.england@gov.sk.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[nana-owusua.kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nana-owusua.kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Fabian Mendoza, Melissa <[melissa.fabianmendoza@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:melissa.fabianmendoza@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Sauvé, Kiza <[kiza.sauve@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:kiza.sauve@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Purvis, Caroline <[caroline.purvis@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:caroline.purvis@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** NexGen Rook I Project - draft EIS submission received - CEEA 2012 Project Update

Good morning all,

CNSC has received NexGen's formal submission of their draft Environmental Impact Statement and associated technical supporting documents (TSDs). CNSC staff has commenced the 30-day conformity review of the submission – which will be complete by July 13, 2022 – at which time CNSC will inform NexGen of the results of this review. If NexGen's submission is deemed to be sufficient, the following steps will be carried out:

- July 13, 2022 - Draft EIS + TSDs to be posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry
- July 14, 2022 to October 12, 2022 - 90-day Federal-Indigenous-Technical- Review of draft EIS
- July 14, 2022 to October 12, 2022 - 90-day Public Review of draft EIS
- July 19, 2022 - NexGen Rook I Draft EIS Federal-Indigenous-Review - Technical Review - Kick Off meeting (MS Teams)
- October 13 to November 10, 2022 - 30-days for CNSC staff to review and organize all information requests / public comments
- November 10, 2022 –Information Requests and Public Comment tables sent back to NexGen for disposition

If during your review of the draft EIS you have questions or require clarification, you can reach out to me and I can always set up a meeting with NexGen and the team to discuss

And of course, I'm available any time to answer questions, so please do not hesitate to contact me any time.

Thank you!

Nicole  
**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada





## Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation

File No.: 4.12.01  
e-Doc: 7212029  
CCM: GEN-006474

February 23, 2024

Mr. Leigh Curyer  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
NexGen Energy Ltd.  
Suite 3150, 1021 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 0C3

**Subject: CNSC Staff Response to NexGen's Correspondence of January 23 and 24, 2024**

Mr. Curyer:

Thank you for your correspondences of January 23, 2024 [1] and January 24, 2024 [2] requesting to meet regarding NexGen's Rook I project.

In response to the questions raised in your previous correspondences, as the Rook I project is currently undergoing regulatory processes under both the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA), it would be inappropriate to hold further meetings between NexGen and CNSC senior executives at this time. Discussions on a Commission hearing date can only progress once NexGen has addressed the remaining information requests related to the technical review of the environmental assessment submissions. Once NexGen has reached this milestone, a potential Commission hearing date for the Rook I project will be determined by the Commission Registrar. As part of the CNSC's ongoing consultation and engagement activities, CNSC staff continue to be available to meet directly with interested Indigenous Nations and Communities to discuss the Rook-I project and the CNSC's regulatory processes.

As an independent regulator, the CNSC is responsible for confirming that activities are conducted in accordance with applicable federal legislation. To fulfil this mandate, the CNSC wrote to NexGen to request information on December 20, 2023 [3] and conducted a site visit of NexGen's Rook-I project on January 16, 2024. NexGen's response of January 5, 2024 [4] was received and reviewed in detail. A reply was previously sent under separate cover [5].



We encourage NexGen to continue to work on both environmental assessment and licensing through contact with Dr. Nana Kwamena, Director of the Environmental Review Division, and Patrick Burton, Director of the Uranium Mines and Mills Division, respectively.

Sincerely,

Luc Sigouin  
Director General  
Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

**References:**

- [1] Curyer to Owen-Whitred and Elder, January 23, 2024, e-Doc 7213423
- [2] Curyer to Jammal, January 24, 2024, e-Doc 7214600
- [3] Owen-Whitred and Elder to Curyer, December 20, 2023, e-Doc 7186260
- [4] Curyer to Owen-Whitred and Elder, January 5, 2024, e-Doc 7197990
- [5] Kwamena and Burton to Moger, February 12, 2024, e-Doc 7211665

cc: L. Moger, J. Henderson (NexGen)  
H. Tadros, P. Burton, N. Owusua-Kwamena, D. Pandolfi, N. Frigault, S. Chari,  
C. Cattrysse (CNSC)  
Environment Canada and Climate Change Canada (ECCC): J. Moffet, R. Vermette,  
J. Small, J. McKay, D. Kim, T. Auser, S. Longo  
P. Brady, S. Chapman, D. Van Olst, J. Buron (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada)  
Chief Jonathon Sylvestre, Trevor Moberly, Terrie Campbell, Robert Sylvester  
(Birch Narrows Dene Nation)  
Chief Norma Catarat, Dallas Billette, Elmer Campbell (Buffalo River Dene Nation)  
Chief Teddy Clark, Camm Willier, Ken Rich (Clearwater River Dene Nation)  
President Glen McCallum, Leonard Montgrand, Brent Laroque, Andrew Spriggs  
(Métis Nation-Saskatchewan)

**From:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**To:** [chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)  
**Cc:** [Pandolfi, Dana](#); [Snider, Richard](#); [McKeown, Justin](#); [Levine, Adam](#); [Frigault, Nicole](#);  
**Subject:** Administrative Monetary Penalty issued to NexGen Energy Ltd.  
**Sent:** 2024-12-17 5:49:00 PM

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<b>Follow Up Flag:</b>	Follow up
<b>Flag Status:</b>	Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre,

The CNSC wanted to advise you that the attached Administrative Monetary Penalty (AMP) has recently been issued to NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen). AMPs are an enforcement tool that are intended to promote future compliance with requirements. In this case, the AMP was issued to NexGen for performing site preparation and construction of a uranium mine and mill facility without a CNSC licence. This AMP is being issued to NexGen to promote compliance and to deter reoccurrence.

The NexGen AMP is posted to the CNSC's website here:

-  
<https://www.cnscccsn.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-action/nexgen/>  
<https://www.cnscccsn.gc.ca/fra/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-action/nexgen/>

If you have any questions on the above, you please contact Dana Pandolfi or feel free to contact me and we would be happy to set up a call and answer any questions.

Thanks,

**Ryan Froess**

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation | Conseiller principal, Consultation Autochtones  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division | Division de la consultation et de la mobilisation des Autochtones  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892



CIAR NO.: [80171](#)

e-Doc: 7464941

February 14, 2025

Acting Chief Dallas Billette  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Dillon, Saskatchewan  
[dallas.billette@brdn.ca](mailto:dallas.billette@brdn.ca)

**Subject: Proposed Next Steps of Consultation with Buffalo River Dene Nation for the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process for the Proposed Rook I Project**

Dear Chief Billette:

Thank you for taking the time to inform CNSC of Buffalo River Dene Nation's (BRDN) support for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s (NexGen) proposed Rook I Project (the Project). We are looking forward to our continued work together on the remaining steps of the regulatory review process.

**Current Status of the Process of the federal Environmental Assessment**

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the federal review of NexGen's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concluded, and the Final EIS was accepted by CNSC staff as it meets the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, 2012 (CEAA, 2012). As communicated in CNSC's January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 email to the project distribution list for the project, the documents can be found on the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry \(the Registry\)](#).

CNSC staff have reviewed the responses NexGen provided to comments that were received during the public comment period on the draft EIS in 2023, including those from BRDN. The comments and NexGen's responses are now [available on the Registry](#). CNSC staff have also drafted responses to comments that were applicable to CNSC's oversight and responsibilities and look forward to further discussing these as part of our proposed next steps as described below. CNSC's responses to these comments can also be [found on the Registry](#).

**Proposed Next Steps of Consultation**

Building on the ongoing consultation, relationship building, and engagement that began in 2019 between BRDN and CNSC in relation to the Project, CNSC staff provide the consultation approach as outlined in Appendix 1. Table 1 of this letter details the suggested consultation and collaboration activities for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process for the Project.



CNSC staff will be preparing the following reports and documents to support staff's recommendations to the Commission:

- **An EA Report** which provides information and analysis to assist the Commission in its determination on whether the proposed project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.
- **A Consultation Report** which will include an assessment of the Project's potential impacts to the Rights and interests of potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and communities as well as recommendations regarding the Duty to Consult and Accommodate.
- **A Commission Member Document (CMD)** which presents CNSC staff's findings, recommendations and conclusions from the technical review of NexGen's licence application and supporting documentation.

CNSC staff are interested in continuing to collaborate with BRDN to ensure that BRDN's perspectives, issues and concerns, Indigenous Knowledge and Land use information, potential impacts of the proposed Project on BRDN rights, and other topics of interest to BRDN are properly reflected in CNSC staff's reports and recommendations. This would involve CNSC staff developing the content as a first step based on information that BRDN has submitted and provided to date to the CNSC and NexGen and then sharing the draft content with BRDN representatives for their review and comment. CNSC staff will be providing detailed timelines on the remainder of the regulatory process once a Commission hearing date has been identified by the Commission Registry.

The activities outlined in the proposed consultation approach are flexible, and CNSC staff would like to discuss these remaining steps of the regulatory review process with BRDN. Some potential topics for discussion include:

- review of, and input to the CNSC's assessment of the Project's potential impacts on BRDN rights and interests
- review of sections of CNSC's Consultation Report specifically related to information on BRDN community member perspectives, knowledge, land use, concerns, and rights
- awarding funding through the CNSC's PFP to support the review of CNSC's reports and consultation and engagement with the CNSC
- discussions and collaboration with the CNSC and NexGen, as appropriate, regarding potential commitments, mitigations and accommodations to address potential impacts on BRDN's rights and interests
- participation in the Commission hearing process through interventions as well as collaboration on the inclusion of BRDN's cultural practices and protocols as part of the Commission hearing process, as appropriate
- discussions on the assessment and overall evaluation of NexGen's engagement activities with BRDN as per REGDOC 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement
- discussion and collaboration with the CNSC on conclusions and recommendations related to topics of concern and interest to BRDN

CNSC staff are committed to continued collaboration with BRDN to ensure that the consultation for the Project is meaningful, addresses BRDN's concerns, protects your Nation's rights and interests,

and upholds the Honour of the Crown. To discuss any matters related to the regulatory review process of the Project, please contact:

- Nicole Frigault, Environmental Review Officer, Rook I EA Lead  
Email: [nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)
- Justin McKeown, Team Leader Western and Northern Regions, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Email: [justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

Please review the proposed consultation process for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process for the Rook I Project (Appendix 1) and **provide any feedback by March 14, 2025 or we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss.**

The CNSC looks forward to continuing to build a long-term relationship with BRDN and working together throughout the regulatory review process for the proposed Rook I Project.

Yours sincerely,



Nana-Owusua Kwamena  
Director  
Environmental Review Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



Adam Levine  
Director  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

c.c./c.c. : CNSC: J. McKeown, P. Burton, N. Frigault, R. Froess, D. Pandolfi, A. Zenobi  
BRDN: T. Billette, R. Duncan

Enclosure: (1) Proposed consultation process with Buffalo River Dene Nation for the regulatory review process of the Rook I Project

## References:

- [1] CNSC, Regulatory Guide, *REGDOC- 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement*, Version 1.2, February 2022, <https://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-documents/published/html/regdoc3-2-2-v1-2/>
- [2] CNSC, *Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement*, May 2016, <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>

## Appendix 1

### Proposed Consultation Process with Buffalo River Dene Nation for the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process of the Rook I Project

#### 1. Introduction

These proposed next steps in the consultation process, which started in 2019, are intended to guide federal Crown consultation activities (led by the CNSC) with Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process of the Rook I Project (the Project). They communicate the CNSC's objectives for consultation, the proposed structure for integrating consultation into the regulatory review process, and the proposed activities in which the CNSC and BRDN can work together to address BRDN's concerns regarding the Project.

#### 2. CNSC's Consultation Objectives

- To continue the establishment of a positive and productive working relationship with BRDN during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process.
- To communicate with BRDN about the Project and developments during the regulatory review process in a timely manner.
- To establish how BRDN would like to be consulted during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process and establish a flexible and responsive consultation approach that is consistent with the consultation approach to date.
- To work with BRDN to continue to:
  1. identify any potential environmental effects of the Project, including those on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, health and socio-economic conditions, and heritage resources
  2. identify adverse impacts of the Project on your community's potential or established rights
  3. ensure options for avoiding, mitigating, or accommodating adverse impacts are considered
- To continue to work with BRDN and the proponent to respond to specific questions and requests regarding issues raised related to the Project.
- To listen to and understand the concerns raised, and consider the feedback, perspectives, and issues raised by BRDN in order to inform decision-making.
- To collaborate with BRDN and the proponent to identify any potential commitments, mitigations, accommodations and conditions to address BRDN's concerns regarding any potential impacts on BRDN's rights and interests as a result of the proposed project.



### 3. Integrating Consultation into the Regulatory Review Process

Table 1 provides a description of the main remaining steps in the regulatory review process and a description of how the CNSC proposes to integrate consultation activities into those steps. This table describes what BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the CNSC, on behalf of the federal Crown, and what BRDN could share and provide to the regulatory review process.

**Table 1: Integrating Consultation into the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Regulatory Review Step<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Description of Activities<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the federal Crown</b>	<b>Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate</b>
Project Description Review and Scoping Decision <i>(Completed in 2019-20)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity for BRDN to provide comments on the Project Description – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNSC notification to BRDN of the project and project description review process – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>PPF offering – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>Early information sharing and offers of consultation meetings – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments on the project description – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from a template developed by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) (CEAA references the BC First Nations Environmental Assessment Technical Working Group Toolkit Workshop as a basis for this document).

<sup>2</sup> Any updates to dates related to the regulatory review process will be communicated to BRDN.

<sup>3</sup> NexGen's activities during this step of the regulatory review process are not specifically steps of the regulatory review process, but these are expectations of NexGen, by CNSC staff.

Regulatory Review Step <sup>2</sup>	Description of Activities <sup>3</sup>	What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the federal Crown	Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Review <i>(Initiated 2022 – complete as of January 28, 2025)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for BRDN to provide comments on draft EIS – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• NexGen to revise documentation to address comments and concerns raised by BRDN. - <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• NexGen expected to discuss with BRDN how their comments and concerns have been addressed. - <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity to provide feedback to the Crown on adequacy of NexGen's responses to BRDN's comments and concerns. - <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• Opportunity to participate in technical discussions with CNSC staff regarding BRDN's outstanding comments and concerns, as well as other discussions as necessary (e.g. teleconferences and/or meetings with Chief and Council, community open houses). - <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• Opportunity to discuss how to integrate Traditional Knowledge and Land Use (TKLUS) information into the remaining steps of the regulatory review process. - <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• Opportunity for direct and continued discussions between BRDN and the CNSC. - <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide BRDN's views on the accuracy of NexGen's information about issues BRDN have raised and on any proposed ways of addressing those impacts. - <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• Provide feedback on the adequacy of NexGen's responses to BRDN's comments and concerns. - <b>Completed</b></li> <li>• Participate in technical discussions with CNSC staff to address BRDN's outstanding comments and concerns. - <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>



Regulatory Review Step <sup>2</sup>	Description of Activities <sup>3</sup>	What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the federal Crown	Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate
<p>Development of draft Consultation Report</p> <p><i>(Current phase – 2025)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CNSC's Consultation Report also includes a summary of consultation with Indigenous Nations and communities, potential impacts to potential or established rights of Indigenous Nations and communities, views and concerns expressed by Indigenous Nations and communities and the CNSC's response to those concerns, and including potential mitigation and accommodation measures, and commitments and conditions to address those concerns. The CNSC's goal is to work towards a consensus on the key issues and concerns in relation to the proposed project with BRDN.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to review and comment on sections of the draft Consultation Report specific to BRDN such as Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use information, potential impacts of the Project on BRDN's rights and interests, and concerns expressed.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNSC staff writing the draft sections and providing to BRDN for review and comment for consideration and/or inclusion.</li> <li>The objective is to obtain mutually agreed upon text, between CNSC staff and BRDN (as noted in the next step, where BRDN has diverging views with CNSC staff's analysis and findings, these will be reflected in the Consultation Report, and we also invite BRDN to capture this information in their written and/or oral intervention to the Commission).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and provide comment on sections of the draft Consultation Report specific to BRDN.</li> </ul>

<p>EA Report, Consultation Report and Licensing CMD Review</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Commission Public Hearings</p> <p><i>(Hearing date 2025 –2026 TBD)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EA Report presents the CNSC staff's evaluation on the findings of the EA, including conclusions and recommendations regarding the adverse environmental effects that are likely to result from the project, appropriate measures that would mitigate those effects, the significance of residual effects after implementation of the mitigation measures, as well as the components of the follow-up and monitoring program.</li> <li>CNSC staff will submit and make publicly available, for review, the Final EA Report, Consultation Report, and licensing CMD in advance of public hearings (timing to be determined by CNSC Registry).</li> <li>The licensing CMD presents CNSC staff's findings, recommendations and conclusions from the technical review of NexGen's licence application and supporting documentation.</li> <li>The Commission will hold public hearings with opportunities for public and Indigenous Nations and communities to submit oral and/or written interventions. CNSC staff and the Registry are open to working with BRDN to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to review the Final EA Report, Consultation Report, and licensing CMD to inform oral and/or written interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present BRDN's views to the Commission by providing information orally and/or in writing.</li> <li>It is recommended that any diverging views with CNSC staff's analysis and findings in the CNSC's reports be captured in BRDN's written and/or oral intervention to the Commission, if required.</li> </ul>
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Regulatory Review Step <sup>2</sup>	Description of Activities <sup>3</sup>	What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the federal Crown	Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate
<p>Commission's EA and Licensing Decisions (<i>Future phase - TBD</i>)</p>	<p>ensure that the Commission hearings include and reflect BRDN's cultural protocols and processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Commission considers the EA Report, Consultation Report, CMD and interventions from the public and Indigenous Nations and communities and determines whether, taking into account the mitigation measures, conditions, accommodations and commitments proposed, the Project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects and if the duty to consult and accommodate was met.</li> <li>Should the Commission issue an EA decision statement allowing the Project to proceed, the Commission will also include legally binding conditions with which NexGen must comply to implement appropriate mitigation measures and a follow-up and monitoring program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notification and sharing of the Commission's Detailed Record of Decisions (EA and licensing).</li> <li>Meetings with BRDN to discuss the Commission's decision and next steps for ongoing engagement and collaboration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback on preferred approach to ongoing engagement, information sharing, oversight, monitoring, reporting and collaboration.</li> </ul>



**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [Rook1 Project / Projet Rook1 \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Williamson, Elizabeth](#); [O'Neill, Shannon](#); [Hunter, Hilary](#); [McKeown, Justin](#); [Frigault, Nicole](#); [graham.wark@gmail.com](#); [armoerke1@gmail.com](#); [martuzzi@gmail.com](#); [jasonmb@outlook.com](#); [Philippe.Reid@stantec.com](#); [jelle\\_81@hotmail.com](#); [sbarnes@limnos.ca](#); [ahoekstra@casselsbrock.com](#); [elahaie@casselsbrock.com](#); [allysonb@environmentalsociety.ca](#); [annc@environmentalsociety.ca](#); [bert.weichel@gmail.com](#); [cari-lyn.epp@ec.gc.ca](#); [Heather.Konopski@ec.gc.ca](#); [Duck.Kim@ec.gc.ca](#); [julie.c.anderson@hc-sc.gc.ca](#); [Cassidy.Dutchak@hc-sc.gc.ca](#); [ja-ei@hc-sc.gc.ca](#); [adam.downing@tc.gc.ca](#); [Scott.Kidd@tc.gc.ca](#); [Brittany.Schmidt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](#); [Laura.Phalen@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](#); [greg.adilman@gov.sk.ca](#); [Tim.Moulding@gov.sk.ca](#); [m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net](#); [glenmccallum@mns.work](#); [leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca](#); [aadam@acfn.com](#); [lisa.tsessaze@acfn.com](#); [meghan.dalrymple@acfn.com](#); [charlene.williams@acfn.com](#); [kg.banjoko@acfn.com](#); [cno@sasktel.net](#); [cammer7@shaw.ca](#); [jlanglois@jfkaw.ca](#); [MGeneral@jfkaw.ca](#); [dene.cheecham-uhrich@mltc.ca](#); [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [kevin.mercredi@outlook.com](#); [b-tsannie@hotmail.com](#); [Garrett.schmidt@yathinene.com](#); [vikash.narine@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca](#); [bruce.hanbidge@yathinene.com](#); [kevin.mercredi@outlook.com](#); [b-tsannie@hotmail.com](#); [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [d.powder.nhsr@sasktel.net](#); [d.classen@sasktel.net](#); [claire\\_larock@hotmail.com](#); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](#); [brdnreception@gmail.com](#); [chief1@birchnarrows.ca](#); [eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](#); [jerry.bernard@erfn.net](#); [cheyenna.campbell@desnedhe.com](#); [receptionist@mltc.net](#); [david.kitchen@hc-sc.gc.ca](#); [blaroque@mns.work](#); [Andrew Spriggs](#); [Marlene Hansen](#); [Wilkie, Steve ENV](#); [Kitchen, David \(HC/SC\)](#); [Narine, Vikash](#); [Hatchard, Gayle \(elle, la, she, her\) \(ECCC\)](#); [Barker, Jackie \(TC/TC\)](#); [Poklitar, Holly \(she, her | elle, la\) \(TC/TC\)](#); [Robinson, Natalie \(she, her | elle, elle\)](#); [Matthew General](#); [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](#); [Callie Davies-Flett](#); [Janelle Flett](#); [Timothy Bebetoidoh](#); [r\\_augier@hotmail.com](#); [Katherine Hay](#); [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [Terrance Billette](#); [Rory Duncan](#);  
**Bcc:** [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [kevin.mercredi@outlook.com](#); [b-tsannie@hotmail.com](#); [Garrett.schmidt@yathinene.com](#); [vikash.narine@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca](#); [bruce.hanbidge@yathinene.com](#); [kevin.mercredi@outlook.com](#); [b-tsannie@hotmail.com](#); [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [d.powder.nhsr@sasktel.net](#); [d.classen@sasktel.net](#); [claire\\_larock@hotmail.com](#); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](#); [brdnreception@gmail.com](#); [chief1@birchnarrows.ca](#); [eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](#); [jerry.bernard@erfn.net](#); [cheyenna.campbell@desnedhe.com](#); [receptionist@mltc.net](#); [david.kitchen@hc-sc.gc.ca](#); [blaroque@mns.work](#); [Andrew Spriggs](#); [Marlene Hansen](#); [Wilkie, Steve ENV](#); [Kitchen, David \(HC/SC\)](#); [Narine, Vikash](#); [Hatchard, Gayle \(elle, la, she, her\) \(ECCC\)](#); [Barker, Jackie \(TC/TC\)](#); [Poklitar, Holly \(she, her | elle, la\) \(TC/TC\)](#); [Robinson, Natalie \(she, her | elle, elle\)](#); [Matthew General](#); [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](#); [Callie Davies-Flett](#); [Janelle Flett](#); [Timothy Bebetoidoh](#); [r\\_augier@hotmail.com](#); [Katherine Hay](#); [csayazie@hotmail.com](#); [Terrance Billette](#); [Rory Duncan](#);  
**Subject:** Notice of Public Hearing and Participant Funding - NexGen Rook I / Avis d'audience publique et de financement des participants - NexGen Rook I  
**Sent:** 2025-03-20 4:50:00 PM

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Good afternoon,

On March 12, 2025, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) announced hearing dates for a public hearing on NexGen Energy Ltd.'s licence application to prepare a site for and construct its Rook I mine and mill project. The hearing will also consider the Environmental Assessment, under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*.

**Hearing details:**

**Part 1:**

- Date: November 19, 2025
- Place: Fully virtual via Zoom
- Time: As set by the agenda to be published prior to the hearing date

**Part 2:**

- Date: February 9 to 13, 2026
- Place: To be determined (in person in Saskatoon)
- Time: As set by the agenda to be published prior to the hearing date

More information can be found in the CNSC's public notice here: <https://api.cnscccsn.gc.ca/dms/digital-medias/CMD25-H12-Notice-of-Public-Hearing-and-Participant-Funding-Licence-Application-for-NexGen-Energy-Rook-1-Uranium-Mine-eng.pdf/object>

**Participant Funding**

In advance of the public hearing, the CNSC is making available up to \$250,000 in funding 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 NexGen's submissions to the Commission, as well as 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 NexGen's application. Please note that the \$250,000 will be disbursed among all successful applicants. The deadline for submitting a completed participant funding application form is May 9, 2025.

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

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Bonjour,

Le 12 mars 2025, la Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire (CCSN) a annoncé les dates d'audience pour une audience publique concernant la demande de permis de NexGen Energy Ltd. pour préparer un site et construire son projet de mine et d'usine de Rook I. L'audience publique examinera également l'évaluation environnementale, en vertu de la *Loi canadienne sur l'évaluation environnementale* 2012 (LCEE 2012).

**Détails de l'audience publique :**

**Partie 1 :**

- Date : 19 novembre 2025
- Lieu : Virtuellement via Zoom
- Heure : Selon l'ordre du jour qui sera publié avant la date de l'audience

**Partie 2 :**

- Date : Semaine du 9 au 13 février 2026
- Lieu : À déterminer (en personne à Saskatoon)
- Heure : Selon l'ordre du jour qui sera publié avant la date de l'audience

Plus d'informations peuvent être trouvées dans l'avis public de la CCSN ici : <https://api.cnscccsn.gc.ca/dms/digital-medias/CMD25-H12-Notice-of-Public-Hearing-and-Participant-Funding-Licence-Application-for-NexGen-Energy-Rook-1-Uranium-Mine-fra.pdf/object>

**Financement des participants**

En vue de l'audience publique, la CCSN offre, dans le cadre de son [Programme de financement des participants](#), jusqu'à 250 000 \$ pour aider les Nations et communautés autochtones, le public et les parties intéressées à examiner les mémoires du personnel de la CCSN et de NexGen présentés à la Commission, et à participer au processus d'audience de la Commission en présentant des interventions pertinentes au dossier à l'étude. Les demandes de financement doivent clairement démontrer comment le mémoire proposé fournira à la Commission des renseignements qui se rapportent directement à la demande de NexGen. Veuillez noter que l'aide financière sera répartie entre tous les demandeurs admissibles. La date limite pour soumettre un formulaire de demande de financement dûment rempli est le 9 mai 2025.

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** September 24, 2025 8:50 AM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; Holland, Braeson; Boser, Sydney  
**Subject:** NexGen Posters - for distribution to community  
**Attachments:** Poster\_NexGenRook2025\_EN (1).pdf; Poster\_NexGenRook2025\_Dene.pdf;  
Poster\_NexGenRook2025\_Cree.pdf; Poster\_NexGenRook2025\_FR (1).pdf

Hello,

In preparation for the upcoming NexGen Rook I Commission Hearings, CNSC staff have developed informational posters in English, French, Cree and Dene. These materials are intended to inform the Indigenous Nations and communities we engage with, and who are interested in the Project, about the hearings and how you can participate.

Please find the posters attached. We encourage you to share them in your communities and with your members.

Thanks,

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*



# pikwâwithak ka-pihtahkik wihtamâkîwin

## NexGen's Rook I kaskatîw asinî ikwa wâskâpicikan atoskâcikan

anima Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), kanâta nuclear kanawîthickîw, ka-miciminam nîso pikwâwithak wihtamâkîwin ka-kinwâpahtamihk masinahikan ohci NextGen Energy. osci pakitinamihk masinahikan ka-wîthastâhk ita ka-mâci osihtâhk anima Rook I uranium wâtihkîwin ikwa wâsikâpicikan atoskâcikan.

anima kâ-kwîchikîmohk atoskâcikan astîw ikota sâwanohk pahkisimôtâhk Athabasca Basin, nânitaw 155 kms ohci La Loche, Saskatchewan, pihcâthihk kihci tipahamâtowin athinânîw askî (1899) ikwa ita kâ-wîkicik âpihtawikosisânak, ikwa cîpwîthâniwak, nîhithawak, ikwa âpihtawikosisânak.

kiskîthita athiwâk: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/wheeler-river-project](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/wheeler-river-project)

kahcitina wihtamâkîwina: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/subscribe](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/subscribe)

# pihtamihk akihcikîwina

**pîyak: wî-pîkiskwîcik atoskîwak ohci  
CNSC ikwa NextGen Energy**

yîkopîwi pîsim 19, 2025  
Gatineau, QC, ikwa mahtâwi  
âpacihcikanihk

**nîso: nakinikîwina ohci ithiniwak,  
ikwa mâmawinitowina, ikwa ohci  
pokwâwiyak**

mîkisiw pîsim 9 isko 13, 2026  
Saskatoon, SK, ikwa mahtâwi  
âpacihcikanihk



**kâkî-kinwâpahtîn nîso anihi mahtâwi**  
âpacihcikanohk:  
[nuclearsafety.gc.ca/watch](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/watch)



**kinohtî kwîchikîmon kîkway ohci anima  
pihtamihki? mahtâwi masinahikanis:**  
[interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)



# Dene hel nayatı ha ʔerihł'is holı

NexGen Rook I bets'ı tsamba k'e chu  
tthenadzis kuę nı́t'a gha yatı ha yatı holı  
ʔedırı k'ı

T'a dene Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) hel delłth'ı  
k'ı, Canada naęe hoʔa nuclear ʔası hok'enats'edı ha k'oldé sı, dene  
hel nats'ęn 2-nı́t'a ha dene hel nayatı ha ʔedırı NexGen Energy t'a  
k'enadé hodorełıh be'ta lak'e sehúde ʔedırı Rook I tsamba k'e chu  
tthenadzis kuę holé ha.

T'ok'e ʔedırı lak'e holé ha k'ı Athabasca nenę k'eyaghe yunaghé  
ts'ęn nı́t'a ha, k'ajęnę 155 km La Loche, Saskatchewan tthıslı ts'ęn,  
Begharek'a dene benęnę chu Dene, ʔena chu Begharek'a dene bel.  
Treaty 8 nęnę k'eyaghé sı (1899) k'e holı nı.

ʔeja benerınlı ha nı́łıh: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/wheeler-river-project](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/wheeler-river-project)

Yatı negha nı́lyé horıłıh de: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/subscribe](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/subscribe)

## T'oho nayatı nı́t'á

**T'atthe 1: CNSC hots'ı dene chu  
NexGen Energy hots'ı dene  
dayaltı ha**

November 19, 2025 k'e  
Gatineau, QC, chu tsatsane benı hıłı k'e

**Nats'ęn 2: Dene ʔedırı gha ʔesoradı  
hodorełıh chu Denededłıne ʔeja  
naré nadé ba nı́t'a hası ʔesoradı  
hodorełıh dene**

February 9. hots'ı 13 hots'ęn, 2026  
Saskatoon, SK, chu tsatsane benı hıłı k'e



ʔeja neba hoʔası ʔedırı dene nadayaltı  
tsatsane benı hıłı k'e online ʔeja  
[nuclearsafety.gc.ca/watch](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/watch)



Ku ʔedırı begha horúsker nı́dhen  
dé ʔeja sı? Email k'e:  
[interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)



# Public Hearing Notice

## NexGen's Rook I uranium mine and mill project

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), Canada's nuclear regulator, will hold a 2-part public hearing to consider NexGen Energy's application for a licence to prepare a site for and construct the Rook I uranium mine and mill project.

The proposed project is in the southwest Athabasca Basin, about 155 km north of La Loche, Saskatchewan, in Treaty 8 territory (1899) and the Homeland of the Métis, and is within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.

Learn more: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/rookI-project](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/rookI-project)

Get updates: [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/subscribe](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/subscribe)

## Hearing dates

### Part 1: Presentations from CNSC staff and NexGen Energy

November 19, 2025

Gatineau, QC, and virtually

### Part 2: Interventions from Indigenous Nations and communities and from the public

February 9 to 13, 2026

Saskatoon, SK, and virtually



You can **watch both parts online** at [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/watch](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/watch)



**Questions about the hearing?**

Email: [interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)





# Avis d'audience publique

## Projet de mine et d'usine de concentration d'uranium Rook I de NexGen

La Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire (CCSN), l'organisme de réglementation nucléaire du Canada, tiendra une audience publique en 2 parties pour examiner une demande de permis présentée par NexGen Energy concernant la préparation de l'emplacement de son projet de mine et d'usine de concentration d'uranium Rook I et la construction de celui-ci. Le projet proposé se trouve dans le sud-ouest du bassin d'Athabasca, à environ 155 km au nord de La Loche (Saskatchewan) et sur le territoire du Traité 8 (1899), patrie de la Nation métisse, et sur les territoires traditionnels des Dénés, des Cris et des Métis.

Pour en savoir plus : [suretenucleaire.gc.ca/projet-rookI](https://suretenucleaire.gc.ca/projet-rookI)

Abonnez-vous aux notifications : [suretenucleaire.gc.ca/abonnez-vous](https://suretenucleaire.gc.ca/abonnez-vous)

## Dates de l'audience

**Partie 1 : Présentations du personnel de la CCSN et de NexGen Energy**

Le 19 novembre 2025  
Gatineau (Québec) et en ligne

**Partie 2 : Interventions des Nations et communautés autochtones et des membres du public**

Du 9 au 13 février 2025  
Saskatoon (Saskatchewan) et en ligne



Vous pouvez **regarder les 2 parties en ligne** à [suretenucleaire.gc.ca/regarder](https://suretenucleaire.gc.ca/regarder)



Avez-vous des questions sur l'audience?  
Courriel : [interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca)



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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** October 27, 2025 9:49 AM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN); Boser, Sydney (CNSC/CCSN); Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Pandolfi, Dana (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** NexGen hearing documents & notice of public hearing information - Registry links included

Good morning,

Passing along the associated links to the hearing documents posted online for the upcoming NexGen hearings.

Please note, the notice of hearing which includes important dates and deadlines may be found here: [Revised notice of public hearing and participant funding - CMD 25-H12](#)

The Commission Member Document is found here: [object](#).

The Environmental Assessment report starts on page 133 of 628 of the CMD: [object](#).

The Consultation Report starts on page 418 of 628 the CMD: [object](#).

All related NexGen hearing documents may be found here, including the applicant submissions: [Download Hearing Documents](#)

We will continue to send out updates as they are posted by the Registry.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Holland, Braeson \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Boser, Sydney \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** NexGen Posters - for distribution to community  
[Poster\\_NexGenRook2025\\_EN \(1\).pdf](#); [Poster\\_NexGenRook2025\\_Dene.pdf](#); [Poster\\_NexGenRook2025\\_Cree.pdf](#); [Poster\\_NexGenRook2025\\_FR \(1\).pdf](#);  
**Attachments:**  
**Sent:** 2025-09-24 9:49:00 AM

---

Hello,

In preparation for the upcoming NexGen Rook I Commission Hearings, CNSC staff have developed informational posters in English, French, Cree and Dene. These materials are intended to inform the Indigenous Nations and communities we engage with, and who are interested in the Project, about the hearings and how you can participate.

Please find the posters attached. We encourage you to share them in your communities and with your members.

Thanks,

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Boser, Sydney \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Pandolfi, Dana \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** NexGen hearing documents & notice of public hearing information - Registry links included  
**Sent:** 2025-10-27 10:48:00 AM

---

Good morning,

Passing along the associated links to the hearing documents posted online for the upcoming NexGen hearings.

Please note, the notice of hearing which includes important dates and deadlines may be found here: [Revised notice of public hearing and participant funding - CMD 25-H12](#)

The Commission Member Document is found here: [object](#).

The Environmental Assessment report starts on page 133 of 628 of the CMD: [object](#).

The Consultation Report starts on page 418 of 628 the CMD: [object](#).

All related NexGen hearing documents may be found here, including the applicant submissions: [Download Hearing Documents](#)

We will continue to send out updates as they are posted by the Registry.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Boser, Sydney \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
[Chief Kelly Montgrand](#); [Chief Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [Teddy Clark](#); [Camm Willier](#); [Matthew General](#);  
[terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Rodney Laprise](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Matthew Michetti](#); [Stella Lavallee - Willow Lake Metis Nation](#); [Daniel Stuckless](#); [Garrett Schmidt](#); [katherine.hay@yathinene.com](#); [Dana Kellett](#);  
**Bcc:** [Erin Barnes](#); [Lisa Golosky](#); [Destiny Martin](#); [Brent Laroque](#); [David Devos](#); [dtc@mns.ca](#); [Hilary Peterson](#); [Janelle Flett](#); [Sebastien Fekete](#); [John Glover](#); [Kim Sylvestre](#); [Callie Davies-Flett](#); [Rory Duncan](#); [Cheyenna Hunt](#);  
**Subject:** Reminder of upcoming dates related to the NexGen part II hearing - week of Feb 9-13, 2026  
**Sent:** 2025-12-15 12:47:00 PM

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Good afternoon,

I thought this would be a good time to send a generic email to all Nations regarding Part II of the NexGen hearing before the holiday period seeing as a lot of deadlines occur in early to mid-January 2026.

The Revised Notice of Public Hearing and Participant Funding is available here: [Revised notice of public hearing and participant funding - CMD 25-H12](#). Agendas are normally posted online 1-2 weeks before each part of the hearing. They will provide additional details about the hearing.

Part 2 of the hearing is scheduled for the **week of February 9, 2026**, at the Delta Saskatoon Downtown, 405 20<sup>th</sup> Street East in Saskatoon. The precise dates of the hearing will be confirmed once we know the number of intervenors.

Key deadlines include **January 9, 2026** for intervention requests, and **January 19, 2026** for PowerPoint submissions. Contact emails are [pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca) for funding inquiries and [interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca) for hearing-related questions.

In Part 2, NexGen and CNSC staff will make opening presentations. This will be followed by all the other participants who want to make an oral presentation (some intervenors make written presentations only). Commission members may ask questions to intervenors after each presentation. Most intervenors are given 10 minutes for their presentation; however, Indigenous Nations and communities are often given more time **upon request to the Registry** when submitting their interventions. If there are ways that we can facilitate your presentation to the Commission, please let us know in advance. Once all the participants have made their presentations, there will be a final round of questions from Commission members. Then, NexGen and CNSC staff will both be given the opportunity to make final remarks. Again, the agenda will provide more precise information, but hearing days normally start at 9:00 am and can last until 5:00 or 6:00 pm, with breaks in the morning, afternoon, and for lunch.

I hope this answers your questions; if there are any others, please let me know.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

**From:** Jean, Arielle (CNSC/CCSN) <[arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:53 AM  
**To:** Cheyenna Hunt <[cheyenna.hunt@desnedhe.com](mailto:cheyenna.hunt@desnedhe.com)>  
**Cc:** Angie Campbell <[Angie.Campbell@desnedhe.com](mailto:Angie.Campbell@desnedhe.com)>; Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Participant Funding Program - Programme de financière des participants (CNSC/CCSN) <[pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC PFP Contribution Agreement - NexGen

Good morning Cheyenna,

The application for Participant Funding that you submitted on behalf of **English River First Nation** for CNSC Meetings on Matters of Regulatory Interest related to NexGen's Rook 1 Project has been accepted, with some modifications. Please read this whole email, as well as the attached **Contribution Agreement** and the PFP Terms and Conditions in their entirety.

**It is important to review the entire Contribution Agreement**, particularly the text in bold. **The specific objectives that you are required to complete under this agreement are included in section 2.2 and 2.3.** Section 3.3 includes the deadline for your submissions.

Please let me know as soon as possible whether you will be accepting the terms of the Contribution Agreement. The CNSC must receive a signed copy of the Contribution Agreement by **December 2, 2025**, otherwise the Contribution Agreement will be considered null and void.

The breakdown of funding, based on your initial application, reviewed by the independent Funding Review Committee (FRC), and then accepted by the CNSC, is as follows:

<b>Professional Fees:</b>	
•	
•	
<b>Travel:</b>	
•	
<b>Other:</b>	
•	
•	
<b>Total Funding</b>	

**This is provided as a guide to you**, to show you how the independent FRC approved your initial budget. Should you wish to discuss the breakdown of funding allotted based on your PFP application form, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

**\*\*\*Important\*\*\*:** All document acquisition requests to the CNSC (i.e. licensing documentation, Licence Conditions Handbook, Commission Member Documents, environmental monitoring reports etc.) must be directed to the CNSC Interventions Inbox at [interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca) but please also copy [pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca) so that the PFP administrators are aware of your request. The CNSC will attempt to address information requests as quickly as possible so as not to delay recipient efforts, however, some documents may take more time to access. The CNSC reserves the right to limit the amount of information provided when information requests become onerous, or when the material is deemed proprietary or confidential.

If you have any questions or require any clarification regarding any of the above material, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

**Arielle Jean**  
(she/her/elle)

**Senior Policy Officer**  
Reconciliation Policy and Public Programs Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission/Government of Canada  
[arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca)/Tel: 416-529-4696

**Agente principale en politiques**  
Division de la politique sur la réconciliation et des programmes  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire/Gouvernement du Canada  
[arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca)/Tél: 416-529-4696



## **C.2 Key Correspondence with Clearwater River Dene Nation**



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865693

Chief Teddy Clarke  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
P.O. Box 5050  
Clearwater River, SK S0M 3H0

[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Clarke:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
- an on-site mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment circuit and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.

## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

## **Participant Funding Program**

The CNSC has established a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to enhance participation in the CNSC’s regulatory processes. Funding for this project will be offered for participation in both the EA/licensing and Commission hearing processes. The availability of PFP will be announced within the next few months (around the same time as the official posting of the Notice of Commencement for the project). Once the availability of funding is announced we will provide you with further details on the application process, scope of funding and amounts available.

Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnsccpf@canada.ca](mailto:cnsccpf@canada.ca).



### **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project and encourages you, during the review process, to:

- advise the CNSC of any adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights; and if so
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on the right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated as well as any evidence that will help in understanding these concerns
- provide local and traditional knowledge to support determination of potential impacts and potential mitigation measures
- advise the CNSC of how you and your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown as part of the regulatory review process for this project

### **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:

<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

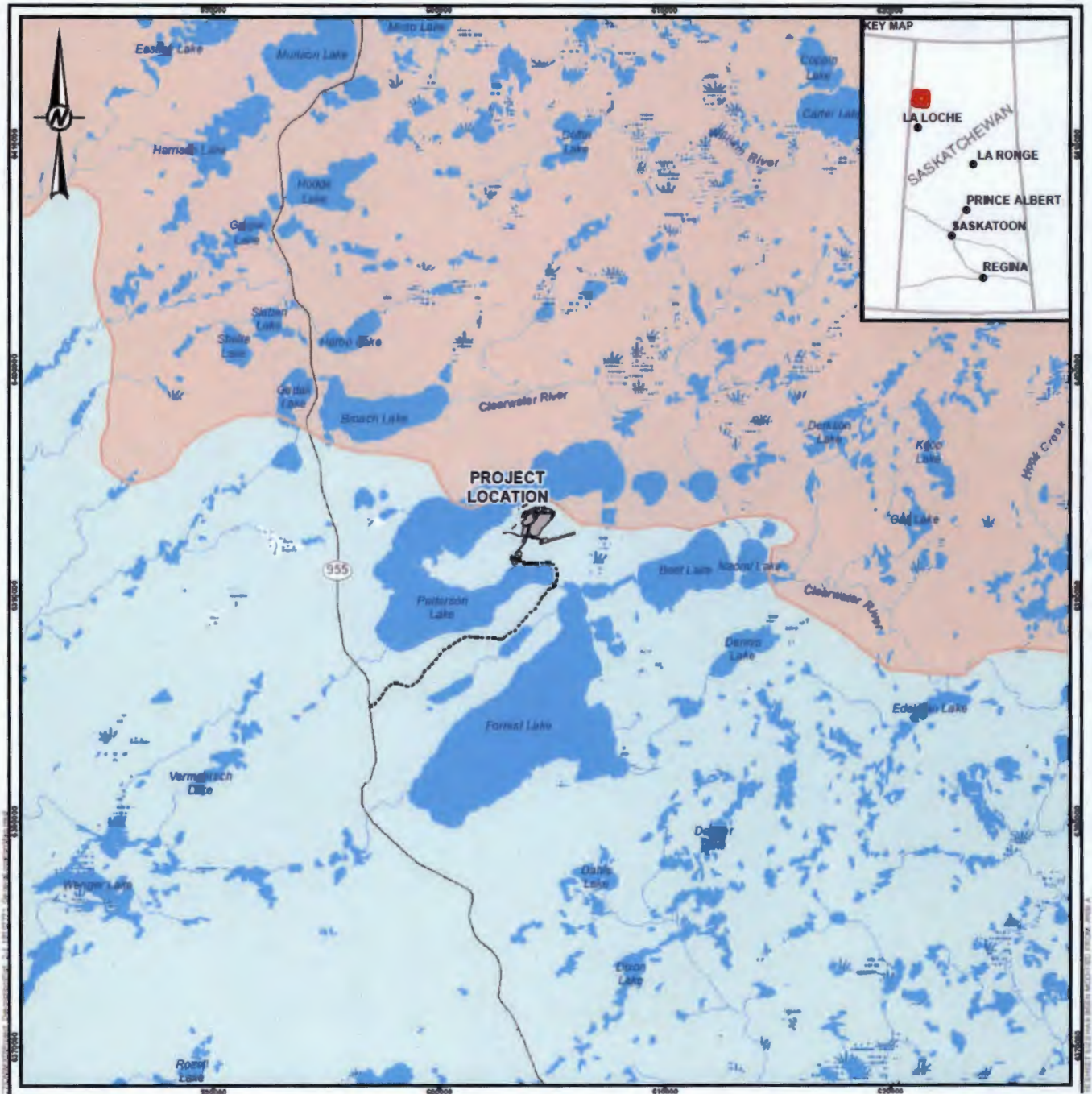
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: [MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca), [walter.hainault@crdn.com](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.com), [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)  
P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

Métis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



**March 2019 to Submission of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SUBMISSION DATE TO BE DETERMINED)**

**SUBMISSION DATE TO BE DETERMINED**

**Public Commission Hearing – DATE TO BE DETERMINED**

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**From:** Ennamaoui, Mouna (CNSC/CCSN) on behalf of Cianci, Candida (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** April 2, 2019 12:46 PM  
**To:** MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca  
**Subject:** Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.  
**Attachments:** Lettre to T Clarke.pdf

Dear Chief Teddy Clarke,

Please find attached an electronic copy of the Notice sent to you regarding a project proposal submitted by NexGen Ltd for a new uranium mine and milling project in northern Saskatchewan.

Please direct any questions relating to the environmental assessments of these projects to Nicole Frigault (Environmental Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessment Division, CNSC), at (613) 995-7948 or by e-mail at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 3, 2019 2:35 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description

Good afternoon,

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) is [seeking comments](#) from the public and Indigenous groups on the project description for the proposed Rook I Project (<https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p80171/129514E.pdf>).

The project involves the construction of a new uranium mining and milling operation located on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan.

The CNSC reviewed the project description and determined that it was written in accordance with the Prescribed Information for the Description of a Designated Project Regulations. (These regulations are made under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012). Detailed information about the project will be available in the environmental impact statement, which NexGen Energy Ltd., the proponent, will submit at a later stage of the environmental assessment (EA) process.

Comments on the project description should be based on local, regional or traditional knowledge of the site or surrounding environment, or provide any other relevant information that may help with the conduct of the EA. All comments received will be considered public.

**Written comments must be submitted by June 1, 2019, to:**

Nicole Frigault, Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
P.O. Box 1046 Station B  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9  
Telephone: 613-995-7948 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
Email: [cnsceae-ee.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnsceae-ee.ccsn@canada.ca)

Following receipt of comments on the project description, CNSC staff will consider all submissions received and make recommendations to inform the Commission's decision on the scope of the factors to be considered in the EA. In addition, CNSC staff will respond to all comments received from members of the public and Indigenous groups. The comments and responses will be placed in a table and publicly posted to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry. Effort will be made to group common issues together.

Following the Commission's decision on the EA scope, NexGen Energy Ltd. will then be required to provide to the CNSC an environmental impact statement (EIS) for review. An EIS is a report that a proponent writes to present the technical studies and findings of an EA. The CNSC's Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>) provide general instructions on preparing the EIS and information that must be included in it in order to comply with CEAA 2012 requirements.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.frigault@canada.ca) or by telephone at 613-995-7948.

Kind regards,

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948



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**From:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 31, 2019 3:42 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description

Good afternoon,

I am just following up with you to see if you and/or or your community plan to submit comments on the project description for the proposed Rook I Project (<https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p80171/129514E.pdf>).— as detailed in the e-mail correspondence below that was sent to you on May 3, 2019.

If you are planning on submitting comments, and would like an extension to the June 1, 2019 deadline, please let me know and we can certainly find a date that works for you.

Please do not hesitate to phone me at 613-995-7948 or simply respond by e-mail [Nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948



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**From:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 3, 2019 2:30 PM

**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca>  
**Subject:** Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description

Good afternoon,

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) is [seeking comments](#) from the public and Indigenous groups on the project description for the proposed Rook I Project (<https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/documents/p80171/129514E.pdf>).

The project involves the construction of a new uranium mining and milling operation located on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan.

The CNSC reviewed the project description and determined that it was written in accordance with the Prescribed Information for the Description of a Designated Project Regulations. (These regulations are made under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012). Detailed information about the project will be available in the environmental impact statement, which NexGen Energy Ltd., the proponent, will submit at a later stage of the environmental assessment (EA) process.

Comments on the project description should be based on local, regional or traditional knowledge of the site or surrounding environment, or provide any other relevant information that may help with the conduct of the EA. All comments received will be considered public.

**Written comments must be submitted by June 1, 2019, to:**

Nicole Frigault, Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
P.O. Box 1046 Station B  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9  
Telephone: 613-995-7948 or 1-800-668-5284  
Fax: 613-995-5086  
Email: [cnsceae-ee.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnsceae-ee.ccsn@canada.ca)

Following receipt of comments on the project description, CNSC staff will consider all submissions received and make recommendations to inform the Commission's decision on the scope of the factors to be considered in the EA. In addition, CNSC staff will respond to all comments received from members of the public and Indigenous groups. The comments and responses will be placed in a table and publicly posted to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry. Effort will be made to group common issues together.

Following the Commission's decision on the EA scope, NexGen Energy Ltd. will then be required to provide to the CNSC an environmental impact statement (EIS) for review. An EIS is a report that a proponent writes to present the technical studies and findings of an EA. The CNSC's Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>) provide general instructions on preparing the EIS and information that must be included in it in order to comply with CEAA 2012 requirements.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.frigault@canada.ca) or by telephone at 613-995-7948.

Kind regards,



**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948



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**From:** Ennamsaoui, Mouna (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** June 3, 2019 12:57 PM  
**To:** 'tthew General'  
**Subject:** CRDN Comments on NexGen Rook 1 Project Description

Good morning Mr. General:

This message is to confirm receipt of your Comments on the NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description. The Canadian Nuclear safety just posted your comments to the [Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency page](#) of the Project.

Thank you for your interest in the project and for your engagement.

Sincerely,

*Mouna Ennamsaoui*

*Administrative Assistant, EAD  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Government of Canada  
[mouna.ennamsaoui@canada.ca](mailto:mouna.ennamsaoui@canada.ca) | Tél: 613-943-9654*

*Adjointe administrative, DEE  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire | Gouvernement du Canada  
[mouna.ennamsaoui@canada.ca](mailto:mouna.ennamsaoui@canada.ca) | Tél: 613-943-9654*

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**From:** Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkaw.ca)>  
**Sent:** June 1, 2019 2:43 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chief Teddy Clark <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>; walter.hainault@crdn.co; 'Camm Willier' <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkaw.ca)>; Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.levine@canada.ca](mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca)>; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** CRDN Comments on NexGen Rook 1 Project Description  
**Importance:** High

Good afternoon Nicole.

The Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) is pleased to submit the attached comments in relation to the NexGen Rook 1 Project Description.

With thanks,

M General  
JFK Law  
For CRDN



## ***NOTICE OF MEETING***

Date: October 11, 2019

eDoc:6013651

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Clearwater River Dene Nation and CNSC meeting</b>
<b>1</b>	Opening prayer (CRDN Elder)
<b>2</b>	Roundtable (All)
<b>3</b>	CRDN's preferred approach to consultation and engagement (CRDN)
<b>4</b>	CNSC's approach to consultation and engagement (A. Levine)
<b>5</b>	NexGen's Rook 1 Project – Environmental Assessment, consultation and licensing processes (N. Frigault and R. Snider)
<b>6</b>	The Cluff Lake site renewal Commission decision and next steps (P. Fundarek and A. Levine)
<b>7</b>	Lunch
<b>8</b>	General questions and discussion (All)
<b>9</b>	Next steps in enhancing the CRDN-CNSC relationship (All)
<b>Place</b>	Saskatoon Inn Old Bowling Green room 2002 Airport Drive SK, S7L 6M4 306-242-1440 (call front desk to be transferred to the meeting room for teleconference)
<b>Time</b>	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (CST)
<b>Contact</b>	Adam Levine Tel: 613-462-5159



## Summary of Engagement Meeting

**Title of activity:**

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) meeting with the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN)

**Date and location of activities:**

Friday, October 11, 2019 - Saskatoon Inn - Old Bowling Green room, Saskatchewan, SK, 9 am – 1 pm

**CNSC representatives:**

Nicole Frigault, EAD, DERPA

Adam Levine, PAIRD, SPD

Adam Zenobi, PAIRD, SPD

Richard Snider, UMMD

Peter Fundarek, UMMD (teleconference)

Candida Cianci, EAD, DERPA (teleconference)

**CRDN representatives:**

Chief Teddy Clarke

Camm Willier, CRDN Advisor

Walter Hainault, Band Manager

Jeff Langlois, Legal Counsel

**Objective:**

Meeting between CNSC staff and CRDN leadership to discuss:

- the relationship between CRDN and the CNSC
- the CNSC's consultation process
- CRDN's expectations for consultation on the NexGen Rook I project and other potential projects in their territory
- the Cluff Lake licence renewal decision
- how the CNSC can continue to build a long term, meaningful relationship with CRDN

**Highlights:**

-Concern with the Province of Saskatchewan. CRDN representatives expressed their concerns with regards to the Province of SK approach to consultation and communication with their community. CRDN indicated that they have tried to reach out to them regarding a number of issues including uranium exploration activities in their territory and they haven't been responded to. CRDN feels that the provincial process is not working and there is a lot of concern over the provincial notification process at the exploration phase.

**ACTION 1:** CNSC to contact the Province of SK to bring this to their attention and provide CRDN an appropriate contact to reach out to discuss their concerns with the Province.

- CRDN indicated that a number of their members have a negative perception of the current state of the environment around Cluff Lake and feel that the area is not safe. It was reported to CNSC that Community members are hesitant to harvest food from the surrounding areas. CNSC staff were advised that some community members harvested moose from that area last year and reported that there was something wrong with the meat and did not feel comfortable consuming it. CRDN members stated that many community members

are concerned that the Cluff Lake site has not been properly remediated or cleaned up and reported that there was a lot of garbage left behind such as old drums etc., and they are scared that this is seeping into the groundwater.

- CNSC staff indicated that understanding CRDN's concerns was very important and that there is a commitment to work together on ensuring that CRDN community members and leaders receive clear communications and information regarding the safety of the Cluff Lake site.

-CRDN also shared their concerns regarding Cluff Lake site if and when it is transferred to the Province of SK's institutional control program (ICP). CNSC staff shared with CRDN the process that takes place when a property is transferred to the ICP.

**ACTION 2:** CNSC staff will follow up with Orano regarding the Commission's requests in the Record of Decision on the Cluff Lake licence Renewal. CNSC staff will inform CRDN regarding their discussions with Orano as well as CNSC staff's plans regarding ongoing engagement and trust building with CRDN with regards to the Cluff Lake site.

-CRDN wants to ensure that the process that takes place for the proposed NexGen Rook I project includes CRDN at all steps in a meaningful and collaborative consultation process. CRDN wants to be involved in the project well before any recommendations are submitted to the Commission for a decision.

-CRDN expressed their frustration with the lack of communication with their community from the province of SK for the NexGen Rook I project to date.

-CRDN feels that cumulative effects should be a major piece of the EIS for the Rook I project. The inclusion of the assessment of cumulative effects is a major concern for this community. CRDN expressed concerns over the proposed Fission mine and the associated cumulative effects. CNSC staff indicated that a licence application has not yet been received by the CNSC for the Fission project however CNSC staff expect that NexGen include all potential developments in the Rook I EIS cumulative effects assessment

-CRDN expressed an interest in learning about how CNSC actually does an assessment of impacts to Rights as a regulator.

-CRDN have received some funding from NexGen to start their Indigenous Knowledge studies however it is probably not enough for impacts to Rights assessments. CRDN is not sure that they will have this information ready for NexGen in time for the draft EIS. CRDN is currently working on a few studies right now including baseline data on use of lands and resources by their members.

**ACTION 3:** CNSC staff committed to working with CRDN to establish a meaningful and collaborative consultation process for NexGen's Rook 1 project. CNSC staff will provide CRDN with a proposed approach to consultation for the project to initiate discussions to work towards ensuring that the consultation process meets CRDN's expectations.

-CNSC staff asked if CRDN would be open to working with other Indigenous groups on certain issues with regards to both Cluff Lake and the Rook 1 project. CRDN responded that these projects and activities are clearly wholly within CRDN's traditional and treaty territory. CRDN stated that they are aware that there is some potential overlapping interests and land use with other Indigenous communities such as Birch Narrows and Buffalo River. CRDN still also has ties to a number of Indigenous communities in Alberta. CRDN members have a strong oral tradition however the community is slowly starting to document this information.

-CRDN wants to ensure that the Commission understands the importance of this land to their community and that their perspectives and knowledge are meaningfully reflected in the EIS, EA report and other reports to be submitted to the Commission for decision.

-CRDN indicated that they would like to have input on relevant EA and licence conditions to ensure that their rights and interests will be effectively protected and monitored throughout the life-cycle of the proposed project, should it be approved by the Commission.

**ACTION 4:** CNSC staff committed to working with CRDN to ensure that their knowledge, rights and interests are adequately reflected and protected throughout the EA and licensing process including in NexGen's EIS and CNSC staff's EA report. CNSC staff will apply the requirements set out in REGDOC 3.2.2: Indigenous engagement and CEAA 2012 to ensure that NexGen is adequately engaging with CRDN, including the gathering and inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use information provided by CRDN throughout the regulatory review process.

**Overall Outcome of Meeting:**

CNSC staff are committed to collaborating with CRDN to ensure that they are meaningfully involved at all stages of the EA and licensing process for the proposed NexGen Rook I project, as well as meaningfully engaged and consulted with regards to other projects and activities in their territory that falls within the CNSC's regulatory oversight including Cluff Lake and any other future proposed uranium mine projects.

CNSC staff plan to follow-up with CRDN early in 2020 for a follow-up meeting to provide an update on the listed actions and to discuss next steps.

**Presentation e-Doc:** CNSC presentation e-Doc # 6009018



## ***NOTICE OF MEETING***

**Date: February 19, 2020**

**eDoc: 6114739**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>CNSC – Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) Meeting</b>
<b>1</b>	Introductions and review of the agenda
<b>2</b>	Update from CRDN on engagement activities with NexGen, Orano and other uranium companies
<b>3</b>	Update from the CNSC on current status and next steps on the environmental assessment and licensing process for NexGen's Rook 1 project
<b>4</b>	Development of a consultation process and protocol between CNSC and CRDN for the Rook 1 project
<b>5</b>	Next steps for CRDN community engagement workshops and information sessions
<b>6</b>	Update from the CNSC on follow-up from the Cluff Lake licence renewal decision
<b>7</b>	Next steps in the relationship between CRDN and CNSC staff
<b>8</b>	General questions and discussion
<b>Place</b>	Wingate Hotel 18220- 100 Ave., Edmonton, AB
<b>Time</b>	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM MST
<b>Contact</b>	Adam Levine Tel: 613-462-5159



---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 20, 2020 3:20 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; walter.hainault@crdn.co; Matthew General; Jeff Langlois; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; sagerich@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Cattysse, Clare (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN); Cianci, Candida (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6300193-v1-Rolling\_Action\_Items\_from\_CRDN-CNSC\_Meetings.DOCX

Hi Camm et al., thanks again for the great meeting last week! As discussed, please find attached a rolling actions list which includes our actions from our meeting on Feb. 19 and also our meeting last week. Please review and let us know if you have any questions or edits.

To complete action #3, please find below a proposed agenda for a potential tripartite meeting between CRDN, CNSC and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake site and next steps. Please let us know if CRDN leadership agrees to having the meeting and if you have any suggested edits/additions to the agenda. Once we get confirmation from CRDN, we will work with all parties to find a suitable date and time for the meeting (to be held by teleconference).

We are also working on updating our consultation terms of reference and Right Impact Assessment process template to address some of CRDN's feedback and we will share a draft with you by later this week or early next week.

We will also send you a funding application form that CRDN can fill out to apply for funding to support the negotiation/development of the consultation/rights impact assessment process. I suggest that once CRDN has received all of this information from us that we have a discussion about the different funding opportunities and clarify which aspects of CRDN's proposal should go into which funding application/opportunity etc.

Let us know if you have any questions and I look forward to connecting again soon, thanks!

Adam

**Proposed agenda for a meeting between CRDN, CNSC and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake site and next steps:**

1. Introductions
2. Current status of Cluff Lake (Orano)
3. Summary of CRDN's concerns and priorities with regards to Cluff Lake as raised in CRDN's intervention to the Commission for the Cluff Lake licence renewal (CRDN)
4. Orano's responses and actions to address CRDN's concerns and requests (Orano)
5. CNSC's responses and actions to address CRDN's concerns and requests (CNSC)
6. Next steps in collaborating together to address CRDN's concerns and requests (All)
7. Next steps and timelines for Cluff Lake including plans for Institutional Control (Orano and CNSC)

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)

**Sent:** May 1, 2020 1:37 PM

**To:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard

(CNSC/CCSN); Cattrysse, Clare; Ciani, Candida (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN); Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); cammer7@shaw.ca; walter.hainault@crdn.co; Matthew General; Jeff Langlois; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; sagerich@hotmail.com

**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare

**Subject:** CRDN-CNSC Meeting

**When:** May 14, 2020 12:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Teleconference

Hi everyone, CRDN has requested that we have a meeting with them as a follow-up to our meeting on Feb. 19 in Edmonton (meeting minutes attached). They would like to go over the various action items from our last meeting, as well as get into more details regarding a proposed consultation process for the Rook 1 project. Please let me know if you will be able to participate via Zoom (details below). Below is also a draft agenda. Let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Adam

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Review of meeting minutes and actions from Feb. 19 CRDN-CNSC meeting
3. Consultation and rights impact analysis process for the Rook 1 project
4. Next steps in the EA, regulatory and consultation processes for the Rook 1 project

Teleconference:

Conference ID 4050831

Call number local 613.960.7511

Toll free Dial in 1 877.413.4782

## Rolling Actions from Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN)-CNSC Meetings

Updated: May 19, 2020

### Legend:

Ongoing
New
Completed

### Rolling Actions:

#	Action	Meeting Date	Responsible Party	Status
3	Using the draft consultation process template provided by CNSC staff as a starting point, CRDN to provide CNSC staff with a proposed consultation approach and approach to assess potential impacts on CRDN rights and interests as part of the EA and regulatory process, to the extent possible.	February 19, 2020	CNSC	CNSC Update: CNSC will provide CRDN with a Terms of Reference for consultation including a Rights Impact Assessment process that CRDN can provide feedback on.
4	CNSC staff to work with CRDN on organizing a meeting to negotiate and collaborate on developing a mutually agreeable consultation process and approach to assessing the potential impacts on CRDN rights and interests.	February 19, 2020	CNSC	CNSC update: CNSC created a consultation process/approach to assessing potential impacts of CRDN rights/interests. Once shared with CRDN, CNSC staff will work with CRDN to set up meeting(s) to discuss and negotiate the approach.

#	Action	Meeting Date	Responsible Party	Status
6	CRDN and CNSC staff to work on holding a tri-partite meeting with NexGen to discuss the consultation and engagement process for the Rook 1 project.	February 19, 2020	CNSC and CRDN	CNSC update: CNSC staff have approached the idea with both NexGen and CRDN. NexGen is open to participating in a tripartite meeting. CNSC is waiting on CRDN's response and then will work on setting up the meeting.
1	Send CRDN a draft consultation Terms of Reference template with a Rights Impact Assessment approach for review.	May 14, 2020	CNSC	Ongoing
2	Send CRDN a funding application form and discuss the funding process with them	May 14, 2020	CNSC	Ongoing
3	Draft a proposed agenda for a meeting between Orano, CRDN and CNSC to discuss next steps on the Cluff Lake file	May 14, 2020	CNSC	Ongoing
4	Confirm with Chief Clark that CRDN is open to having a meeting between NexGen, CRDN and CNSC staff to discuss roles and responsibilities for consultation and engagement regarding the Rook 1 project	May 14, 2020	CRDN	Ongoing

#### Completed Actions:

#	Action	Meeting Date	Responsible Party	Status
1	CNSC staff will relay CRDN's concerns to the Province. It is CSNC's intent to work collaboratively with the Province on consultation and engagement activities regarding the Rook 1 project, where possible.	February 19, 2020	CNSC	Completed January 2020



#	Action	Meeting Date	Responsible Party	Status
2	CNSC staff to ensure that CRDN received a copy of the Rook 1 EA scope Record of Decision and CNSC staff to walk CRDN through the decision and how their concerns/comments were addressed at a future meeting.	February 19, 2020	CNSC	Completed February 2020
5	CRDN to provide CNSC staff with a funding proposal for work related to developing a consultation and rights assessment protocol, including technical working meetings.	February 19, 2020	CRDN	Completed May 13, 2020
7	CRDN to formally invite CNSC staff to the community event on March 25th and provide more details.	February 19, 2020	CRDN	Postponed due to the COVID-19 situation.
8	CNSC staff to follow-up with Orano on discussions with CRDN with regards to next steps on Cluff Lake and propose that a tri-partite meeting occur between CNSC staff, CRDN and Orano.	February 19, 2020	CNSC	Completed May 2020
9	CNSC staff to provide CRDN with a contact at the Impact Assessment Agency for regional assessments	February 19, 2020	CNSC	Completed February 2020

---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 28, 2020 9:09 AM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; walter.hainault@crdn.co; Matthew General; Jeff Langlois; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; sagerich@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN); Ciani, Candida (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6302722-v1-PFP\_2020\_CRDN-NGEN-07\_FA-2.DOC; E-DOCS-#6300193-v1-Rolling\_Action\_Items\_from\_CRDN-CNSC\_Meetings.DOCX; E-DOCS-#6298146-v2-DRAFT-\_Terms\_of\_Reference\_between\_CRDN\_and\_CNSC\_for\_NexGen\_Rook\_1\_Project.DOCX

Good morning Camm! Please find attached for review by CRDN the following:

1. A draft Consultation Terms of Reference and proposed Rights Impact Assessment process for NexGen's Rook 1 project
2. A funding application form for CRDN to complete and submit to the CNSC in relation to support for the development of the ToR and RIA process (we would recommend this covers stages 1-3 in CRDN's original proposal provided to CNSC staff on May 13, 2020. We have added those steps and the requested amounts in the template already, however, please adjust as CRDN sees fit)

This completes actions 10 and 11 in the attached updated rolling actions list. Once CRDN has reviewed these documents please provide us with feedback in writing and we would also be happy to organize a teleconference to walk CRDN through the documents and answer any questions. Also, with regards to funding opportunities, please let us know when you would be available to meet to discuss. Thanks!

Adam

---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 20, 2020 3:20 PM  
**To:** 'cammer7@shaw.ca' <cammer7@shaw.ca>; walter.hainault@crdn.co; Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>; Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <cno@sasktel.net>; sagerich@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare <Clare.Cattrysse@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN) <peter.fundarek@canada.ca>; Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN) <ron.stenson@canada.ca>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN) <richard.snider2@canada.ca>; Ciani, Candida (CNSC/CCSN) <candida.ciani@canada.ca>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca>; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.zenobi@canada.ca>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting

Hi Camm et al., thanks again for the great meeting last week! As discussed, please find attached a rolling actions list which includes our actions from our meeting on Feb. 19 and also our meeting last week. Please review and let us know if you have any questions or edits.

To complete action #3, please find below a proposed agenda for a potential tripartite meeting between CRDN, CNSC and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake site and next steps. Please let us know if CRDN leadership agrees to having the

meeting and if you have any suggested edits/additions to the agenda. Once we get confirmation from CRDN, we will work with all parties to find a suitable date and time for the meeting (to be held by teleconference).

We are also working on updating our consultation terms of reference and Right Impact Assessment process template to address some of CRDN's feedback and we will share a draft with you by later this week or early next week.

We will also send you a funding application form that CRDN can fill out to apply for funding to support the negotiation/development of the consultation/rights impact assessment process. I suggest that once CRDN has received all of this information from us that we have a discussion about the different funding opportunities and clarify which aspects of CRDN's proposal should go into which funding application/opportunity etc.

Let us know if you have any questions and I look forward to connecting again soon, thanks!

Adam

**Proposed agenda for a meeting between CRDN, CNSC and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake site and next steps:**

1. Introductions
2. Current status of Cluff Lake (Orano)
3. Summary of CRDN's concerns and priorities with regards to Cluff Lake as raised in CRDN's intervention to the Commission for the Cluff Lake licence renewal (CRDN)
4. Orano's responses and actions to address CRDN's concerns and requests (Orano)
5. CNSC's responses and actions to address CRDN's concerns and requests (CNSC)
6. Next steps in collaborating together to address CRDN's concerns and requests (All)
7. Next steps and timelines for Cluff Lake including plans for Institutional Control (Orano and CNSC)

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)

**Sent:** May 1, 2020 1:37 PM

**To:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN); Cattrysse, Clare; Cianci, Candida (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN); Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General; Jeff Langlois; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; [sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com)

**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare

**Subject:** CRDN-CNSC Meeting

**When:** May 14, 2020 12:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Teleconference

Hi everyone, CRDN has requested that we have a meeting with them as a follow-up to our meeting on Feb. 19 in Edmonton (meeting minutes attached). They would like to go over the various action items from our last meeting, as well as get into more details regarding a proposed consultation process for the Rook 1 project. Please let me know if you will be able to participate via Zoom (details below). Below is also a draft agenda. Let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Adam

Agenda:

1. Introductions

2. Review of meeting minutes and actions from Feb. 19 CRDN-CNSC meeting
3. Consultation and rights impact analysis process for the Rook 1 project
4. Next steps in the EA, regulatory and consultation processes for the Rook 1 project

Teleconference:

Conference ID 4050831

Call number local 613.960.7511

Toll free Dial in 1 877.413.4782



## Summary of Meeting Between CNSC Staff and the Clearwater River Dene Nation

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 1:00 to 3:00 pm EST

**Location:** Zoom meeting

**Attendees:**

<b>CNSC</b> Clare Cattrysse Adam Levine Cassandre Roy Drainville Nicole Frigault Nana-Owusua Kwamena Denis Saumure Peter Fundarek Richard Snider	<b>Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN)</b> Camm Willier Wanda Lewis William Rich Jeff Langlois (Legal Counsel) Matthew General (Legal Counsel) Councillor Peggy Piche
--	---

**Related documents:**

[Agenda](#) and draft [Terms of Reference](#)

**Past Actions, Meeting with CRDN on February 19, 2020:**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Staff Responsible for Action</b>
CNSC staff will relay CRDN's concerns to the Province.	Completed	Adam Levine
CNSC staff to ensure that CRDN received a copy of the Rook 1 EA scope Record of Decision and walk CRDN through the decision and how their concerns/comments were addressed at a future meeting	Completed	Adam Levine/Nicole Frigault
CRDN to provide CNSC staff with a proposed consultation approach and approach to assess potential impacts on CRDN rights and interests as part of the EA and regulatory process, to the extent possible.	Completed	CRDN
CNSC staff to work with CRDN on organizing a meeting to negotiate and collaborate on developing a mutually agreeable consultation process and approach to assessing the potential impacts on CRDN rights and interests.	Completed	Adam Levine/CRDN
CRDN to provide CNSC staff with a funding proposal for work related to developing a consultation and rights assessment protocol, including technical working meetings.	Completed	CRDN
CRDN and CNSC staff to work on holding a tri-partite meeting with NexGen to discuss the consultation and engagement process for the Rook 1 project.	Ongoing	
CRDN to formally invite CNSC staff to the community event on March 25 <sup>th</sup> and provide more details.	Completed	CRDN
CNSC staff to follow-up with Orano on discussions with CRDN with regards to next steps on Cluff Lake and propose that a tri-partite meeting occur between CNSC staff, CRDN and Orano.	Ongoing	

**Purpose:** To give an update on the status and next steps for NexGen Rook 1 EA process, to discuss the CRDN-CNSC Consultation Terms of Reference and next steps for finalization, to get updates on CRDN's engagement with Orano and NexGen, and to discuss a potential tri-partite meeting with Orano and NexGen (separately).

**Topics Discussed:**

- **Update on status and next steps for NexGen Rook 1 EA process:** Nicole Frigault provided a general update on the NexGen Rook 1 EA process, and mentioned that the status has not changed since the last meeting: NexGen is preparing the draft EIS, expecting submission in Mid 2021. Discussions took place about timelines and steps for the EA process for both the CNSC and province.

A: Nicole will share the NexGen timelines for the draft EIS with CRDN once we receive it.

A: Nicole will share a table with the steps for the EA process for both the CNSC and province, including where the work is coordinated between both processes.

- **Discussion on the CRDN-CNSC Consultation Terms of Reference and next steps for finalization:** CRDN and CNSC discussed specific items within the ToR, especially timelines and steps related to the Rights Impact Assessment. CRDN and CNSC agreed that the steps described will start before the EIS is submitted. CRDN and CNSC need to add details about expectations.

A: CNSC need to add details about expectations, and language used in the RIA section, especially about cumulative impacts. CNSC also needs to review the principles added by CRDN in more detail and provide recommended edits and changes for discussion.

CRDN clarified their intent about the principles added in the ToR and the need to find a balance between a high level text and a text that describes specific roles and responsibilities.

A: CNSC will share a new version of the ToR once reviewed.

- **Update on CRDN's engagement with Orano and NexGen:** CRDN mentioned that they met with Orano in February, Jeff Langlois (Counsel) was not aware of whether CRDN met since.

A: Jeff Langlois will follow up with CRDN to clarify whether CRDN met with Orano since February 2020.

CRDN also met with NexGen on a few occasions. Last time was with the joint Working Group in March 2020, and NexGen has been following up on a couple of items since. CRDN mentioned that it is hard to engage with community members during the pandemic since many do not have reliable internet access.

A: Once the ToR is finalized, CNSC and CRDN will work together to plan a tripartite meeting with NexGen.

- **Potential for tri-party meetings with Orano and NexGen (separately):** Discussions took place about setting a tri-partite meeting with Orano and NexGen.

A: Peter to talk to Orano to set potential date. Maybe in January 2021.

A: Adam will send the proposed agenda to CRDN.

**Follow-up Actions:**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Staff Responsible for Action</b>
CNSC staff will share the NexGen EIS timelines with CRDN once we receive it.		Nicole Frigault
CNSC staff will share a table with the steps for the EA process for both the CNSC and province and where the work is coordinated between both processes.		Nicole Frigault
CNSC staff need to add details about expectations, and language used in the RIA section, especially about cumulative impacts. CNSC also needs to review the principles added by CRDN in more detail and provide recommended edits and changes for discussion		PAIRD, EAD, UMMD, LSU
CNSC staff will share a new version of the ToR once reviewed.		Adam Levine
Jeff Langlois will follow up with CRDN to clarify whether CRDN met with Orano since February 2020.	Completed	CRDN Counsel
Once the ToR is finalized, CNSC and CRDN will work together to plan a tripartite meeting with NexGen.		CRDN and CNSC
CNSC staff to talk to Orano to set potential date for a potential tri-partite meeting in January.		Peter Fundarek
CNSC staff to send the proposed agenda for the tri-partite meeting to CRDN.	Completed	Adam Levine

**Future Topics of Discussion :**

1. Update on status and next steps for NexGen Rook 1 EA process
2. Discussion on the CRDN-CNSC Consultation Terms of Reference and finalization

---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca>  
**Sent:** December 6, 2020 9:17 PM  
**To:** Jeff Langlois; cammer7@shaw.ca; walter.hainault@crdn.co; Matthew General; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; sagerich@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Cattysse, Clare (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN); Kwamena, Nana-Owusua (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN); Saumure, Denis (CNSC/CCSN); Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6298146-v7-  
DRAFT-\_Terms\_of\_Reference\_between\_CRDN\_and\_CNSC\_for\_NexGen\_Rook\_1\_Project.DOCX; REV 2 Track Changes CRDN Aug 4 2020 Draft TOR CRDN-CNSC EA Process (Nexgen Rook 1 Project).docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hello Jeff and Camm, hope you both had a good weekend! As a follow-up to our latest round of discussions on the draft CNSC-CRDN Consultation Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Rook 1 project, we wanted to provide you with our current thoughts and proposed approach to finalizing the ToR and Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) framework we have been developing over the past few months.

After careful consideration and analysis of the additional topics/criteria and principles added to the Schedule A of the ToR (RIA framework) (from CRDN's Aug. 4 version), we recommend that as these are important and complex topics that warrant many more in depth discussions to fully flush out, that we not include them in the ToR document itself, but rather we go through and better understand each topic/principle together as we begin to develop and implement the RIA process and methodology for this project.

The reason for this is that the ToR is meant to be a high-level framework for how we are going to be working together throughout the Environmental Assessment (EA) and regulatory process for this project and is not meant to go into great detail of every aspect of that work. We feel that a more efficient and meaningful approach would be to keep the ToR as currently proposed (clean December 2020 version attached) and then work through the details of the RIA principles, criteria, methodology and process as we begin its implementation. The goal will be to capture all of these elements of the RIA work we will be doing together in the eventual RIA Report, which is consistent with the approach of the Impact Assessment Agency. In addition, this will allow for more flexibility to add in additional elements into the RIA, where needed, as we work on this initiative over the next few years together as approaches and best practices evolve.

We have accepted the vast majority of CRDN's edits and additions to the other sections of the ToR (I have attached CRDN's Aug. 4 version for reference and comparison) and if CRDN is agreeable to this approach, we would be ready to meet early in the new year to finalize these discussions and move towards the signing of the ToR and RIA framework. We can then turn our efforts and attention towards implementation, including the working out of the details outlined in CRDN's proposed edits and additions to the RIA section of the ToR. So we will want to keep all of the edits proposed in the Aug. 4 version of the ToR and work on capturing them where possible in the documentation we will be developing together for the implementation of the RIA including the collaboratively drafted RIA Report and supporting documentation.

Please let us know what you think about this approach and we can start working on identifying a time in January for us to meet virtually to discuss next steps. Also, just as an update, we are currently in the final stages of approvals process



for the funding requested through the Participant Funding Program (PFP) for the review of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Rook 1 project and we will be sending you a Contribution Agreement for review and signing shortly. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you want to discuss any of the above. Talk soon!

Adam  
613-462-5159

---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
**Sent:** October 29, 2020 5:02 PM  
**To:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca; walter.hainault@crdn.co; Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <cno@sasktel.net>; sagerich@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare (CNSC/CCSN) <clare.cattrysse@canada.ca>; Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN) <peter.fundarek@canada.ca>; Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN) <ron.stenson@canada.ca>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN) <richard.snider2@canada.ca>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua (CNSC/CCSN) <nana-owusua.kwamena@canada.ca>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca>; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.zenobi@canada.ca>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca>; Saumure, Denis (CNSC/CCSN) <denis.saumure@canada.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting

Adam,

That agenda for a meeting with Orano sounds fine to us. Could you please let us know when you have suggestions for timing in January 2021?

Also, we are looking forward to further comments/revisions to the Terms of Reference/Rights Impact Assessment approach. Any sense on when such comments may be forthcoming so that we can continue this conversation?

**Jeff Langlois**  
Principal  
Pronouns: he/him/his

**JFK Law Corporation**  
340 – 1122 Mainland Street  
Vancouver BC V6B 5L1

**T** 604 687 0549 ext 114   **C** 604 992 1680  
**F** 604 687 2696   **E** [jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca)  
[www.jfkllaw.ca](http://www.jfkllaw.ca)

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---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.levine@canada.ca](mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:09 AM  
**To:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca)>; Jeff Langlois

<[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>; [sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com)  
**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare (CNSC/CCSN) <[clare.cattrysse@canada.ca](mailto:clare.cattrysse@canada.ca)>; Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN)  
<[peter.fundarek@canada.ca](mailto:peter.fundarek@canada.ca)>; Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN) <[ron.stenson@canada.ca](mailto:ron.stenson@canada.ca)>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN)  
<[richard.snider2@canada.ca](mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua (CNSC/CCSN) <[nana-owusua.kwamena@canada.ca](mailto:nana-owusua.kwamena@canada.ca)>; Frigault,  
Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)>; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)>; Roy-  
Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <[cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca)>; Saumure, Denis (CNSC/CCSN)  
<[denis.saumure@canada.ca](mailto:denis.saumure@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi everyone, thanks again for the great meeting last week. We will be drafting a meeting summary and will be sharing that with everyone soon. One of the actions that we discussed was for me to share the proposed draft agenda for a potential meeting between CRDN, Orano and CNSC to discuss the Cluff Lake site. Please find below the agenda I had shared with everyone back in May this year. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments on it.

As discussed, Peter and Ron will be working with Orano to identify a potential date and time in January 2021 for our meeting and will let CRDN know once we have identified a potential date and then see if it works for the CRDN team.

We will also be taking another look at the draft Terms of Reference and Rights Impact Assessment process document and providing some additional suggested edits to discuss. We will share those with CRDN as soon as we can. Once we send those back we can work to set up another meeting with some key people who will continue to focus on finalizing the ToR and RIA process. Looking forward to talking again soon, thanks!

Adam

---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** May 20, 2020 3:20 PM  
**To:** 'cammer7@shaw.ca' <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca)>; Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>; [sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com)  
**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare <[Clare.Cattrysse@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Clare.Cattrysse@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN) <[peter.fundarek@canada.ca](mailto:peter.fundarek@canada.ca)>; Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN) <[ron.stenson@canada.ca](mailto:ron.stenson@canada.ca)>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN) <[richard.snider2@canada.ca](mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca)>; Cianci, Candida (CNSC/CCSN) <[candida.cianci@canada.ca](mailto:candida.cianci@canada.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)>; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <[cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Meeting

Hi Camm et al., thanks again for the great meeting last week! As discussed, please find attached a rolling actions list which includes our actions from our meeting on Feb. 19 and also our meeting last week. Please review and let us know if you have any questions or edits.

To complete action #3, please find below a proposed agenda for a potential tripartite meeting between CRDN, CNSC and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake site and next steps. Please let us know if CRDN leadership agrees to having the meeting and if you have any suggested edits/additions to the agenda. Once we get confirmation from CRDN, we will work with all parties to find a suitable date and time for the meeting (to be held by teleconference).

We are also working on updating our consultation terms of reference and Right Impact Assessment process template to address some of CRDN's feedback and we will share a draft with you by later this week or early next week.

We will also send you a funding application form that CRDN can fill out to apply for funding to support the negotiation/development of the consultation/rights impact assessment process. I suggest that once CRDN has received all of this information from us that we have a discussion about the different funding opportunities and clarify which aspects of CRDN's proposal should go into which funding application/opportunity etc.

Let us know if you have any questions and I look forward to connecting again soon, thanks!

Adam

**Proposed agenda for a meeting between CRDN, CNSC and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake site and next steps:**

1. Introductions
2. Current status of Cluff Lake (Orano)
3. Summary of CRDN's concerns and priorities with regards to Cluff Lake as raised in CRDN's intervention to the Commission for the Cluff Lake licence renewal (CRDN)
4. Orano's responses and actions to address CRDN's concerns and requests (Orano)
5. CNSC's responses and actions to address CRDN's concerns and requests (CNSC)
6. Next steps in collaborating together to address CRDN's concerns and requests (All)
7. Next steps and timelines for Cluff Lake including plans for Institutional Control (Orano and CNSC)

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)

**Sent:** May 1, 2020 1:37 PM

**To:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Stenson, Ron (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN); Cattrysse, Clare; Cianci, Candida (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN); Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General; Jeff Langlois; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; [sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com)

**Cc:** Cattrysse, Clare

**Subject:** CRDN-CNSC Meeting

**When:** May 14, 2020 12:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Teleconference

Hi everyone, CRDN has requested that we have a meeting with them as a follow-up to our meeting on Feb. 19 in Edmonton (meeting minutes attached). They would like to go over the various action items from our last meeting, as well as get into more details regarding a proposed consultation process for the Rook 1 project. Please let me know if you will be able to participate via Zoom (details below). Below is also a draft agenda. Let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Adam

**Agenda:**

1. Introductions
2. Review of meeting minutes and actions from Feb. 19 CRDN-CNSC meeting
3. Consultation and rights impact analysis process for the Rook 1 project
4. Next steps in the EA, regulatory and consultation processes for the Rook 1 project

Teleconference:  
Conference ID 4050831  
Call number local 613.960.7511  
Toll free Dial in 1 877.413.4782





Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

## ***NOTICE OF MEETING***

Date: April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
eDoc# 6538145

	Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)	NATION: Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN)
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>CNSC- CRDN Meeting Agenda – NexGen Rook 1 Project</b>	
<b>1.</b>	Introductions	10:30 – 10:40
<b>2.</b>	CRDN Consultation Protocol (CRDN)	10:40 – 11:05
<b>3.</b>	Terms of Reference (CNSC/CRDN)	11:05 – 11:30
<b>4.</b>	Next steps for Collaboration - NexGen Rook 1 (CNSC/CRDN)	11:30 – 11:45
<b>5.</b>	Meeting date(s) for Cluff Lake Tri-party meeting (CRDN/CNSC)	11:45 – 11:50
<b>6.</b>	Question Period and General Discussion (CNSC/CRDN)	11:50 – 12:00
<b>Place</b>	Virtual Zoom Meeting Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://zoom.us/j/8042615394">https://zoom.us/j/8042615394</a> Meeting ID: 804 261 5394	
<b>Time</b>	10:30 AM to 12:00 PM CST	
<b>Contact</b>	CNSC contact: Ryan Froess or Adam Levine Email: <a href="mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca">ryan.froess@canada.ca</a> ; <a href="mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca">adam.levine@canada.ca</a>	

## Summary of Meeting with Clearwater River Dene Nation and Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 10:30 am to 12:00 pm CST

**Location:** Zoom meeting

### Attendees:

<b>CNSC</b>	<b>CRDN</b>
Adam Levine, Team Lead, Indigenous Relations	Chief Teddy Clark
Ryan Froess, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Relations	Ken Rich – CRDN Engagement team
Cassandre Roy-Drainville, Policy Officer, Indigenous Relations	Camm Willier – CRDN Engagement Lead
Nicole Frigault, Environmental Specialist, EAD	Jeff Langlois, Legal Advisor
Richard Snyder, Senior Project Officer, UMMD	Garrett Ainsworth, Geologist Advisor
Denis Saumure, Senior Legal Counsel	Wanda Lewis, Environmental Advisor
	Matthew General, Consultation Advisor

### Related documents:

Agenda: [edocs#-6538145](#)

ToR : [edoc#-6298146 v.9](#)

**Purpose:** Up-date on the Terms of Reference (ToR), discuss consultation approach on the NexGen Project and follow-up on the triparty meeting between Orano, CNSC, and CRDN.

### Topics Discussed:

#### 1. Terms of Reference:

CNSC staff and CRDN had a discussion on the recent changes made by the CNSC to the ToR. CNSC recommended that the principles removed be taken into account for upcoming discussions as part of the development of the Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) methodology. CRDN agreed but asked that a step be added about the development of the principles and RIA methodology. CRDN legal counsel indicated they had some concerns and would like if the CNSC could share information/ guidance documents / principles that that CNSC applies in its approach to RIA. CNSC to share documentation on RIA methodology, Table of Contents template, etc. CNSC's approach to RIA, has been benchmarked and modelled off of the RIA methodology developed by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada.

**Action 1:** Adam L. - CNSC will follow up with Jeff to send a template for RIA report structure, and a document that outlines the CNSC's principles and approach with regards to RIA.

**Action 2:** CNSC/CRDN - Work to finalize ToR before end of April/early May 2021.

#### 2. Next steps for NexGen Rook 1 Project and Related Consultation and Engagement Process

Discussions occurred about the best approach to communicate and engage with CRDN membership and broader community going forward as well as next steps for working on the Rights Impact Assessment. CRDN mentioned that they would like the CNSC to give an introductory presentation to their membership at a later date once the CRDN team has had some time to have discussions at a community level. The CNSC indicated it can provide such presentation on its mandate and various topics of concern.

Issues concerning provincial jurisdiction and responsibilities regarding land use planning and exploration for uranium were raised. Concerns around the provincial Duty to Consult on exploration were brought up by CRDN. CRDN mentioned their desire to meet with the Province and asked whether the CNSC could help facilitate a meeting.

**Action 3:** Nicole - CNSC to follow up with the Province about letter sent to the Province from CRDN.

**Action 4:** Ryan - CNSC staff to set up monthly or bi-weekly meetings with CRDN starting in May to discuss the Rights Impact Assessment and broader upcoming engagement and technical topics for discussion for the NexGen Rook 1 Project.

Chief Clarke mentioned that elections are coming up in June so he will be busy in May and June but will do his best to make it to meetings when he can.

### **3. Cluff Lake (potential dates for Tri-party meeting).**

**Action 5:** Camm - CRDN to find a date and send to CNSC so we can work with Orano to set-up a tri-party meeting for the Cluff Lake file.

#### **Follow-up Actions:**

<b>Actions Items</b>	<b>Response</b>
1. CNSC to follow up with Jeff to send template for RIA report structure and CNSC's principles and guidance for RIA.	Complete
2. CNSC staff and CRDN to work to finalize ToR before the end of April/early May.	Awaiting feedback from CRDN Team
3. CNSC staff to set up monthly or bi-weekly meetings from May and moving forward with CRDN team and implement the ToR.	Complete – can move as needed
4. CNSC staff to follow up with the Province on letter sent by CRDN.	In progress
5. CRDN to find a date and send to us for the tri-party meeting with Orano for Cluff Lake.	Awaiting dates that work for CRDN Team

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** June 30, 2021 3:19 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; Levine, Adam  
**Cc:** sagerich@hotmail.com; Wanda Lewis  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi Camm,

Thanks for the email and we understand that CRDN is very busy and are happy to meet and discuss the two projects with CRDN when you are ready and available.

The CNSC is committed to continuing to build upon our relationship and looking forward to future meetings to advance our collaboration on these two important files.

We will await your invite and look forward to our next meeting/working session with the CRDN team!

Thanks,  
Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Sent: June 30, 2021 11:31 AM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Cc: sagerich@hotmail.com; Wanda Lewis <wanda@wandaco.com>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good Afternoon Ryan/Adam

Thanks for the email, in regards to the resuming of the CRDN Engagement commitment and activities, we unfortunately have been advised by Chief Clark that all programming will be on pause till I am assuming around the 3rd week of July. At that time we will be addressing some of the outstanding technical items requiring attention with the new Council.

Presently both the NXE and Orano files are very sensitive for us and require extensive legal and environmental interpretation from our team and as a result will be presenting those items inhouse prior to approaching both groups.

Never the less a working process and vital to have that reassurance for all groups not just a few and more so the importance of having that CRDN Engagement regulated process in place as per direction from Chief Clark and his new Council.

I will be reaching out to you/Adam after the week of July 19-23/21 where we will be having a follow-up working session in Saskatoon. Maybe we can catch up in person then, knowing there are certain items we need to present to CNSC prior to thinking of resuming our outstanding follow-up Actions items .

Thank you and have a great week

Camm

-----Original Message-----



From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 11:12 AM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi Camm,

I hope things are well and your managing to stay cool in this heat wave! I understand the CRDN election is now over and Chief Clark has been re-elected. Please extend our sincere congratulations to the Chief when you speak with him from Adam and I.

I am just following up with hope of trying to set up some summer meetings on both the NexGen and Orano files. I know summer is busy time for many and it may be difficult to get everyone on board but we do feel its important to try to make some progress on some of these key actions like the finalizing the ToR and setting up regular meetings for NexGen soon and finding some dates that work for the CNSC and CRDN to meet with Orano.

Adam and I are both around most of next week but then one or both of us are on holidays until later in July. Let us know if you are personally available next week and want to have a quick call to discuss?

Thanks,  
Ryan

From: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: May 21, 2021 1:35 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Thanks Ryan! I definitely agree. Would be good to meet soon and establish more regular meetings at the working level to be able to make progress and close off some of these important actions we have been working on for over a year now. Keep us posted Camm and we look forward to connecting soon. Hope everyone has a good long weekend!!

Adam

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>>  
Sent: May 21, 2021 3:29 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Cc: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Sounds good Camm,

Keep us posted and Adam feel free to chime in.

We understand the community is starting its elections process and Chief is a very busy guy , so maybe it is better if we maintain dialogue and collaboration at the working level for now and try to make some progress on some of these key actions like the finalizing the ToR on paper so when the elections are over we can hit the ground running and begin to move forward on the items within the ToR. If we can find a time to meet next week that's great as well.

As for the Orano file please provide us with dates (after election in June?) that works for CRDN and we will definitely do our best to work into our schedules.

Thanks

Ryan

From: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca> <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Sent: May 21, 2021 1:06 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>>  
Cc: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

That will not work for us. I have to work around the Chief's schedule, so in saying that we will get back to you on a date.

It may have to be the following week or as advised by the Chief.

Regarding the monthly scheduling again I will have to work around the Chief's schedule and therefore cannot to committed schedule monthly meetings I will check with Adam's schedule as well on a meeting date.

For reference Adam/Ryan please note the community is now I election mode so therefore scheduling meetings maybe somewhat tight.

Wanda Jeff Matt and I can work something out to revisit on the roll over action items needing to addressed in the mean time, just have to find a date,

Especially the Orano file

Thanks

Camm

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>>  
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 12:56 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi Camm,

To be honest not great as 3 of the 4 of us are already booked. Adam and Nicole are out east and two hours difference and Richard and myself are here. Afternoons tend to be best and as most people have regular meetings lined up in the morning. I find when dealing with both time zones anytime after 12:30 CST or 1 pm works best for folks here and out east as is 2:30 or 3 pm for them so getting later in the day.

Does next Thursday (27) or Friday (28) next week between 12:30 pm CST or latest 2 CST pm work to start?

Ideally, moving forward it would be nice to set something up monthly around this time between on Thursdays or Fridays so we have it in everyone's calendars after the election?

Let me know what your hear back from your group.

Thanks,  
Ryan

From: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca> <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Sent: May 21, 2021 12:27 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good Afternoon Ryan

What's 10:00 am look like on Thursday morning May 27/21 ?

Thanks

Camm

From: Camm <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 9:45 AM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>  
Subject: Re: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Will get back to you in a bit regarding the date and time. Thanks

Camm

Sent from my BlackBerry - the most secure mobile device - via the TELUS Network  
From: ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: May 21, 2021 9:26 AM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Cc: cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>; wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>;  
walter.hainault@crdn.co<mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co>; Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi Camm,

Yes great to hear from you! Does next Thursday at 1 pm work?

Please feel free to give me a call today to discuss further if you would like?

Thanks ,  
Ryan

From: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca> <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Sent: May 21, 2021 2:33 AM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>  
Cc: 'Chief Teddy Clark' <cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>>; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>; 'Walter Hainault GM' <walter.hainault@crdn.co<mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co>>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>; sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good Morning Ryan

We are planning to be attending meetings in Saskatoon next week, please advise if we can arrange a follow-up meeting with you to discuss some of the follow-up action items listed below.

Can have a chat later today if you are free, thanks

Camm

From: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 9:47 AM  
To: Camm <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Cc: Chief Teddy Clark <cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>>; Wanda Lewis <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>; Walter Hainault GM <walter.hainault@crdn.co<mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co>>; Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good morning Camm

Sounds good and feel free to reach out anytime if you have any thing you need to discuss.

Thanks,  
Ryan

From: Camm <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Sent: May 12, 2021 9:40 AM  
To: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>  
Cc: Chief Teddy Clark <cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>>; Wanda Lewis <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>; Walter Hainault GM <walter.hainault@crdn.co<mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co>>; Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>>  
Subject: Re: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good morning Ryan

Thanks for the email, I will discuss with Wanda chief walter and I for proper community participation and plans for addressing the items discussed at the previous virtual meeting.  
I want to make sure we approach all areas with proper recognition for CRDN's participation moving forward.  
I will also touch base with Jeff on the other items listed

Will be in touch thank you

Camm

Sent from my BlackBerry - the most secure mobile device - via the TELUS Network  
From: ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>  
Sent: May 11, 2021 5:35 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>; JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
Cc: nicole.frigault@canada.ca<mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca>; richard.snider2@canada.ca<mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca>; cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca<mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca>; adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good afternoon Camm and Jeff,

Please see attached Meeting Minutes from April 15th meeting. If you or the CRDN Team have any additions please feel free to add and we can re-send.



I am just following-up on a few action items that both groups had both identified and wanted to make we are not missing anything. I think we are awaiting to hear back from Camm on preferred dates to set a meeting with Orano as well as feedback on the ToR for the NexGen Rook 1 Project.

Hopefully we can touch base again soon. I provided a monthly meeting date but we can change if it does not work.

Thanks,  
Ryan

Follow-up Actions:  
Actions Items  
Response

1. CNSC to follow up with Jeff to send template for RIA report structure and CNSC's principles and guidance for RIA.  
Complete

1. CNSC staff and CRDN to work to finalize ToR before the end of April/early May.  
In progress - Awaiting feedback from CRDN Team

1. CNSC staff to set up monthly or bi-weekly meetings from May and moving forward with CRDN team and implement the ToR.  
Complete – can move as needed

1. CNSC staff to follow up with the Province on letter sent by CRDN.  
In progress

1. CRDN to find a date and send to us for the tri-party meeting with Orano for Cluff Lake.  
In progress - Awaiting dates that work for CRDN Team

From: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN)  
Sent: April 16, 2021 3:11 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>; JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
Cc: cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>; sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca<mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca>>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN) <richard.snider2@canada.ca<mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca>>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca<mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca>>; Adam Levine (CNSC/CCSN) (adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>) <adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good afternoon,

Thanks taking the time and the great discussion yesterday. I have attached meeting minutes from our call for your review. Please feel free to make any changes (use track changes) and I can send out a final to everyone once I hear back from CRDN team.

Have a great weekend and looking forward to our future meetings.

Ryan

From: Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>>  
Sent: April 15, 2021 1:29 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>; JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
Cc: cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>;  
sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
<nicole.frigault@canada.ca<mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca>>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN)  
<richard.snider2@canada.ca<mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca>>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN)  
<cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca<mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca>>; Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN)  
<ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi everyone, thanks for the great meeting today! As discussed, please find attached two documents:

1. A summary of the CNSC's principles, guidance and approach to conducting a Rights Impact Assessment
2. A template for what our RIA Report would look like (RIA Report Table of Contents template)

Please review these documents in support of your finalization of the CNSC/CRDN Terms of Reference. Please let us know if you have any questions about these two documents, our approach to RIA, as well as the current version of the ToR. Our hope is that we can work to finalize the ToR and move towards implementation, including the development of an agreed upon approach and methodology for the RIA in the coming weeks.

Adam

From: Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)  
Sent: April 13, 2021 9:44 AM  
To: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>;  
cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Cc: cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>;  
sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>; JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; Frigault,  
Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca<mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca>>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN)  
<richard.snider2@canada.ca<mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca>>  
Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good morning Camm and everyone! Please find attached the latest version of the CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference for consultation for the Rook 1 Project. We have reviewed your latest edits/additions and made a number of our own. I have provided a clean version of the document as it was getting hard to review with all of the track changes. We will be happy to walk you through our changes during our meeting on Thursday this week. I believe after close to a year of working on this together I think it is now time to try and get this to a close with all parties, if possible, so we can turn our attention and efforts towards implementing the agreement together over the coming years.

Thank you to everyone for your efforts so far and I think we are getting very close to a final document that CRDN and CNSC staff can be proud of and approve. Looking forward to our discussions on Thursday!

Adam

From: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>  
Sent: April 12, 2021 12:30 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Cc: cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>;  
sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>; JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; Levine, Adam  
(CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>>

Subject: RE: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi Camm,

That sounds good. Yes we can start with some quick introductions and then CRDN can start with their Consultation Protocols and then we can move to the ToR for the NexGen Project etc. See below for change to agenda.

1. CRDN Consultation Protocol
2. Terms of Reference for NexGen Rook 1
3. Next steps for Engagement and Collaboration - NexGen Rook 1

1. Cluff Lake (potential dates for Tri-party meeting with Orano).

Thanks,  
Ryan

From: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca> <cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>>  
Sent: April 10, 2021 1:26 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>  
Cc: cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>>; sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>; JLanglois@jflaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jflaw.ca>; Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca<mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca>>  
Subject: FW: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project

Good Afternoon Ryan

Thanks for the email, was away from my computer this week,

Can you please send the invite to our environmental advisor Wanda Lewis as well at  
wanda@wandaco.com<mailto:wanda@wandaco.com>

Can I also suggest to proceed with the item #03 first as it relates to CRDN positioning, and follow suite with the rest as identified.

As well item # number 04 makes reference to the Orano file I am assuming

Thanks

Camm

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca>>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:13 AM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>; Jeff Langlois;  
walter.hainault@crdn.co<mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co>; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; Matthew General;  
gainsworth@hotmail.com<mailto:gainsworth@hotmail.com>; sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>;  
Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Cattrysse, Clare (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Kwamena, Nana-Owusua  
(CNSC/CCSN); Saumure, Denis (CNSC/CCSN); Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN); Fundarek, Peter (CNSC/CCSN); Stenson, Ron  
(CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN)  
Subject: CRDN - CNSC Meeting - NexGen Rook 1 Project  
When: Thursday, April 15, 2021 10:30 AM-12:00 PM (UTC-06:00) Saskatchewan.

Where: ZOOM Call - see details below

Good morning/afternoon,

I hope everyone had a great Easter break. Please see the link below to the Zoom call between CRDN and the CNSC for April 15th, 2021.

Proposed Agenda items:

1. Terms of Reference for NexGen Rook 1
2. Next steps for Engagement and Collaboration - NexGen Rook 1
3. CRDN Consultation Protocol
4. Cluff Lake (potential dates for Tri-party meeting).

Camm, please let me know if CRDN has any comments on the proposed agenda items. I apologize if I missed anyone from CRDN's team, please forward on this invite if I did.

Looking forward to the meeting next week.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess

Senior Policy Advisor, Policy, Aboriginal, and International Relations Division Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
ryan.froess@canada.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca> | Cell: 306-914-7892<tel:3069147892>

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Division des Politiques et des Affaires autochtones et Internationales Commission Canadienne de Sûreté Nucléaire  
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---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** November 4, 2021 6:02 PM  
**To:** Jeff Langlois; Levine, Adam; cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** Matthew General; Frigault, Nicole; Snider, Richard  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Hi Jeff/Camm,

Great and thanks for sending over and electronic copy of the ToR! Its great to get to this point as I know there has been a lot of back and forth to get to here. I met with Camm briefly yesterday in Saskatoon and we had a great discussion on both the Nexgen and Cluff files and he also provided me with a hard copy of the ToR with Chief's signature. Our DG of Environmental and Radiation Protection and Assessment (Haidy Tadros) is currently away until November 15 but as soon as she is back we can send over a signed copy for your records.

We are meeting with the province next week to have a discussion on their interest in being included in the ToR with CNSC/CRDN. We can provide an update at our next meeting with CRDN.

We are happy to move forward to meeting monthly and discussing next steps and implementation of the ToR specifically for the NexGen EA with the CRDN team. I have sent out some monthly meeting dates to those from CRDN (Camm, Jeff, Matt, Walter) starting on November 16.

We will await the dates from Camm on what looks best for a tripartite meeting between CRDN/CNSC/Orano.

Thanks again,  
Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
Sent: November 3, 2021 5:23 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca  
Cc: Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Snider, Richard <richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Ryan,

Thanks for this. I understand Camm is requesting dates from Chief Clark for the Orano focussed meeting.

I have attached a signed copy of the framework agreement for you. Will you please send us a version signed by CNSC?

Jeff Langlois  
Principal  
Pronouns: he/him/his

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-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Sent: October 22, 2021 2:24 PM

To: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca

Cc: Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Snider, Richard <richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Hi Jeff and Camm,

Thanks for the taking the time to meet today and thank you for the final comments on the ToR. It was great to finally connect to discuss the final comments on the ToR with CRDN for the Nexgen EA and discuss CRDN concerns and next steps on Cluff Lake as well.

I noted a few action items from today's meeting that I will work with Camm and my co-workers on to address in the next couple weeks to continue to keep things moving forward. -

Action 1: NexGen file - CNSC will send a clean version of the ToR back to CRDN with signature page for final approval of both parties. COMPLETE

Action 2: NexGen file - CNSC staff to share examples of RIA work that CNSC staff have undertaken with other Nations (when it becomes publically available). ONGOING

Action 3: Nexgen file - CNSC to follow-up with the Province of Saskatchewan again to gauge the interest in being included in the ToR with CNSC/CRDN. MEETING NEXT WEEK

Action 4: NexGen file - CNSC (Ryan)/CRDN work to set up monthly working meetings (start November) with CRDN to meet regularly and begin to implement the agreed upon ToR with CRDN team (Camm, Jeff, Matt , Walter). COMPLETE

Action 5: Cluff Lake - CRDN (Camm) find some potential dates (2hrs) last 2-3 weeks November for Chief Clarke for a meeting on Cluff Lake ONGOING

Action 6: Cluff Lake - CNSC staff reach out to Orano/Province to discuss and confirm dates (above) and develop presentations and discuss Cluff Lake/Intuition Control Program and the application planned to CRDN to hear and discuss CRDN concerns with Orano. Work with CRDN to co-develop an Agenda for this meeting. ONGOING

Let me know if I missed anything or you feel I left out.

Enjoy the weekend everyone and talk soon.

Ryan Froess  
Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca | Cell: 306-914-7892

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
Sent: October 22, 2021 12:33 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca  
Cc: Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN-CNCS Terms of Reference

Here is the final TOR that we reviewed during our call.

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-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: October 15, 2021 9:20 AM  
To: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca  
Cc: Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN-CNCS Terms of Reference

Hi Jeff,

October 22nd from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm (MST) works well for Adam and I. If you want I can send out an invite to this group via TEAMS if that works?

Thanks,  
Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: October 15, 2021 10:12 AM  
To: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Cc: Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Hi Jeff, thanks for following up! Ryan will take a look and get back to you soon on which time works best for us. We have no major concerns with the current version of the ToR, so we are definitely ready to move forward to finalizing it and discussing next steps. Looking forward to meeting, it has been a while!

Adam

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>  
Sent: October 14, 2021 7:27 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Cc: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Adam,

Would CNSC be available for any of the following next week? I expect we will only need 1 hour to discuss next steps:

Oct 19: 10 - 12pm (MST)  
Oct 20: 1130 - 4pm (MST)  
Oct 21: 2 - 5pm (MST)  
Oct 22: 10 - 2pm (MST)

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-----Original Message-----

From: cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Sent: September 28, 2021 1:30 PM  
To: 'Froess, Ryan' <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Cc: 'Levine, Adam' <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; Matthew General <MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca>



Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. (7PT\$&I^IEV%M)

Good Afternoon Ryan/Adam/Jeff

Thanks for the email. The CRDN engagement team will be meeting next week on plans to proceed with follow-up areas with CNSC and the intent to secure a date that meets both groups schedule.

I will get back to you upon an approval from our end to verify by the end of next week.

Unfortunately the community still faced with the Covid pandemic and has a strangle hold of limited day to day operations at the band level, we however will make every efforts to have either Chief Teddy Clark and or GM Walter Hainault participating in our virtual meetings with you going forward making sure we have the full participation from the designated community reps.

Thank you, and trusting all is well with your group.

Camm

-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 1:40 PM

To: cammer7@shaw.ca

Cc: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Hi Camm,

I hope things are well ! As per Jeff and Adam's correspondence below let me know what date and times work best for CRDN in the next few weeks. We will likely need more than an hour to cover everything but I would suggest we set something up soon to Finalize the ToR and Plan next steps in the implementation of this terms of reference. We may want to set-up additional monthly meetings for the NexGen project and can pick a date that works for everyone to set up meeting for Cluff when we meet.

I had a quick look at our teams schedules and this week and early into next week looks pretty booked up. I and have proposed a few dates and times next week and the week following below for consideration for the group to meet (all in Saskatchewan time).

October 6 - 10 am to 11 am or 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm CST  
October 7 - 10 am to 11 am CST  
October 12 - 10 am to 11 am or 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CST  
October 14 - 10:30 to 11:30 am CST

Let me know if any work for CRDN Team and if you had any other suggestions?

Thanks,

Ryan Froess

Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca | Cell:

306-914-7892

[cid:image001.png@01D7B46E.5E86E520]

From: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>

Sent: September 27, 2021 12:45 PM

To: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>

Cc: cammer7@shaw.ca; cno@sasktel.net; sagerich@hotmail.com; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Snider, Richard <richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre <cassandre.roy-drainville@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Matthew General (mattgrandriver@gmail.com) <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Hi Jeff, thanks so much for getting back to us and for the comments on the ToR! We will take a look at the latest version and let you and the CRDN team know if we have any additional comments or questions at this point. I will ask Ryan to work with you and Camm to set up a meeting time for us to discuss the finalization of the ToR and the other items you listed below, which we are very eager to move forward. This week may be a challenge for us, but we will definitely look to see if we could set up something next week if possible. Looking forward to meeting and discussing these topics and next steps soon

Adam

From: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca<mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>>

Sent: September 27, 2021 12:52 PM

To: Levine, Adam

<Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>

Cc: cammer7@shaw.ca<mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca>;

cno@sasktel.net<mailto:cno@sasktel.net>;

sagerich@hotmail.com<mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>;

Snider, Richard

<richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>;

Roy-Drainville, Cassandre

<cassandre.roy-drainville@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>; Froess, Ryan

<ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>>; Matthew General (mattgrandriver@gmail.com<mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com>)

<mattgrandriver@gmail.com<mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com>>

Subject: CRDN-CNSC Terms of Reference

Adam,

On behalf of CRDN we provide the attached revised Terms of Reference document. Based on our last conversation we have accepted most of your last revisions and have proposed additional detail, and one additional process step under the schedule dealing with the Rights Impact Assessment. During our last call we had agreed to insert a process step to co-develop a methodology for conducting the RIA. I think the principles document and table of contents you sent will be a helpful starting place, but we think it would be beneficial to co-develop additional elements for the RIA, learning from practices adopted by other federal regulators and First Nations that have worked through such processes in recent years. We have spent the last number of weeks briefing the new CRDN council on our work with the CNSC and they are prepared to proceed with the enclosed Terms of Reference. Could we set a time for a brief call to:

- 1) Finalize and discuss execution of this document;
- 2) Plan next steps in the implementation of this terms of reference;  
and
- 3) Discuss the scheduling of a tripartite meeting between the CNSC and Orano to discuss the topics outlined in our letter of February 22, 2021;

I have decent availability this week to convene a call to discuss these items. Let me know what would work.

Thanks,

Jeff Langlois  
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---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfklaw.ca>  
**Sent:** February 28, 2022 5:55 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam; Frigault, Nicole; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

That should work.

**Jeff Langlois**

Principal

Pronouns: he/him/his

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 28, 2022 2:55 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfklaw.ca>  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Great thanks Jeff and Camm,

I would like to make the meeting a bit longer on March 15<sup>th</sup> as we will have lots to discuss and catch up on as its been awhile. How does the below sound for a an updated agenda and feel free to add.

NexGen - General updates (CRDN and CNSC)

NexGen - Federal/Indigenous Review Team and RIA (next steps) and collaboration with CRDN

NexGen- CNSC tour to meet leadership and community

Orano - CRDN/Orano/Cluff Lake – determine meeting time and next steps for as discussed in December meeting and follow with Orano.

If we could make it 1.5 hours that would be good? I will send an updated invite and hopefully it works for everyone. As always let me know if you need anything from our end of feel free to give me call to discuss.



Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca) <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>

**Sent:** February 28, 2022 4:23 PM

**To:** 'Jeff Langlois' <[JLanglois@jfklaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfklaw.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

I am asking for either Chief Teddy and or Walter GM from CRDN to participate Ryan and I will push for the 15<sup>th</sup>

Thanks

Camm

---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfklaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfklaw.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 28, 2022 3:20 PM

**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Thanks Ryan – why don't we move our meeting to the saved slot on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

I think those are good agenda items – did you want to circulate a formal agenda and we can add to it?

**Jeff Langlois**

Principal

Pronouns: he/him/his

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---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** February 28, 2022 1:39 PM

**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfklaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfklaw.ca)>

**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

[ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi Jeff,

I hope things are well. Spring is coming fast and March 1 is tomorrow and I do not believe we have heard back on if CRDN could meet? Let me know if another time this week or next works for CRDN to continue our work on addressing these action items outlined below. CNSC staff are still holding our March 15<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting as well if this works?

As the Draft EIS is coming in at the end of the month we need to discuss if CRDN wants to be involved in the Federal Provincial Review team (what that work would consist of, timelines, personal, etc. ) as per the ToR signed with CNSC. Please let me know when CRDN is available to meet to discuss next steps for collaboration on this files.

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan

**Sent:** February 15, 2022 10:59 AM

**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>

**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); Levine, Adam <[adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Morning Jeff,

Thanks, I am away all of next week so I would suggest that we meet the following week on Tuesday March 1 if that works so that we can begin to work on addressing these action items. Does March 1 from 1 pm -2 pm CST work? We can pick up on Action item 1 and we have a presentation on the Federal Provincial Review team and the Rights Impact Assessment work we can share. If that works for CRDN I can send out an invite and Agenda for this meeting.

We also have our next monthly meeting is scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 am CST. I am suggesting we keep this meeting to continue our discussions on next steps and perhaps start to address other actions on the Nexgen file below. Let us know what works and I can re-send out the invite for March 15<sup>th</sup> so its in peoples calendars. As usual do not hesitate to give me a call or reach out if there is anything else you would like to discuss.

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>

**Sent:** February 14, 2022 7:42 PM

**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Ryan- sorry for last minute on this, but I think it would make most sense to move this meeting to next week or the one after if possible. Lots happening and we haven't been able to quite undertake the tasks from last meeting.

Jeff

On Feb 9, 2022, at 11:09 AM, Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Jeff and Camm,

I hope things are well. Just following up to see if CRDN is available on Feb 15 to attend our monthly meeting to continue the discussions on CRDN team member being involved in the Federal Provincial Review team and the Rights Impact Assessment work? The CNSC has completed and shared the RIA work for the Near Surface Disposal Facility Project in Ontario in the email below and wondering if your group had any questions or internal discussions on what the working level between CRDN's team and CNSC staff moving forward on the RIA might look like. Happy to discuss and continue to develop this path forward at our upcoming meetings.

I also wanted to follow up on the other Nexgen actions below (2 and 4) from our January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting including setting up a follow-up meeting with CRDN on our "What we heard report" on CRDN's IKRS study and the upcoming opportunities for CNSC staff to travel to the region and meet with CRDN leadership in person, introduce ourselves to the community in the spring/summer? Let us know if CRDN and when CRDN is ready to meet and we be glad to set something up later this month if that works?

CNSC staff area also ready and prepared to meet with CRDN (and Orano if CRDN would like) to discuss Cluff Lake follow-up as soon as possible. Please let us know if CRDN would like to meet separately with Orano first (as mentioned) before meeting with CNSC to discuss our proposed path forward to respond to CRDN's recommendations/requests with regards to the concerns raised in relation to Cluff Lake.

Thanks and looking forward to upcoming meetings.  
Ryan

---

**From:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 31, 2022 10:51 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi everyone, hope you had a good weekend! Yes that is right Ryan, the AOPFN Rights Impact Assessment report, which was done collaboratively between CNSC staff and AOPFN starts on page 425/426 of the NSDF EA Report. It is a good template and example to build from for our collaborative RIA with CRDN for the Rook 1 project. We can walk everyone through the process and the report during our next meeting if that works. Talk soon!

Adam

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 28, 2022 5:45 PM  
**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi Jeff and Camm,

See the attached link to an example of the Right Impact Assessment work that the CNSC has worked on that now is Publicly available that we promised to share with CRDN. I was told that this work done on the Near Surface Disposal Facility Project in Ontario in collaboration with the Algonquins of

Pikwàkanagàn First Nation would be the most comparable to the work that we hope to undertake with CRDN and begins on page 426. Adam or Nicole please correct me if I am wrong? We have also prepared a presentation for our next meeting on some more details on the Federal Provincial Review team and RIA as you asked. Jeff let us know if Feb 15<sup>th</sup> works for CRDN for this meeting?

[CMD 22-H7 - Submission from CNSC Staff to consider the application from the CNL to amend its Chalk River Laboratories site licence to authorize the construction of a near surface disposal facility \(PDF, 590 pages, 13.15 MB\)](#)

Camm and I hoped to connect earlier today (but I had too many meetings) so we hope to connect this weekend/earlier next week to discuss next steps on the some of the other items below (actions 2-4) and hope to provide an update the group next week.

Enjoy the weekend everyone!

Ryan

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan

**Sent:** January 21, 2022 3:30 PM

**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)

**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Nicole Frigault ([nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Doug Wylie ([doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi Jeff and Camm,

Jeff thanks for meeting on Tuesday to discuss next steps with CRDN and Nexgen (and other files). Jeff, I just wanted to make sure I captured the actions accurately from Tuesday's meeting. I know you were hoping to share these with Camm and the group so we can begin to plan some of our next steps and continue our discussions that took place earlier this week.

1. Set up a meeting in late January or early February (week of Jan 31 was mentioned) to share information and discuss the opportunity of CRDN team member being involved in the Federal Provincial Review team (what that work would consist of, timelines, personal, etc. )? If available at this time CNSC would also share more information and examples with CRDN on the Rights Impact Assessment work that CNSC has completed for the Near Surface Disposal Facility Project in Ontario and begin discussions on what this might look like at a working level between CRDN's team and CNSC staff moving forward.
2. Set up a separate meeting in February to share with CRDN our "What we heard report" on CRDN's IKRS study and also have CRDN present to us if they would like? Discussion at this meeting how CRDN would like to share and protect this document (i.e confidentially discussions etc.) any other studies socio economic study, harvest study with the CNSC to ensure we have all the available information when completing our analysis. FYI - I did touch base with Nexgen on the Perception Study they are completing and they said they would be in touch on this front and there is still an opportunity to be involved. Please let me know if you do not hear back and I can poke them again.
3. Cluff Lake – CNSC are ready and prepared to meet with CRDN (and Orano if CRDN would like) to discuss Cluff Lake follow-up as soon as possible. Please confirm if CRDN would like to meet separately with Orano first before meeting with CNSC to discuss our proposed path forward to



respond to CRDN's recommendations/requests with regards to the concerns raised in relation to Cluff Lake.

4. Other – discuss any upcoming opportunities for CNSC staff to travel to the region and meet with CRDN leadership in person, introduce ourselves to the community, and do a site tour of Nexgen. CNSC is considering a spring tour (June) and this could include meetings and visits to other files and sites including Cluff Lake and Fission.

We currently do have another monthly meeting set-up in our calendars for February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 CST that I can hold or we can work on new dates for these actions. Jeff and Camm let me know what works best and if I missed anything?

Have a great weekend everyone!

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfklaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfklaw.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 17, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Thanks Ryan, and sorry for delay in responding. It has been a busy start to the year for Camm and the CRDN team. I think it would make sense to have a brief check in tomorrow and do some planning for future meetings – I think your agenda captures the topics that would be suitable to plan around.

Talk to you in the am.

**Jeff Langlois**  
Principal  
Pronouns: he/him/his

**JFK Law Corporation**  
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[www.jfklaw.ca](http://www.jfklaw.ca)

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 12, 2022 11:26 AM

**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)

**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi Jeff and Camm I hope everyone is well.

We have a meeting scheduled with CRDN for next week on Tuesday January 18<sup>th</sup> (10 am CST) for the Nexgen Rook 1 Project with hopes of moving forward and working with CRDN on the implementation of the signed ToR. I have provided a general agenda below for our first meeting of 2022 with the hopes on building upon them and adding topics monthly and hopefully working towards developing a core team that would attend this monthly meetings with CNSC staff. Jeff, I just checked with Nicole and the RIA examples we promised should be available in 2 weeks publicly so we can share them then.

We also had follow-up meeting with Orano yesterday on the Cluff Lake. We would like to set up a meeting with CRDN to share the discussions we had with Orano. It would be great if we could meet soon on (the next few weeks) and if you would like we can bring Orano to the meeting (if this is preferred option for CRDN)?

Let us know your thoughts as we are fairly flexible, if you would like to discuss Cluff next week we can go that route as well and add a meeting on Nexgen later in the month. Or we can stick with the plan to meet on Nexgen next week and find a time later this month to meet on Cluff? I can loop everyone in your group moving forward once we finalize.

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan

**Sent:** December 20, 2021 4:03 PM

**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>

**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca)>; Levine, Adam <[adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Teddy Clark <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>; Nicole Frigault ([nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)) <[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Ok thanks Jeff,

Yes, I will double check with Nicole but I believe it was examples that the CNSC had completed on some of Rights Impact Assessment work in current EAs (not quite public). I will get back to you on if anything is available to the public yet, if not it should be sometime in the New Year an we can definitely share.

As for our January meeting we are open to discussing whatever CRDN is interested in including the RIA but it may be useful but I have suggested a few items below as well. Let me know what CRDN thinks and I will make sure I add the details to our invite and send over any materials needed for this meeting.

Draft Meeting Agenda – Jan 18, 2022 (may not have enough time for all)

CRDN Updates and Studies (background)

Terms of Reference – CNSC/CRDN -how often to meet, staff, RIA

CEAA 2012 EA Process – general Timelines, next steps, opportunities (Draft EIS, Final EIS etc)

CNSC Overview Presentation (101) – our mandate and process – (save for Feb if not enough time)

Thanks,

Ryan

---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfklaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfklaw.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 20, 2021 2:27 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfklaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfklaw.ca)>; Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Teddy Clark <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

I think developing an agenda for next meeting would be great.

From our end, I think we should start tackling the outline of the rights impact assessment, and I believe that Nicole was going to share some documents that are being worked on by CNSC in this regard? We can also share some background material at that time as well.

We should also discuss process for Fission too.

**Jeff Langlois**  
Principal  
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[www.jfklaw.ca](http://www.jfklaw.ca)

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 20, 2021 12:24 PM  
**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfklaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfklaw.ca)>  
**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfklaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfklaw.ca)>; Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Teddy Clark <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi Jeff,

Thanks for the update. Yes that's fine and our next meeting is planned for January 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00 -11:00 am CST and then I believe we have booked every third Tuesday of the month thereafter at the same time. If CRDN and those working on the ToR with CNSC have alternative days and times that work better let me know and I can change and set something up monthly (or if needed more frequency as needed). I can also , make them 1.5 hours if needed as we progress so we can get through more information and make some progress together.

I was discussing with Camm some options of providing some monthly meeting topics for agenda items moving forward for the first 6 months of 2022 and perhaps CRDN could also suggest a few in order continue to share knowledge as we work towards the EA process together. Let me know what you think? I will send cancellation now for this meeting.

We be in touch early in the New Year to follow-up separately on the Cluff Lake file based off our discussions in our last meeting with Orano and the province.

Stay safe everyone and enjoy the holidays!

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 20, 2021 2:07 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca)>; Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Teddy Clark <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Ryan,

We have a check in meeting scheduled tomorrow but I think we should postpone that meeting to the new year as we don't have any CRDN reps that can attend at that time. When is our next one scheduled?

**Jeff Langlois**  
Principal  
Pronouns: he/him/his

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Vancouver BC V6B 5L1

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E [jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca)  
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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** November 17, 2021 8:18 AM  
**To:** Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>  
**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca)>; Levine,

Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Teddy Clark <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>

**Subject:** Re: CRDN/CNSC meeting November

Hi Jeff and Camm,

We have confirmed that December 7 works best for all parties (CNSC , Province and Orano).

We are spread across the country in many different time zones so I would maybe suggest we pick 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Saskatchewan time. If this works let know and I can send out and invite.

Please let me know if I should add anyone else from your group to the invite that is not on this email?

We will share a proposed agenda later this week and CRDN can provide any feedback before we share with the group next week if that works.

Thanks,  
Ryan

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 10, 2021, at 5:23 PM, Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)> wrote:

Ryan,

Thanks for the note. Looking forward to our check in call next week.

In terms of the meeting with both the CNSC and Orano, we have availability for that meeting on any of the following (all times PST):

Nov 30 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 1 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 2 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 3 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 6 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 7 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 8 – 9am – 2pm

Dec 9 – 10am – 2pm

Would you please let us know as soon as practicable which of these times will work for this first meeting?

Further to that, CNSC had the opportunity to craft an agenda for that meeting? We had discussed the CNSC and Orano (and Saskatchewan if they are prepared to participate) presenting on the next steps in the decommissioning process, and in particular, the decision making that the CNSC will need to do regarding the transfer of institutional control that may come next year.



CRDN will plan to present on its key concerns, as outlined in the CNSC hearing a couple of years back, and articulated in our February 2021 letter. In addition, we can outline concerns arising from the Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Study. The study's file size is too large to email, so we have set up a link for you to download it [here](#).

Happy to discuss this further next week, but it would be good to finalize dates for this first meeting given the number of people that need to be coordinated for it.

**Jeff Langlois**

Principal

Pronouns: he/him/his

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** November 8, 2021 2:28 PM

**To:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); Jeff Langlois <[JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>; [walter.hainault@crdn.co](mailto:walter.hainault@crdn.co); Matthew General <[MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:MGeneral@jfkllaw.ca)>

**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <[cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net)>

**Subject:** CRDN/CNSC meeting November

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Camm,

Thanks for taking my call earlier today. As I discussed unfortunately due to the Federal government's travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic CNSC staff can not meet in person at this time. The CNSC Executive will be re-evaluating these travel restrictions based on the provincial public health measures again in January of 2022. We are looking forward to meeting in person with CRDN in 2022 when travel is allowed and will be one of our priorities.

As discussed we would be happy to meet virtually on the Cluff Lake/Orano file with CRDN if you would like after you have had a chance to present to Orano next week?

Please let us know after you meet with Orano if you would like to meet virtually with CNSC staff to provide us an update or if you would like to set-up a tripartite meeting later in November or December? We would be happy to find a time that date works for all parties or if you would like to meet CNSC staff first, let us know. We will await for your direction on how you would like to proceed on this.

We would also like to thank you for signing the ToR for Nexgen. Our Director General will be back November 15<sup>th</sup> so will get a signed copy to you then. I have sent out some monthly meeting dates to those from the CRDN Working Group as identified in our last meeting starting on November 16 (if you need to re-schedule let me know). We look forward to meeting more frequently with your group over the next couple months on implementation of the ToR and to lay the ground work moving into 2022 as the EA progresses. We would very interested in learning more about the Traditional Land Use study and other studies CRDN is currently undertaking ....if you would like to share them with the CNSC? We can provide some information and one of our upcoming monthly meetings about how the CNSC can work with CRDN to protect this valuable information as confidential as we move into the EA process.

As always feel free to give me a call anytime and keep us posted on how things go next week.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892

<image002.png>

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** March 15, 2022 3:35 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; 'Jeff Langlois'  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam; Frigault, Nicole; O'Neill, Shannon; DeCoste, Laura; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC Monthly Meetings - NexGen ToR  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS -#6726063\_v3\_Rook\_1\_Project\_Federal\_Indigenous\_Review\_Team.pdf; E-DOCS-#6515310-v1-Additional\_information\_on\_the\_role\_of\_Indigenous\_groups\_who\_will\_be\_participating\_in\_the\_technical\_review\_of\_the\_EIS\_and\_EA\_report.PDF

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Camm and Jeff,

As mentioned in earlier email (below) please find attached the presentation CNSC staff had planned to go through today and discuss CRDN's interest/involvement in the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT). As outlined in the Terms of Reference the CNSC signed with the CRDN, participating in the Federal Indigenous Review team is an offer the CNSC has made available to work directly with CRDN on the technical review of the draft EIS.

As you are aware Nexgen's Draft EIS is coming soon (end of March) and would be great to know if CRDN is still interested in being directly involved in the FIRT by mid April. The review would begin early May and will need to confirm with CRDN the roles and responsibilities, timelines, contact, and next steps. If you have time to review the information provided and discuss internally as a group and let the CNSC staff know CRDN is interested in participating in the process that would be helpful. We would be happy to set-up a meeting anytime in the next month to answer any questions you may have.

Camm/Jeff if you could also find a time early April (as suggested) that works for your team to meet with CNSC to discuss the actions items below and next steps for consultation/collaboration on Nexgen file that would be great. We would also be happy to take some time to discuss CRDN's participation in the FIRT at this meeting if you wish.

Action items – last meetings

NexGen - General updates (CRDN and CNSC) NexGen - Federal/Indigenous Review Team and RIA (next steps) and collaboration with CRDN

NexGen- CNSC tour to meet leadership and community Next Meetings and Path forward

Thanks and talk soon.

Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan  
Sent: March 15, 2022 9:42 AM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca; 'Jeff Langlois' <JLanglois@jflaw.ca>  
Cc: Levine, Adam <adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Snider, Richard <richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRDN/CNSC Monthly Meetings - NexGen ToR

Hi Camm and Jeff,

That's unfortunate and I hope Chief Clarke is feeling better soon. I will cancel the meeting for today and work to find a time with the both of you that works for both parties.

I will be sending some information for CRDN to review (presentation) and guidance over later today on the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FRIT) that we had planned to walk through today with CRDN.

Thanks,  
Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>

Sent: March 15, 2022 8:24 AM

To: 'Jeff Langlois' <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>

Cc: Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Snider, Richard <richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: CRDN/CNSC Monthly Meetings - NexGen ToR

Good Morning Ryan

We unfortunately were requesting Chief Clark for this important session and he has fallen ill and is unable to join us. In that sense I will, confirm his availability for a date for as suggested by Jeff below.

Thank you

Camm

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeff Langlois <JLanglois@jfkllaw.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 7:11 AM

To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>

Cc: cammer7@shaw.ca; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Snider, Richard <richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca>

Subject: Re: CRDN/CNSC Monthly Meetings - NexGen ToR

Ryan,

Apologies again but we will need to reschedule today's meeting. Could we look at the first week of April?

Jeff

> On Feb 28, 2022, at 3:15 PM, Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca> wrote:

>

> CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do

> not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender

> and know the content is safe. (7PT\$&I^IEV%M)

>

>

> Good afternoon everyone,  
>  
> Jeff and Camm as discussed the CNSC and CRDN plan to meet on the NexGen Rook 1 Project as the Environmental Assessment (EA) advances and we work towards implementing the Terms of Reference (ToR).  
>  
> Proposed Agenda for March 15th (feel free to add)  
>  
> Action items – last meetings  
> NexGen - General updates (CRDN and CNSC) NexGen - Federal/Indigenous  
> Review Team and RIA (next steps) and collaboration with CRDN  
> NexGen- CNSC tour to meet leadership and community Next Monthly  
> Meeting – Action Items  
>  
> Thanks and let me know if this works and feel free to forward to anyone I missed from CRDN.  
>  
> Ryan Froess  
> Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
> Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
> ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca> |  
> Cell: 306-914-7892  
>  
> [cid:image001.png@01D7C9A6.7249C3F0]  
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>  
> Microsoft Teams meeting  
> Join on your computer or mobile app  
> Click here to join the  
> meeting<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\_YWFmZTU  
> 5N2MtNjljMy00ZThiLTgzZGYtZmRkNmU1NjJmZmlx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22  
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> 5e9154a-58c3-435f-88d4-0ac1769d6ed3%22%7d>  
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> 3ac4b7a0?id=753002121> | Reset  
> PIN<https://mysettings.lync.com/pstnconferencing>  
> Learn More<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting> | Meeting  
> options<https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=35e915  
> 4a-58c3-435f-88d4-0ac1769d6ed3&tenantId=bb89644a-48bf-49b7-8f8a-6f2519  
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> mZmlx@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US>  
>  
>  
>





# FEDERAL AND INDIGENOUS REVIEW TEAM (FIRT) OVERVIEW

MARCH 15, 2022



# Agenda



- Federal and Indigenous Review Team (FIRT)
  - Purpose
  - Composition
  - Role of CRDN
  - Information Requests
  - EA Report

# Purpose of FIRT



- Conduct a technical review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Technical review ensures the EIS (and supporting documents) contains complete and sufficient information
  - If gaps exist in the EIS, the FIRT will draft Information Requests (IRs)
- Outcome of the review process is to **draw independent conclusions on impacts and effects** and **make recommendations** to the commission on whether there are residual effects to the environment or people

# Composition of FIRT



- The FIRT is composed of subject matter experts from relevant federal departments and agencies with specific expertise for the project
- These experts review the EA documentation in support of the CNSC
- Technical review by FIRT members is limited to the scope and mandate of their organization

# Role of CRDN in FIRT



- An appointed representative of CRDN will participate as part of the FIRT to provide specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to CRDN on the EIS technical review
- Review sections of the EIS and the supporting documents (e.g. the Indigenous Engagement Report) that contains information or relates directly to impacts on CRDN.
  - This includes sections related to impacts on Indigenous and/or treaty rights and to Section 5(1)(c) of CEEA 2012
    - *with respect to aboriginal peoples, an effect occurring in Canada of any change that may be caused to the environment on*
      - (i) health and socio-economic conditions,*
      - (ii) physical and cultural heritage,*
      - (iii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or*
      - (iv) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance*



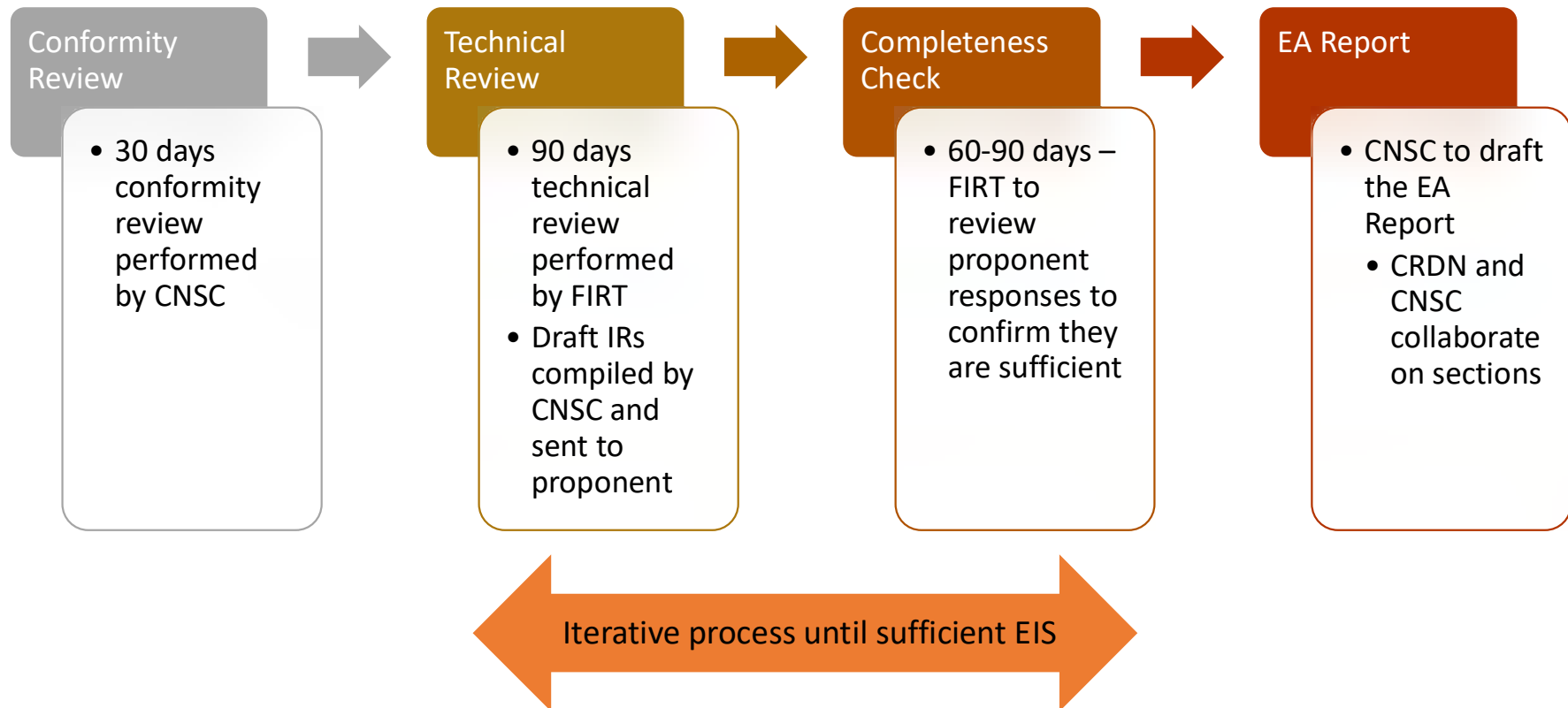
# Role of CRDN in FIRT cont...



- Topics to review may include (but are not limited to):
  - Selection of valued components (VCs)
  - Country foods
  - Proponent's engagement with CRDN
  - Inclusion/accuracy/validation of the information related to CRDN (e.g. current use of lands and resources)
  - Etc.
- Participation in the FIRT is **not** a mechanism for identifying new issues or concerns
  - These types of comments can be raised using other mechanisms such as directly with proponent, through the public and Indigenous comment period, and in interventions at the Commission hearing for the EA decision

# Process

7



# Information Requests (IRs)



- Any information gaps identified in the draft EIS will be submitted as IRs to CNSC staff
  - CNSC staff will compile all IRs from the FIRT and will submit a table of comments within the scope of the review to the proponent for response
- Upon receipt of NexGen's responses to the IRs, the CRDN appointed representative will participate as part of the FIRT in the technical review of the responses
  - Review the IR responses and provide written feedback to CNSC staff on the sufficiency of information provided in respect to CRDN's comments and concerns

# EA Report



- Following acceptance of a final EIS submission, CRDN and CNSC staff will collaborate on developing sections of the EA report
  - Related to information or concerns provided by CRDN in respect to potential project impacts on CRDN's Aboriginal and Treaty rights, interests, culture or traditional uses, as well as CRDN Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge
- These sections will be mutually agreed upon between the CNSC staff and CRDN but may include topics such as:
  - Incorporation of CRDN Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge
  - Rights-based and cultural information
  - Potential impact of the proposed Project on CRDN's Aboriginal and Treaty rights, interests, culture and traditional uses



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24-Mar-21

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## **Additional information on the role of Indigenous groups who will be participating in the technical review of the EIS and preparation of the CNSC EA Report under CEAA 2012**

### **Purpose of the document**

This document provides additional information and clarity regarding the role of Indigenous groups who will be participating in the technical review of the EIS and the preparation of the CNSC's EA Report.

The participation of Indigenous groups in the federal and provincial review team (FPRT) is an opportunity for participating groups that have raised specific matters related to impacts to their potential and established rights, to provide their expertise and knowledge as it relates to the EIS, on the specific topic areas for which they have the most knowledge (i.e. Valued Components (VCs), impact pathways, use of lands and resources, Treaty and/or Indigenous rights, etc.). The goal of participating in the FPRT is for Indigenous groups to verify that the information contained in the EIS and related to their community or nation is correct, well presented and sufficient to analyse and draw conclusions. Therefore, any comments on the project that are out of scope of this review would be redirected to other venues of communication. Part A of this document presents additional information on the purpose and conduct of the technical review of the EIS, and the participation of interested Indigenous groups in the FPRT.

It is expected that the proponent engage and the CNSC consult with Indigenous groups throughout the entire EA process. This does not stop due to participation in the FPRT for the technical review of the EIS. Participation in the FPRT is a different part of the EA process, for the purpose of identifying any information gaps in the EIS, according to the unique expertise of these participants. Indigenous groups who participate in the FPRT would bring specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to their community. They would review information relating directly to impacts on their community or nation, including impacts to Indigenous and/or treaty rights and to section 5 (1) (c) of CEAA 2012:

*5 (1) For the purposes of this Act, the environmental effects that are to be taken into account in relation to an act or thing, a physical activity, a designated project or a project are*

*(c) with respect to aboriginal peoples, an effect occurring in Canada of any change that may be caused to the environment on*

- (i) health and socio-economic conditions,*
- (ii) physical and cultural heritage,*
- (iii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or*
- (iv) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance.*

The technical review is deemed complete when all members of the FPRT have reviewed the EIS and have no further questions or need for clarification, deeming it possible for the CNSC to draw conclusions as to the potential adverse environmental effects of the project. The next step is for the CNSC to write a summary of their analysis and conclusions, and recommendations to the Commission in an Environmental Assessment, or EA, Report. Part B of this document provides additional information on the purpose of the EA Report and the roles and responsibilities of the CNSC and Indigenous groups in the preparation of the report.

## **Part A. TECHNICAL REVIEW OF THE EIS**

### **1) Purpose of the technical review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

- a) Upon receiving the EIS and supporting documents, a conformity review is performed by CNSC staff, assessing the submission against the requirements of CEAA 2012, the approved scope of the EA for the project and the CNSC's Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Should the EIS pass conformity review, a technical review commences.
- b) The technical review ensures the EIS (and supporting documents) contains complete and sufficient information and the proponent's analysis is performed correctly.
- c) The EIS and supporting documents are reviewed against technical review requirements as per the mandate and expertise of the FPRT members to support CNSC staff in assessing the potential effects and impacts of the project on the environment under CEAA 2012.

### **2) Conduct of the technical review of the EIS**

- a) The technical review of the EIS is performed by CNSC staff and supported by the Federal and Provincial Review Team (FPRT).
- b) During the technical review, CNSC staff and the FPRT will draft Information Requests (IRs) to address gaps in information, request clarity and/or resolve points in order to complete the technical review. For additional information, see point #5 below.
- c) The outcome of the review process is for CNSC staff to draw independent conclusions on impacts and effects and make recommendations to the Commission on whether there are residual effects to the environment and people.
- d) The Commission will then make an informed decision as the Responsible Authority under CEAA 2012.

### **3) Composition of the Federal and Provincial Review Team (FRPT)**

- a) The Federal and Provincial Review Team is composed of experts from relevant federal and provincial departments who review the EA documentation, in support of the CNSC.
- b) Technical review by FPRT members is limited to the scope and mandate of their organization.

#### 4) Potential Role of Indigenous groups on the FPRT

- a) The potential role of Indigenous groups who participate in the FPRT is to bring specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to their community to the EIS technical review.
- b) The scope of the technical review by a representative of an Indigenous group on the FPRT would be to review sections of the EIS and supporting documents (e.g. the Indigenous Engagement Report) that contain information or relate directly to impacts on the representative's community or nation. This includes sections related to impacts to Indigenous and/or treaty rights and to section 5 (1) (c) of CEAA 2012:
  - with respect to aboriginal peoples, an effect occurring in Canada of any change that may be caused to the environment on*
  - (v) health and socio-economic conditions,*
  - (vi) physical and cultural heritage,*
  - (vii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or*
  - (viii) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance*Topics for review may include (but are not limited to) selection of valued components (VC), country foods, proponent's engagement with Indigenous groups, inclusion/accuracy/validation of information related to Indigenous groups (e.g. current use of lands and resources), etc.
- c) Participation in the FPRT is not a mechanism for identifying new issues or concerns. These types of comments can be raised using other mechanisms, such as directly with the proponent, through the public and Indigenous comment period, and in interventions at the Commission hearing for the EA decision. See also #5 c) (iv) below.

#### 5) Information Requests (IR)

- a) Purpose of IRs: If the information provided in the EIS is insufficient for the purpose of moving forward with the technical review, the CNSC will inform the proponent and identify any information required in the form of IRs.
- b) Source of IRs: IRs can originate from any of the FPRT members. They are reviewed by the CNSC EA Lead for scope, applicability and consistency prior to sending them on to the proponent.
- c) Scope of IRs
  - i) IRs are intended to be requests for information where a reviewer has found a gap in information or a lack of clarity in the information such that they cannot complete their review in support of the CNSC's analysis and determination as to the effects of the project on the environment under the approved scope of the project and CEAA 2012.
  - ii) IRs must be relatable to a potential effect of the project. This should be made clear in the context and rationale for the IR.
  - iii) IRs submitted to the CNSC EA lead that are deemed to be out of scope can still be sent on to the proponent separately. The proponent is not obliged to respond to these comments as part of the IR process, but may choose to respond directly to the

comment authors. IRs out of scope may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Requests for information that cannot be clearly linked to an environmental effect or impact, or whose response would not be expected to significantly affect the conclusion regarding an environmental effect or impact
- Comments related to provincial or federal regulatory processes other than the CEAA 2012 EA process
- Comments related to the EA process
- Comments related to the proponent's engagement. IRs can be put forward regarding the proponent's engagement, but comments cannot. See the two following illustrative examples:
  - ✗ Example of a comment, out of scope of the IRs: "Group X feels that the proponent has not sufficiently engaged with them on valued components."
  - ✓ Example of an IR in scope: "Context: There is no evidence in section XX or elsewhere in the EIS that the proponent has sought input from Indigenous communities in the selection of valued components. Information request: Provide information to demonstrate that [any/all/specific] Indigenous communities were engaged regarding the selection or verification of the list of valued components for this project. If this was not done, provide a rationale why not."

iv) The CNSC has final say as to which IRs are in or out of scope. Out-of-scope IRs can be addressed in the following ways:

- (1) Comments can be forwarded to the proponent to be addressed. They would then likely be included in either the proponent's tables of issues of concerns in their Indigenous Engagement Report or the tables of public and indigenous comments submitted by the proponent at the same time as the final EIS. These documents will be taken into consideration by the Commission in their decision.
- (2) Some comments may be inserted into the "Views of Indigenous Groups" sub-sections of the EA Report, as appropriate. See also Part B, 2 (b) below.
- (3) Comments can also be used to inform an intervention for the Commission Hearing on the EA.

d) Review of IR responses

- i) Upon receiving responses to IRs, CNSC EA staff would perform a completeness check. Should the response package be deemed complete, the IR responses would proceed to a technical review.
- ii) The technical review of the IR responses would be performed by the FPRT.
  - (1) Each member of the FPRT would review those IRs for which they were the original author.
  - (2) Should the proponent have submitted any new or significantly revised material along with the IR responses, the FPRT members would review this material in accordance to their scope and mandate.
  - (3) The technical review of the IR responses and supplementary materials may trigger additional questions. Secondary IRs may be submitted to the CNSC EA lead; it should be clearly indicated from which original IR or new material they

are derived. New IRs from previously reviewed material will generally not be accepted by the CNSC EA lead unless strong rationale is provided, to avoid endless cycles of review of previously submitted information.

iii) Should a representative of an Indigenous group join the FPRT mid-way through the technical review, i.e. after the first IRs have been submitted to the proponent, there would be no existing IRs authored by this representative to review responses. In this case, an amendment to the process can be made.

(1) The EA Lead would identify IRs authored by other members of the FPRT that fall within the expertise of the representative of the Indigenous group. See #4 (b) above.

(2) The representative of the Indigenous group and the original author(s) would both review the response to the identified IRs, as per the guidance in #5 (d) (ii) above. Should there be diverging outcomes of the reviews, a discussion and agreement will be required between both parties and facilitated by the CNSC EA Lead.

## **Part B. EA REPORT**

### **1) Purpose of the EA Report**

- a) The EA Report is a document of record from CNSC staff to the Commission.
- b) The EA Report provides the Commission the information needed such that they can make a decision on the EA under CEAA 2012. It includes a summary of the following:
  - i) an overview of the project;
  - ii) the proponent's description of the predicted changes to the environment and effects to valued components due to the project;
  - iii) Views of Indigenous groups on the project and its potential effects;
  - iv) Engagement and consultation activities; and,
  - v) CNSC staff's analysis, conclusions and recommendations to the Commission.

### **2) Roles and responsibilities in regards to the preparation of the EA Report**

- a) As a CNSC report to the Commission, the overall preparation, finalization and ownership of the document rests with CNSC staff.
- b) Environmental changes and effects: Indigenous groups are invited to provide input to the EA Report in specific sub-sections of chapters on "Predicted Changes to the Environment" and "Predicted Effects to Valued Components."
  - i) The contents of these chapters and sub-sections will vary according to the project-environment interactions specific to each project.
  - ii) Each section will contain the proponent's description, followed by a sub-section for "Views of Indigenous groups". This sub-section is intended to capture concerns identified by all Indigenous groups throughout the EA process. A third sub-section will contain CNSC staff's analysis and conclusion, taking the previous two sub-sections into consideration.



- (1) The CNSC may share the first two sub-sections (“proponent’s description” and “Views of Indigenous Groups”) with Indigenous groups during the preparation phase of the EA Report.
  - (2) The third sub-section (“CNSC staff’s analysis and conclusion”) will not be made available for review and comment at this stage. However, Indigenous groups will have the opportunity to review the full EA Report, including CNSC staff’s conclusions as part of the public comment period and submit an intervention to the Commission.
- iii) Indigenous groups are invited to review and/or draft the part of the “Views of Indigenous groups” sub-sections relevant to their community or nation, including any diverging views the Indigenous group may have with regards to the proponent’s description of effects. However, additions or revisions to these sections by Indigenous groups should be a summary of the concerns or diverging views. The full extent of the Indigenous groups concerns and diverging views can be captured in the issues and concerns tables (see #2 below) and/or in the Indigenous groups’ intervention to the Commission.
- (1) The “Views of Indigenous groups” sub-sections are intended to be a summary and short in nature, only a few paragraphs in total at most for all Indigenous groups combined, representing a summary of the concerns from Indigenous groups.
  - (2) A full listing and description of each Indigenous group’s concerns and issues would be found in issues and concerns tables in an Appendix to the EA Report, which will also be developed collaboratively with Indigenous groups, where possible.
- c) Indigenous consultation and engagement: Indigenous groups may review sections of the chapter on Indigenous consultation and engagement that summarize the proponent’s engagement and the CNSC’s consultation with Indigenous groups. The purpose of the review is intended to verify accuracy of the information presented in these sections as it pertains to their community or nation. Indigenous groups may propose revisions/amendments to the sections under review for the CNSC’s consideration.
- d) Rights impact assessment: The chapter on Indigenous consultation and engagement will also include a section on the rights impact assessments performed by CNSC staff for each potentially impacted Indigenous group. Indigenous groups may help draft particular sections, review and comment on either the Rights Impact Assessment Report that will be appended to the EA Report, and/or the Rights Impact Assessment section of the Consultation and Engagement chapter, depending on the type of process for the RIA undertaken with the CNSC.

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** April 22, 2022 5:52 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; Jeff Langlois; walter.hainault@crdn.co  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Levine, Adam; Wylie, Doug; O'Neill, Shannon; DeCoste, Laura  
**Subject:** CNSC/CRDN - April 2022 meeting minutes - Nexgen/other  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6781173-v1-CRDN\_CNSC\_Meeting\_Mins\_Nexgen\_other\_April\_19\_2022.DOCX

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon all,

Thanks for taking the time on Tuesday to meet with CNSC staff to discuss the Nexgen EA and next steps as well as some other projects. Personally It was nice to connect in person again and great seeing everyone including Chief Clark. We covered a lot in this meeting and it would be great to hopefully meet more frequently and set something up on a consistent basis in order to continue to work together. I can work with Camm to set this up. There were a number of Action items that came out of the meeting that we presented below (and are included in meeting mins) that the CNSC will follow-up with next week with CRDN. Let me know if this reflects our discussion (s) and if we missed anything?

One thing we wanted to confirm soon with CRDN is **does the week of June 20-25<sup>th</sup> work for CRDN for CNSC staff to visit the community/leadership?** We hoped to start planning and coordination with CNSC staff to book this time to travel to the area or if not find alternative dates that might work for CRDN?

Action items:

- Action 1 – CNSC to send additional information to CRDN regarding the FIRT and Nicole/Ryan to set up first meeting in May
- Action 2 – Ryan to send CNSC's 'What we Heard Report' CNSC staff completed on CRDN's TLUOS for CRDN to review
- Action 3 – Ryan to send contact information for Tracy Charabin, who works in the Province of Saskatchewan's (Director, Lands Fish and Wildlife Unit, Ministry of Environment)
- Action 4 - Ryan to follow-up with Orano on sampling plan design for Cluff Lake summer 2022 and CRDN involvement
- Action 5 – Doug from CNSC to send some details comparing the provincial EA process and the federal IA process
- Action 6 – Doug from CNSC to send UMM regulations and licensing requirements to CRDN and links
- Action 7 – Ryan to follow-up with Camm and set-up next monthly meeting with CRDN with hopes of meeting more frequently to make some progress on the Terms of Reference/other

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



**CRDN-CNSC – April Meeting – NexGen/other - Date/time: April 19, 2022 – 1:00 – 3:00 pm CST**

Attendees: Saskatoon Inn (in person CRDN team and Ryan – CNSC Virtual TEAMS)

CNSC – Ryan Froess, Doug Wylie, Laura DeCoste, Shannon O'Neill, Adam Levine

CRDN – Chief Clark, Camm Willier (CRDN Engagement Lead), Ken Rich (CRDN Consultant), Dene Cheechum (CRDN), Jeff Langlois (Legal – left early)

**NexGen project – updates from CRDN and CNSC (process, timelines, questions/concerns)**

- Updates on Draft EIS - End of April for submission is what both CNSC/CRDN have been hearing
- CNSC timelines once we receive the EIS submission - Conformity review (30 days) followed by the FIRT Technical Review (90 days) concurrent to the open comment period (also 90 days)
- CRDN noted generally a good working relationship with NexGen to date - with both some up and downs

**Terms of Reference between CNSC and CRDN – next steps including CRDN's interest in collaboration with CNSC in EA process**

**(Federal Indigenous review team, Rights impact assessment etc.)**

- CRDN is interested in participating in the FIRT
- Jeff asked a question whether there was one team, or two teams (one with province and one with Indigenous Nations)
  - Responded that there will be one team consisting of Federal Authorities and Indigenous Nations, since the province is conducting its own review
- Goal of the technical review is to ensure that the EIS meets CEAA 2012 requirements
- CRDN asked who should be sitting on the FIRT
  - Responded that the person should have knowledge of the community, traditional land use, rights, etc. and will be acting as an expert
  - Will leave the decision to CRDN but preference for someone from the community as opposed to outsourcing
- CRDN noted that the next step would be deciding who will participate in the FIRT (CRDN sent a email on April 20 that Chief Clark and Dene Cheechum would be involved in FIRT)
- Discussion on the fact that the FIRT is a relatively new process, but we are looking how it is done at IAAC
- Jeff asked a question on what types of meetings will be held for the FIRT
  - Response that a hybrid approach could be taken, and the CNSC will be flexible
  - Additionally, the CNSC will be available to meet as a full review team as well as on a one-on-one basis
- **Action 1 – CNSC to send information to CRDN regarding the FIRT and Nicole to set up first meeting**
- CRDN asked if the CNSC considers social impacts in its review
  - NexGen's Rook 1 Project falls under CEAA 2012, where there needs to be an impact under section 5,1,c to then lead to a socio-economic issue
  - The proponent will also need to demonstrate how they are intending to mitigate the impact(s)
  - If there are residual impacts that are under federal authority the federal government will work with the Nation to determine what additional measures or accommodations may need to be considered that go beyond what the proponent has addressed or committed to doing (including any Impact Benefit Agreements), as well as what the CNSC can address through its mandate

- CNSC would work with other federal departments whose mandate covers the required accommodations and potentially seek cabinet approval for any significant accommodation measures, if necessary, as has been done for other major projects with major adverse residual impacts that go beyond the scope of the proponent. Accommodations must be commensurate with the severity of impacts and is only considered at the end of the assessment process after all possible mitigation and other measures to avoid, manage or offset identified impacts are exhausted.
- Jeff asked about screening out topics not related to Section 5,1,c from the FIRT review
  - CNSC staff responded that there are two streams to provide comments to NexGen that the CNSC will help triage
    - The FIRT will draft Information Requirements (IRs) after reviewing the EIS in the technical manner on meeting the requirements on CEAA 2012
    - Comments that fall outside of Section 5,1,c, or other relevant sections of CEAA 2012, can be submitted through the public comment period running parallel to the technical review
  - Noted that this triage occurs for other members of the FIRT (including Environment and Climate Change Canada, Transport Canada, Health Canada etc.)
- Jeff noted that there might be some potential tension since it is required to go beyond Section 5,1,c, as can be seen by the RIA, in order to fulfill the duty to consult
- Response is that the bulk of the RIA will be based off section 5,1,c (biophysical impacts) but if there are topics not covered by CEAA 2012 (e.g. concerns raised about fear/avoidance behaviours, governance, culture etc.), they can be included in the RIA

#### **CRDN's Traditional Land Use Study – CNSC's "What We Heard Report (WWHR)"**

- The CNSC has developed a What We Heard Report to summarize findings from the shared Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study
- CRDN noted that there might be an amendment to the TKLU study
- **Action 2 – Ryan to send WWHR to CRDN for review**
- CRDN will then review the WWHR to make sure that it appropriately reflects the TKLU study and get back to CNSC

#### **CNSC/Nexgen Community Tour/Leadership meetings – June 2022**

- CNSC noted that there is a tentative plan in place to visit the communities in late June 2022, namely the week of June 20<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>
  - CRDN expressed that treaty days would be taking place that week and it may not be optimal but will let CNSC know.
  - Dates are open for discussion but were hoping to have a commitment soon
- CRDN expressed interest in CNSC 101 presentations and open houses
- CNSC noted the potential of having NexGen and the Province as well to be able to answer all questions from community
- CRDN noted that there may be discussions about Cluff Lake, Fission as well as NexGen
- CNSC asked—about any opportunities for CNSC to walk the land with Elders and interactive activities such as site tour to Patterson Lk.

#### **Other projects in the region – Cluff Lake, Fission**

##### **Exploration Programs**

- CRDN expressed issues with exploration programs leaving a mess and abandoning camps
  - Noted that the exploration companies must be held accountable
- CNSC noted that the Province is responsible for dealing with exploration and have been meeting with them to pass on these concerns
  - CRDN responded that there is a lack of faith in the provincial government



- CNSC staff will continue to pass this information onto the Province as about exploration as we hear this from other Nations as well. CNSC staff offered to provide contact information for the Provincial authorities responsible for exploration permits and the consultation process and encourage CRDN to work with the Province to have their concerns heard and addressed.
- **Action 3 – Ryan to send contact information for Tracy Charabin, who works in the Province of Saskatchewan’s (Director, Lands Fish and Wildlife Unit, Ministry of Environment)**

#### **Land use Planning**

- CRDN expressed issues with land use planning from the province
- CNSC noted that the province is responsible for land use planning and that CNSC has no authority over this provincial matter
- CRDN told CNSC staff they would be working on developing their own land use planning policy they would push for the province to adopt
  - CNSC staff were encouraging of this and interested to see it in the future

#### **Cluff Lake**

- Orano is putting forward an application for the transfer of Cluff Lake property from CNSC’s responsibility to the Province into the Institutional Control Program (ICP)
  - The hearing is tentatively planned for April 2023 but not confirmed yet.
- CNSC is encouraged CRDN to work with Orano to propose involvement of the community in Orano’s sampling that was being proposed for this summer/fall
- Noted that the timelines are quick and that early involvement will be key to get samples from the site if CRDN wants to be involved
- CNSC wants to understand how CRDN wants to be engaged on the Cluff Lake ICP ask and is happy to set-up meeting with CRDN and community
- **Action 4 - Ryan to follow-up with Orano on sampling plan design for Cluff Lake summer 2022 and CRDN involvement**

#### **Additional Studies**

- CRDN noted a few additional studies they would like to see
  - Cumulative environmental effects in the region for future discussion
  - Perception study mentioned - important that community understands Uranium mining risks past and present – CNSC mentioned Nexgen was completing a study and had reached out to CRDN.
  - CNSC staff can help with education and communication on uranium mining and milling to CRDN but its also up the proponents to work with CRDN to complete studies, do workshops and open houses, and answer questions.

#### **Fission**

- Fission is currently only going through the Provincial EA process, and does not trigger a Federal EA or IA process, since it falls below the threshold production capacity (CEAA 2012 was replaced with IAA in 2019)
  - CNSC will sit on the provincial review team for their EA Process as a federal expert
- **Action 5 – Doug from CNSC to send some details comparing the provincial EA process and the federal IA process**
- Fission will still have to go through the CNSC Licensing application process (Under NSCA), they have chosen to do a sequential process with the provincial EA first, then apply for CNSC licensing
  - This may use documents that were used under the EA process, however will be required to meet CNSC licensing standards,

- Fission will be trying to meet certain CNSC requirements through the provincial EA, such as some environmental protection requirements
- CNSC regulatory requirements are to ensure that engagement/consultation was satisfied by Fission/province as well as protection of the environment and human health are requirements under the NSCA
- **Action 6 – Doug from CNSC to send UMM regulations and licensing requirements to CRDN and links**
- CRDN noted lack of faith in the provincial EA process
  - Asked if CRDN could start writing letters to say that CRDN doesn't agree with the process
    - CNSC noted that it is within CRDN's rights to write a letter to the Minister of the environment (to request the project fall under the IAA) and to the Province expressing their concerns and preferences for the type of review process that the project is required to follow
  - Noted that even if the provincial EA is approved, Fission can't go ahead until they have met the CNSC NSCA licensing requirements, which includes the CNSC's consultation and engagement processes

## **Other Discussion**

### **Mitigation Measures**

- CRDN asked if there are examples of mitigation measures
  - CNSC discussed general high-level process and provided examples such as:
    - Mitigation offsets, time of year, changing design or location, environmental monitoring programs
    - Noted that major projects such as the TMX pipeline and Frontier Oilsands Mine are good examples too look at that have accommodation measures associated with them in relation to major residual impacts on the exercise of rights

### **Impacts to Traffic**

- CRDN expressed safety concerns regarding increase in traffic due to the projects on people and wildlife
  - Noted that this is also a safety concern and roads will likely need to be upgraded and widened

### **Impacts to Health**

- Dene said some elders expressed concerns to health as a result of consuming country/traditional foods
- CNSC noted that the ERA contains a human health risk assessment and would include traditional foods baseline concentrations and traditional foods diet in the HHRA (CNSC staff will be reviewing this)
- Noted that there is likely to be Subject Matter Experts attending the outreach event in June that can help answer these type questions
  - CNSC is happy to set-up potential virtual meetings to address the community's concerns on these or other specific topics monthly moving forward if CRDN would like.

**Action 7 – Ryan to follow-up with Camm and set-up next monthly meeting with CRDN with hopes of meeting more frequently to make some progress on the ToR/other concerns.**

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** May 2, 2022 5:21 PM  
**To:** cammer7; Jeff Langlois; 'Chief Teddy Clark'; walter.hainault  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam; Frigault, Nicole; DeCoste, Laura; O'Neill, Shannon; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/CRDN - April 2022 meeting minutes - Nexgen/other  
**Attachments:** What\_We\_Heard\_Report\_-\_Rook\_1\_-\_CRDN.pdf; EDOC-#6438324-v4-  
Role\_of\_Indigenous\_Nations\_FPRIT\_for\_EIS\_and\_EA\_Report\_(CEAA\_2012).pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello everyone,

As promised we are following up a few of our actions items from our meeting last on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Saskatoon Inn.

- **Action 1** – Jeff please see attached additional guidance on the FIRT. Nicole/I will be following up to set-up a meeting likely in late May with CRDN to discuss next steps and determine how often the FIRT will meet, answer any outstanding questions etc.
- **Action 2** - We have attached the '**What We Heard Report**' that CNSC staff completed in order to summarize CRDN's TLKUS Report that CRDN shared with CNSC. Once CRDN has time to review the WWHR to make sure that it appropriately reflects the TLKUS we would be happy to set up a meeting to go through with CRDN at future meeting.
- **Action 3** - I have attached Tracy Charabin's contact info and email address below. Adam and I have met with Tracy a few times in 2022 and have been passing on concerns raised by Indigenous Nations and communities primarily on exploration activities/consultation side of things that we have heard. We encourage CRDN to reach out to Tracy and her team to continue to share your concerns and see if this is helpful on the exploration/consultation side.

Tracey Charabin  
Director, Lands Unit Ministry of Environment  
P: 306-480-6722  
[tracey.charabin@gov.sk.ca](mailto:tracey.charabin@gov.sk.ca)  
1600-1192, 102nd Street, North Battleford, SK, S9A 1E9

- **Action 4** – I have reached out to Orano and will keep CRDN posted when I hear back on what is planned for 2022 with hopes of setting up a meeting between CNSC if CRDN is interested? I will also continue to encourage Orano to reach out directly to CRDN as well to discuss next steps.
- **Action 7** - Camm please let me know what date works best in May to have our next **CNSC/CRDN monthly meeting**. We are still hoping to plan to a visit in June and would to add this to our agenda at our next meeting as well and **would like to nail dates ASAP** for the CNSC visit, if possible.

We can follow-up with **Actions 5 and 6** regarding the differing CNSC and SK regulations that CRDN was interesting in another email. Jeff, I did talk with Nexgen and again asked them to touch base with you and CRDN on the perception study and please let me know if they have not and will flag again.

Thanks,  
Ryan

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**From:** Froess, Ryan

**Sent:** April 22, 2022 3:52 PM

**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <cno@sasktel.net>; Jeff Langlois <jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca>; walter.hainault@crdn.co

**Cc:** Nicole Frigault (nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) <nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Adam Levine (adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca) <adam.levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Doug Wylie (doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca) <doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

**Subject:** CNSC/CRDN - April 2022 meeting minutes - Nexgen/other

Good afternoon all,

Thanks for taking the time on Tuesday to meet with CNSC staff to discuss the Nexgen EA and next steps as well as some other projects. Personally It was nice to connect in person again and great seeing everyone including Chief Clark. We covered a lot in this meeting and it would be great to hopefully meet more frequently and set something up on a consistent basis in order to continue to work together. I can work with Camm to set this up. There were a number of Action items that came out of the meeting that we presented below (and are included in meeting mins) that the CNSC will follow-up with next week with CRDN. Let me know if this reflects our discussion (s) and if we missed anything?

One thing we wanted to confirm soon with CRDN is **does the week of June 20-25<sup>th</sup> work for CRDN for CNSC staff to visit the community/leadership?** We hoped to start planning and coordination with CNSC staff to book this time to travel to the area or if not find alternative dates that might work for CRDN?

Action items:

- Action 1 – CNSC to send additional information to CRDN regarding the FIRT and Nicole/Ryan to set up first meeting in May - **COMPLETE**
- Action 2 – Ryan to send CNSC's 'What we Heard Report' CNSC staff completed on CRDN's TLUOS for CRDN to review - **COMPLETE**
- Action 3 – Ryan to send contact information for Tracy Charabin, who works in the Province of Saskatchewan's (Director, Lands Fish and Wildlife Unit, Ministry of Environment) - **COMPLETE**
- Action 4 - Ryan to follow-up with Orano on sampling plan design for Cluff Lake summer 2022 and CRDN involvement – **COMPLETE but will Provide Updates**
- Action 5 – Doug from CNSC to send some details comparing the provincial EA process and the federal IA process – **Ongoing**
- Action 6 – Doug from CNSC to send UMM regulations and licensing requirements to CRDN and links - **Ongoing**
- Action 7 – Ryan to follow-up with Camm and set-up next monthly meeting with CRDN with hopes of meeting more frequently to make some progress on the Terms of Reference/other – **Complete - Open to our next meeting In May that works for CRDN?**

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892

## **Role of Indigenous Nations and communities who will be participating in the technical review of the EIS and preparation of the CNSC EA Report under CEAA 2012**

### **Purpose of the document**

This document provides additional information and clarity regarding the role of Indigenous Nations and communities who will be participating in the technical review of the EIS and the preparation of the CNSC's EA Report.

Part A of this document presents additional information on the purpose and conduct of the technical review of the EIS, and the participation of interested Indigenous Nations and communities in the FPIRT.

Part B of this document provides additional information on the purpose of the EA Report and the roles and responsibilities of the CNSC and Indigenous Nations and communities in the preparation of the report.

### **Part A. TECHNICAL REVIEW OF THE EIS**

#### **Objectives of Participation**

The objective of having subject matter experts participating in the EIS technical review is to confirm information in the EIS is technically accurate. This review is bound by the scope of CEAA 2012. The participation of Indigenous Nations and communities in this federal, provincial and Indigenous review team (FPIRT) is an opportunity for participating Nations and communities that have raised specific matters related to impacts to their potential and established rights, to **provide their expertise and knowledge as it relates to the EIS**, on the specific topic areas for which they have the most knowledge (i.e. Valued Components (VCs), impact pathways, use of lands and resources, Treaty and/or Indigenous rights, etc.). The goal of participating in the FPIRT is for Indigenous Nations and communities to verify that the information contained in the EIS and related to their community or nation is correct, well presented and **sufficient to analyse and draw conclusions**. Therefore, any comments on the project that are out of scope of this review would be redirected to other venues of communication, or may be provided during the concurrent Public Comment Period. It is important to note, participation in the FIRT constitutes an additional opportunity to be involved in the technical review related to the CEAA 2012 process and is not directly related to, but is in addition to, the consultation process that CNSC staff are conducting with each respective Indigenous Nation or community.

It is expected that the proponent engage and the CNSC consult with Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the entire EA process. This does not stop due to participation in the FPIRT for the technical review of the EIS. Participation in the FPIRT is a different part of the EA process, for the purpose of identifying any information gaps in the EIS, according to the unique



expertise of these participants. Indigenous Nations and communities who participate in the FPIRT would bring specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to their community. They would review information relating directly to impacts on their community or nation, including impacts to Indigenous and/or treaty rights and to section 5 (1) (c) of CEEA 2012:

*5 (1) For the purposes of this Act, the environmental effects that are to be taken into account in relation to an act or thing, a physical activity, a designated project or a project are*

*(c) with respect to aboriginal peoples, an effect occurring in Canada of any change that may be caused to the environment on*

*(i) health and socio-economic conditions,*

*(ii) physical and cultural heritage,*

*(iii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or*

*(iv) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance.*

The technical review is deemed complete when all members of the FPIRT have reviewed the EIS and have no further questions or need for clarification, deeming it possible for the CNSC to draw conclusions as to the potential adverse environmental effects of the project. The next step is for the CNSC to write a summary of their analysis and conclusions, and recommendations to the Commission in an Environmental Assessment, or EA, Report.

## **Technical Review of EIS**

### **1) Purpose of the technical review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

- a) Upon receiving the EIS and supporting documents, a conformity review is performed by CNSC staff, assessing the submission against the requirements of CEEA 2012, the approved scope of the EA for the project and the CNSC's Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Should the EIS pass conformity review, a technical review commences.
- b) The technical review ensures the EIS (and supporting documents) contains complete and sufficient information and the proponent's analysis is performed correctly.
- c) The EIS and supporting documents are reviewed against technical review requirements as per the mandate and expertise of the FPIRT members to support CNSC staff in assessing the potential effects and impacts of the project on the environment under CEEA 2012.

### **2) Conduct of the technical review of the EIS**

- a) The technical review of the EIS is performed by CNSC staff and supported by the FPIRT.
- b) During the technical review, CNSC staff and the FPIRT will draft Information Requests (IRs) to address gaps in information, request clarity and/or resolve points in order to complete the technical review. For additional information, see point #5 below.

- c) The outcome of the review process is for CNSC staff to draw independent conclusions on impacts and effects and make recommendations to the Commission on whether there are residual effects to the environment and people.
- d) The Commission will then make an informed decision as the Responsible Authority under CEAA 2012.

### **3) Role of Federal Departments and Provincial Ministries on the FPIRT**

- a) The FPIRT is composed of experts from relevant federal and provincial departments who review the EA documentation, in support of the CNSC.
- b) Technical review by FPIRT members is limited to the scope and mandate of their organization.

### **4) Potential Role of Indigenous Nations and communities on the FPIRT**

- a) The role of Indigenous Nations and communities who opt to participate in the FPIRT is to bring specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to their community to the EIS technical review.
- b) The scope of the technical review by a representative of an Indigenous Nation or community on the FPIRT would be to review sections of the EIS and supporting documents (e.g. the Indigenous Engagement Report) that contain information or relate directly to impacts on the representative's community or nation. This includes sections related to impacts to Indigenous and/or treaty rights and to section 5 (1) (c) of CEAA 2012:

*with respect to aboriginal peoples, an effect occurring in Canada of any change that may be caused to the environment on*  
*(v) health and socio-economic conditions,*  
*(vi) physical and cultural heritage,*  
*(vii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or*  
*(viii) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance*

Topics for review may include (but are not limited to) selection of valued components (VC), country foods, proponent's engagement with Indigenous Nations and communities, inclusion/accuracy/validation of information related to Indigenous Nations and communities (e.g. current use of lands and resources), etc.

- c) Participation in the FPIRT is not a mechanism for identifying new issues or concerns. These types of comments can be raised using other mechanisms, such as directly with the proponent, through the public and Indigenous comment period, and in interventions at the Commission hearing for the EA decision. See also #5 c) (iv) below.
- d) Avoid duplication efforts by not reviewing sections of the EIS that were previously reviewed, revised and verified by Indigenous Nations and communities with proponents.

### **5) Information Requests (IR)**

- a) Purpose of IRs: If the information provided in the EIS is insufficient for the purpose of moving forward with the technical review, the CNSC will inform the proponent and identify any information required in the form of IRs.
- b) Source of IRs: IRs can originate from any of the FPRT members. They are reviewed by the CNSC EA Lead for scope, applicability and consistency prior to sending them on to the proponent.
- c) Scope of IRs
  - i) IRs are intended to be requests for information where a reviewer has found a gap in information or a lack of clarity in the information such that they cannot complete their review in support of the CNSC's analysis and determination as to the effects of the project on the environment under the approved scope of the project and CEAA 2012.
  - ii) IRs must be relatable to a potential effect of the project. This should be made clear in the context and rationale for the IR.
  - iii) IRs submitted to the CNSC EA lead that are deemed to be out of scope can still be sent on to the proponent separately. The proponent is not obliged to respond to these comments as part of the IR process, but may choose to respond directly to the comment authors. IRs out of scope may include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - Requests for information that cannot be clearly linked to an environmental effect or impact, or whose response would not be expected to significantly affect the conclusion regarding an environmental effect or impact
    - Comments related to provincial or federal regulatory processes other than the CEAA 2012 EA process
    - Comments related to the EA process
    - Comments related to the proponent's engagement. IRs can be put forward regarding the proponent's engagement, but comments cannot. See the two following illustrative examples:
      - ✗ Example of a comment, out of scope of the IRs: "Group X feels that the proponent has not sufficiently engaged with them on valued components."
      - ✓ Example of an IR in scope: "Context: There is no evidence in section XX or elsewhere in the EIS that the proponent has sought input from Indigenous communities in the selection of valued components. Information request: Provide information to demonstrate that [any/all/specific] Indigenous communities were engaged regarding the selection or verification of the list of valued components for this project. If this was not done, provide a rationale why not."
  - iv) The CNSC has final say as to which IRs are in or out of scope. Out-of-scope IRs can be addressed in the following ways:
    - (1) Comments can be forwarded to the proponent to be addressed. They would then likely be included in either the proponents tables of issues of concerns in their Indigenous Engagement Report or the tables of public and Indigenous

- comments submitted by the proponent at the same time as the final EIS. These documents will be taken into consideration by the Commission in their decision.
- (2) Some comments may be inserted into the “Views of Indigenous Nations and communities” sub-sections of the EA Report, as appropriate. See also Part B, 2 (b) below.
  - (3) Comments can also be used to inform an intervention for the Commission Hearing on the EA.
- d) Review of IR responses
- i) Upon receiving responses to IRs, CNSC EA staff would perform a completeness check. Should the response package be deemed complete, the IR responses would proceed to a technical review.
  - ii) The technical review of the IR responses would be performed by the FPIRT.
    - (1) Each member of the FPIRT would review those IRs for which they were the original author.
    - (2) Should the proponent have submitted any new or significantly revised material along with the IR responses, the FPIRT members would review this material in accordance to their scope and mandate.
    - (3) The technical review of the IR responses and supplementary materials may trigger additional questions. Secondary IRs may be submitted to the CNSC EA lead; it should be clearly indicated from which original IR or new material they are derived. New IRs from previously reviewed material will generally not be accepted by the CNSC EA lead unless strong rationale is provided, to avoid endless cycles of review of previously submitted information.
  - iii) Should a representative of an Indigenous Nation or community join the FPIRT mid-way through the technical review, i.e. after the first IRs have been submitted to the proponent, there would be no existing IRs authored by this representative to review responses. In this case, an amendment to the process can be made.
    - (1) The EA Lead would identify IRs authored by other members of the FPIRT that fall within the expertise of the representative of the Indigenous Nation or community. See #4 (b) above.
    - (2) The representative of the Indigenous Nation or community and the original author(s) would both review the response to the identified IRs, as per the guidance in #5 (d) (ii) above. Should there be diverging outcomes of the reviews, a discussion and agreement will be required between both parties and facilitated by the CNSC EA Lead.

## **Part B. EA REPORT**

### **1) Purpose of the EA Report**

- a) The EA Report is a document of record from CNSC staff to the Commission.
- b) The EA Report provides the Commission the information needed such that they can make a decision on the EA under CEAA 2012. It includes a summary of the following:
  - i) an overview of the project;

- ii) the proponent's description of the predicted changes to the environment and effects to valued components due to the project;
- iii) Views of Indigenous Nations and communities on the project and its potential effects;
- iv) Engagement and consultation activities; and,
- v) CNSC staff's analysis, conclusions and recommendations to the Commission.

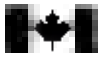
## **2) Roles and responsibilities in regards to the preparation of the EA Report**

- a) As a CNSC report to the Commission, the overall preparation, finalization and ownership of the document rests with CNSC staff.
- b) Environmental changes and effects: Indigenous Nations and communities are invited to provide input to the EA Report in specific sub-sections of chapters on "Predicted Changes to the Environment" and "Predicted Effects to Valued Components."
  - i) The contents of these chapters and sub-sections will vary according to the project-environment interactions specific to each project.
  - ii) Each section will contain the proponent's description, followed by a sub-section for "Views of Indigenous groups". This sub-section is intended to capture concerns identified by all Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the EA process. A third sub-section will contain CNSC staff's analysis and conclusion, taking the previous two sub-sections into consideration.
    - (1) The CNSC may share the first two sub-sections ("proponent's description" and "Views of Indigenous Nations and communities") with Indigenous Nations and communities during the preparation phase of the EA Report.
    - (2) The third sub-section ("CNSC staff's analysis and conclusion") will not be made available for review and comment at this stage. However, Indigenous Nations and communities will have the opportunity to review the full EA Report, including CNSC staff's conclusions as part of the public comment period and submit an intervention to the Commission.
  - iii) Indigenous Nations and communities are invited to review and/or draft the part of the "Views of Indigenous Nations and communities" sub-sections relevant to their community or nation, including any diverging views the Indigenous Nation or community may have with regards to the proponent's description of effects. However, additions or revisions to these sections by Indigenous Nations and communities should be a summary of the concerns or diverging views. The full extent of the Indigenous Nation or communities' concerns and diverging views can be captured in the issues and concerns tables (see #2 below) and/or in the Indigenous Nation or communities' intervention to the Commission.
    - (1) The "Views of Indigenous Nations and communities" sub-sections are intended to be a summary and short in nature, only a few paragraphs in total at most for all Indigenous Nations and communities combined, representing a summary of the concerns from Indigenous Nations and communities.
    - (2) A full listing and description of each Indigenous Nation or communities' concerns and issues would be found in issues and concerns tables in an Appendix to the



EA Report, which will also be developed collaboratively with Indigenous Nations and communities, where possible.

- c) Indigenous consultation and engagement: Indigenous Nations and communities may review sections of the chapter on Indigenous consultation and engagement that summarize the proponent's engagement and the CNSC's consultation with Indigenous Nations and communities. The purpose of the review is intended to verify accuracy of the information presented in these sections as it pertains to their community or nation. Indigenous Nations and communities may propose revisions/amendments to the sections under review for the CNSC's consideration.
- d) Rights impact assessment: The chapter on Indigenous consultation and engagement will also include a section on the rights impact assessments performed by CNSC staff for each potentially impacted Indigenous Nation or community. Indigenous Nations and communities may help draft particular sections, review and comment on either the Rights Impact Assessment Report that will be appended to the EA Report, and/or the Rights Impact Assessment section of the Consultation and Engagement chapter, depending on the type of process for the RIA undertaken with the CNSC.



## TRIP REPORT

## RAPPORT DE VOYAGE

To À		Security Classification – Classification de sécurité  UNCLASSIFIED	
		File - Référence  6827433	
		Your File – Votre référence  N/A	
From De	Patrick Burton Dana Pandolfi Ryan Froess Laura DeCoste Jeffrey Lam Rachel Lane Doug Wylie Shannon O'Neill	Date  <u>25 July</u> <u>2025</u> <del>10 August</del> <u>2022</u>	Tel. No. – N° de tél.  N/A

Subject  
Objet **Trip Report – 2022 Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour**

**Location:** Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, Turnor Lake, Dillon, Clearwater River Dene First Nation (CRDN) Reservation, Buffalo River Dene First Nation (BRDN) Reservation, Birch Narrows Dene First Nation (BNDN) reservation

**Dates:** June 18-27, 2022

**CNSC Participants (in person):** Patrick Burton (UMMD), Dana Pandolfi (UMMD), Jeffrey Lam (HSECD), Rachel Lane (HSECD), Ryan Froess (ISRD), Laura DeCoste (ISRD), Shannon O'Neill (EAD), Doug Wylie (EAD)

### Summary:

The objective of the trip was for CNSC staff to travel to communities in the Western Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan to take part in open houses, hosted by NexGen. The trip's goal was to foster relationship building in the region and inform the community in the region about the CNSC's role as Canada's nuclear regulator, with a focus on regarding NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill project. CNSC staff also held meetings to discuss/consult with Indigenous leadership in the region, including the mayor and a councillor of the municipality of Buffalo Narrows, two Metis Nation of Saskatchewan local presidents and the Northern Region 2 president, as well as the Chief and a Council member of Birch Narrows Dene Nation.

### Report:

Over 4 days, CNSC staff participated in 5 separate open house information sessions in 5 different communities, alongside NexGen, consulting with members of the 4 Indigenous nations in the region and members of the public (see Appendix 1 for full itinerary). At each event, the number of participants (excluding CNSC staff, Province of Saskatchewan staff, NexGen staff and other members of industry) ranged from approximately 30 to 100 people a day. Two of these events

took place on treaty grounds during Treaty Days where community events and dinners were being held. This resulted in a lot of community exposure to the outreach sessions.

Topics discussed at the open houses consisted of introducing the CNSC and its mandate, the NexGen project in general, opportunities to get involved with the CNSC process, traditional lifestyles, general questions regarding environmental protection and human health (especially quality of the drinking water), and legacy issues with sites such as the decommissioned Cluff Lake Mine Site. Some community members still do not feel that the Cluff Lake site was decommissioned properly and that traditional activities can take place safely on that site.

Other frequently raised topics included the need for better roads in the area, school breakfast programs, youth activities for education, and training for, and better job opportunities from NexGen for the Rook 1 Project. Decommissioning was another main issue that was brought up. People want to use the land for traditional uses. They see the current decommissioned sites (Beaverlodge, Gunnar, Lorado, Cluff Lake, etc.) and are concerned that NexGen may end up just like them. In addition, due to the proximity to Fort McMurray, a lot of people mentioned the pollution and impacts from the oil sands.

When CNSC staff spoke with leadership, discussions tended to be more project and EA process focused. These discussions included the NexGen's Rook 1, Fission's Patterson Lake South projects, and Cluff Lake's Decommissioning. Discussions included the status of these three projects and the CNSC's current and future roles in each, as well as community participation opportunities and the Participant Funding Program. Topics of environmental protection, compliance monitoring and how Indigenous nations can participate were also raised during the meeting with Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), as well as the sacredness of the area, the need for better trust building exercises through direct involvement (i.e., Indigenous led environmental monitoring) and the need to continue to be able to freely practice a traditional lifestyle.

CNSC staff also participated in a site tour of the NexGen Rook 1 site and were able to see the current infrastructure, including the main camp, the future site of the mine entrance, and the core sample storage area and its auxiliary structures.

### **Conclusions:**

CNSC staff had a tremendous experience in the communities interacting directly with community members and leadership. It was also invaluable to experience the communities firsthand to better understand the people and the region, and to gain an appreciation/understanding of the socio-demographic and economic issues currently affecting the communities (i.e., age distribution, housing, education, job opportunities, community drug/alcohol issues, community political structures, etc.). Communities were overwhelmingly positive and inviting to CNSC staff being in the area and several people remarked how long it had been since seeing the CNSC in the communities, if ever. CNSC staff had many good conversations throughout the open houses, attendance was good throughout the week, and the promotional items offered were popular and helped to bring in people to the CNSC tables.

CNSC staff's visit and tour of the NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill site was invaluable. CNSC staff gained early insight into the site's remoteness, site layout, company values, and overall impressions of the site and senior management, that cannot be observed through desk top reviews or virtual meetings.

#### **Follow-up Actions / Recommendations:**

1. CNSC staff heard repeatedly how good it was seeing a CNSC presence in the community and being able to speak to staff one on one. While this was very encouraging, we also heard how long it had been since this type of outreach had happened. These statements are firsthand testimonials to the importance of this outreach but also highlights how the CNSC should explore more regular outreach activities to form relationships in the communities and foster trust with CNSC staff and in turn the organization.
2. While the trip was large, with 8 CNSC staff, it was good to have such a presence at the open house events as there were lots of people to interact with, and days were long. Future outreach events may not require as many staff but the value of a large and multidisciplinary team on this type of tour should not be overlooked. The multidiscipline team of junior–senior staff enabled lots of knowledge sharing and learning opportunities for all staff. The size of such events and number of CNSC staff should depend on the region/nations being visited, the topics expected to arise, and the last time CNSC attended events in the area.
3. Early planning of an outreach tour like this is a necessity in lowering costs. This tour had issues getting commitments from the Indigenous Nations being visited, which led to delays and increased costs. Further complications from the approval of and payment logistics of the site tour via float plane led to further delays.
4. The planning and coordination of this tour represented significant effort from the responsible CNSC staff and the proponent, NexGen, that booked lots of the locations and community centres. A centralized outreach planning team would have helped with logistical planning but also as a knowledge holder resource for navigating internal processes and requirements.
5. In future outreach events in northern Saskatchewan, all the posters and handouts would benefit from having audio versions available, translated into Dene and Cree.
6. During this event, CNSC staff benefitted from NexGen's logistics work and their existing connections to the communities visited. However, in general outreach carried out with the proponent or licensee should be minimized. In future, as NexGen, Fission and Cluff each progress, CNSC staff could consider visiting these communities independently of proponents and licensees, to better demonstrate our independence from industry.
7. In future outreach events in northern Saskatchewan, some items to give out at the open houses should include fishing lures, and hats with the CNSC logo. This is because fishing hooks and hats are frequently used and are very prominent in the communities, and the CNSC providing fishing equipment speaks to our confidence that it is safe to fish near CNSC-regulated facilities. NexGen's colouring station for kids, using locally appropriate

colouring sheets such as caribou and northern plants, was also popular and could be emulated by CNSC staff for outreach.

8. CNSC staff brought a donation of gently used children's clothing to give to the local Healthy Moms and Baby Program, which was greatly appreciated. For trips of this magnitude, CNSC staff can look for opportunities like this to contribute to the communities being visited and should tailor donations to the context of the community in question.

**Appendix 1 – Trip itinerary**

**Appendix 2 – Photos from the Western Athabasca Basin Tour trip**



**Appendix 1 – Trip itinerary**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topics and presentation for discussion</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Day 1 – Saturday, June 18</b>	All day	Travel Day - Ottawa staff fly to Saskatoon	Ottawa to Saskatoon
<b>Day 2 – Sunday, June 19</b>	All day	Travel Day - CNSC staff drive from Saskatoon to Buffalo Narrows (approx. 6 hour drive)	Saskatoon to Buffalo Narrows
<b>Day 3 – Monday, June 20</b>	10am – 12pm	Meeting with Buffalo Narrows Mayor and Council	Buffalo Narrows
	1 – 6pm	Float plane to NexGen site for tour	NexGen site
<b>Day 4 – Tuesday, June 21</b>	All day	Observe June 21 <sup>st</sup> (National Indigenous Peoples Day) community events in Buffalo Narrows and attend celebrations in CRDN in the evening.	Buffalo Narrows & CRDN
<b>Day 5 – Wednesday, June 22</b>	10am – 3pm	Open house in La Loche	La Loche Friendship Center

	5pm – 8 pm	Open house in Buffalo Narrows	Buffalo Narrows Friendship Center
Day 6 – Thursday, June 23	11am – 5pm	Open house in CRDN	CRDN Treaty Grounds in CRDN
	6 – 9pm	CRDN Celebration/community dinner hosted by NexGen	
Day 7 – Friday, June 24	11am – 3pm	BNDN Open house	Turnor Lake
	3:30 – 6pm	Meet with BNDN Chief and Council	Birch Narrows hockey arena
Day 8 - Saturday, June 25 - Dillion SK.	11am – 5pm	Open house in BRDN	BRDN Treaty Grounds in BRDN
	6 – 9pm	BRDN Celebration/community dinner	
Day 9 - Sunday, June 26 – see Note 2	All day	Travel Day – CNSC staff drive from Buffalo Narrows to Saskatoon (approx. 6 hour drive)	Buffalo Narrows to Saskatoon
Day 10 - Monday, June 27	Morning - Afternoon	Travel Day – Ottawa staff fly back to Ottawa	Saskatoon to Ottawa

## Appendix 2 – Photos from the Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour

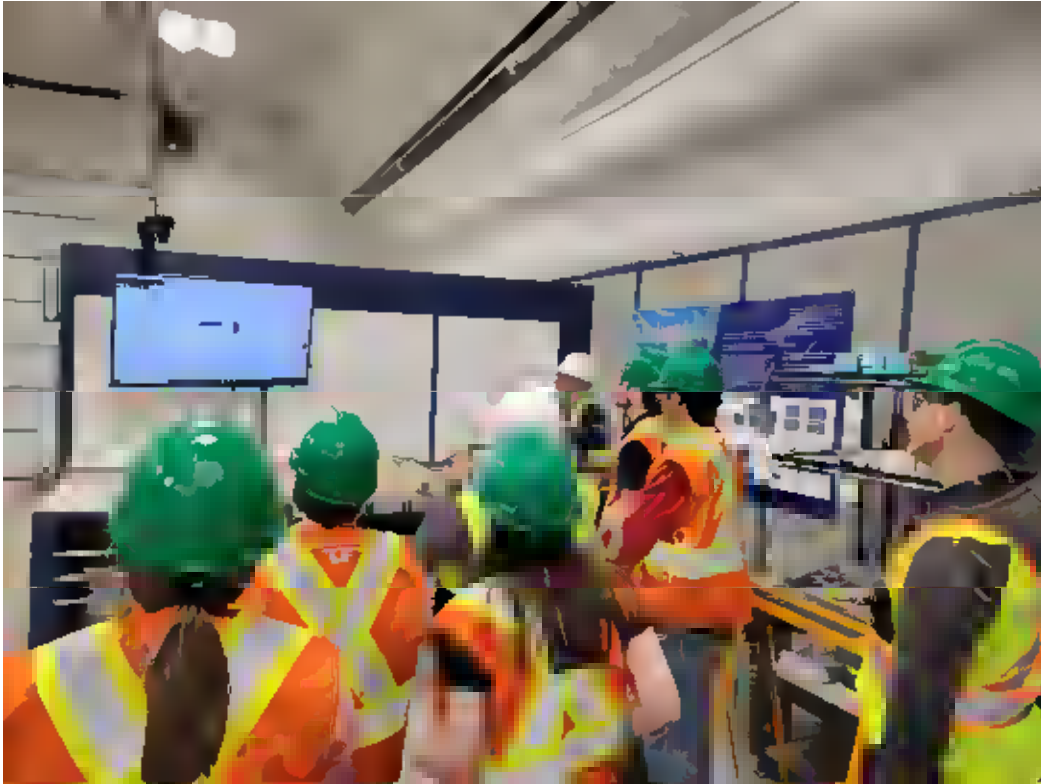
Aerial view of NexGen Rook 1 exploration camp.



CNSC and NexGen staff at the site of NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill.



CNSC staff learning about NexGen core sampling.



CNSC staff speaking with students about CNSC's regulatory role in the EA process.



CNSC staff discussing with community members in Buffalo Narrows.



CNSC staff (foreground) and NexGen staff (background) discussing with community members at Birch Narrows Dene Nation.





CNSC staff and NexGen staff speaking to community members at Birch Narrows Dene Nation.



CNSC staff and NexGen staff speaking to community members at Birch Narrows Dene Nation.



Members of CRDN playing Dene hand-games.



Overview of outreach event held on treaty grounds in Buffalo Narrows Dene Nation.



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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** September 13, 2022 5:22 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN/CNSC Monthly Meetings Minutes/August - NexGen/other  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6858893-v1-CRDN\_CNSC\_Meeting\_Mins\_\_Nexgen\_other\_Augsut\_16\_\_2022.DOCX

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Camm,

I hope things are well with you and your family and the CRDN team! Just following up on a few things from a few weeks ago to keep them moving forward.

1. We (CNSC) have a Virtual meeting on our calendars set for September 20<sup>th</sup> for 10 am CST with CRDN. We were wondering if CRDN still wanted to keep this meeting to touch base with the CNSC team to discuss the Nexgen Rook 1 project and if CRDN team had any question for CNSC working on this file? If not we can work to find another time that works best for both CRDN/CNSC in later September? I know Nicole had also sent out some dates to meet in person in Saskatoon with the CRDN team at the end of October – we will wait to hear back from CRDN on what dates works for both of these meeting and go from there.
2. Wondering how and CRDN's site visit with Orano/CNSC to Cluff Lake went last week on September 9 2022, and if there was any follow-up items that were discussed? We would be happy to set up a meeting between CNSC/CRDN and Orano if CRDN would like? The CNSC is making funding available to intervene in the Cluff Lake Project. The deadline to submit an application is September 30, 2022. Let us know if you need an extension or if you had any questions and we would be happy to help out.
3. Lastly the Uranium Mines and Mills Division is holding a public meeting open all Indigenous Nations and communities on Thursday of this week. You are welcome join in person or to also listen in online if you would like? I believe I send you the notice awhile back but will send you the updated link/agenda and please feel free to share with CRDN who may want to listen in.

As always feel free to give me a call anytime if you would like to discuss any of these files or have any questions on next steps?

Talk soon,  
Ryan

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** August 30, 2022 9:33 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; 'Chief Teddy Clark' <cn0@sasktel.net>  
**Cc:** Jeff Langlois <jlanglois@jflaw.ca>; sagerich@hotmail.com; 'Wanda Lewis' <wanda@wandaco.com>; Matthew General <mgeneral@jflaw.ca>; Levine, Adam <adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Burton, Patrick <patrick.burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Stenson, Ron <ron.stenson@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <nana-owusua.kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Duhaime, Brenda <brenda.duhaime@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CRDN/CNSC Monthly Meetings Minutes/August - NexGen/other

Good evening Camm,

Please find attached the meeting minutes and actions items from our last meeting on August 16, 2022 between CRDN and CNSC. Please feel free to review the minutes/actions and let us know if you would like any changes or if we missed any items. I apologize if I missed someone from CRDN team and please share if I did.

We are looking forward to meeting again soon and continuing our work with the CRDN. The next meeting we had in our monthly meeting schedule was September 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am CST. Please let us know if this time still works or if another time works best for the CRDN team.

As always feel free to reach out anytime if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

**CRDN-CNSC – August Meeting – NexGen/other –**  
**Date/time: August 16, 2022 – 11:00 – 1:30 pm CST**

Attendees: Hampton Inn Suites (in person 4 CRDN team and Ryan Froess – CNSC Virtual TEAMS)

CNSC – Ryan Froess (Senior Advisor, ISRD) Doug Wylie (Environmental Assessment Officer, EAD), Adam Levine (Team Lead, ISRD), Nicole Frigault (Environmental Assessment Specialist, EAD), Nana-Owusua Kwanmena (Director, EAD), Dana Pandolfi, (Senior Project Officer, UMMD), Ron Stenson (Senior Project Officer, UMMD), Patrick Burton (Director, UMMD), Brenda Duhaine (Project Officer, UMMD)

CRDN – Camm Willier (CRDN Engagement Lead), Ken Rich (CRDN Engagement Team), Jeff Langlois (CRDN Legal) Justin Fontaine (CRDN Legal), Wanda Lewis (CRDN Consultant) Matt General (CRDN Consultant)

**Action items from April 19, 2022 meeting** with CRDN were discussed – Action items still outstanding included the following:

- CNSC send some details comparing the provincial EA process, CEAA 2012, and the federal IA process – **COMPLETE** (Doug sent out email August 26, 2022, to CRDN team).
- CNSC to send UMM regulations and licensing requirements to CRDN and links - **COMPLETE** (Doug sent out email August 26, 2022, to CRDN team).

**NexGen – CRDN and CNSC (process, timelines, questions/concerns/funding etc.)**

- Updates on Draft EIS – 90-day Public and Indigenous review started July 12, 2022.
- CNSC timelines once we receive the EIS submission - Conformity review (30 days) followed by the FIRT Technical Review (90 days) concurrent to the open comment period (also 90 days)
- CRDN asked CNSC staff about PFP funding received to date and update?
- Adam confirmed what was requested in advance should have been disbursed.
  - Need funding to get capacity and review going
  - \$96,000 total, approximately 75% paid out (\$72,000)
- RIA funding, work done on framework agreement but was there any other funding given?
  - Adam: approx \$50,000 for the start of the framework, about 75% has been paid out to date (\$37,000)
  - Adam talked about getting into the Rights Impact Assessment work with CRDN (later fall) 2022. If CRDN can send a scope of work and funding proposal, including participation in the FIRT, to CNSC for the to review we can work with CRDN to move this along.
  - CRDN said they would discuss internally and provide a proposal to CNSC on scope of work on the RIA as per the agreed upon TOR.

**Action 1** – CRDN team to follow-up with scope of work and funding proposal to support ongoing work with CNSC on the RIA, FIRT and other activities outlined in the CNSC-CRDN ToR including collaborative drafting of sections of CNSC staff's EA Report.

**NexGen - Terms of Reference between CNSC and CRDN – next steps including CRDN's interest in collaboration with CNSC in EA process (Federal Indigenous review team, PFP funding, and Rights impact assessment etc.)**



- FIRT - Kick-off meeting took place on July 19, 2022. CRDN team members were in attendance.
- Jeff asked a question on if more meetings will be held for the FIRT or if CNSC is just awaiting comments?
  - Nicole - CNSC will be available to meet with FIRT as well as on a one-on-one basis with CRDN as needed or requested but yes awaiting comments from at moment.
- Camm – working with Ryan to get this scope of work.
  - Ryan - CNSC sent out guidance information and role and responsibilities and scope of work to CRDN regarding the FIRT.
  - Jeff - CRDN are having September meetings to complete this scope of work on the FIRT and who will be involved. Will share more with CNSC as this develops.
- CNSC asked if CRDN would be open to meeting in Saskatoon after the Draft EIS comments close on October 12, 2022 to meet to go through NexGen Draft EIS comments and to begin discussions on Rights Impact Assessment work with CNSC.
  - Jeff noted CRDN would be open to this and would discuss further with CRDN team and get back to CNSC once we propose some potential dates for mid to late October in Saskatoon.

**Action 2** – CNSC - Nicole/Ryan to send out invite for potential dates for CRDN’s team to come to Saskatoon (CNSC office) in October to discuss Draft EIS and FIRT comments and begin discussions with CRDN on RIA work – **COMPLETE awaiting CRDN’s availability.**

#### **NexGen - CRDN’s Traditional Land Use Study – CNSC’s “What We Heard Report (WWHR)”**

- The CNSC has developed a What We Heard Report to summarize findings from the shared Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study. CNSC asked if CRDN had any comments on how we have captured this information and knowledge that was shared with the CNSC.
  - CRDN has reviewed the WWHR and has no specific comments on the report and would like to work to integrate this work into the RIA work in future with CNSC.
  - Perception study mentioned - important that community understands Uranium mining risks past and present – CNSC mentioned NexGen was completing a study and had reached out to CRDN to gauge their interest in the past. CNSC is interested in working with CRDN and NexGen on this work.

#### **NexGen - Airstrip discussion**

- Jeff: ToR main principle is open sharing. CNSC comments on airstrip around not going forward with work as it would impact Indigenous nations or harm them, which isn't correct. Had it been brought up to CRDN earlier they would have told you that not constructing the airstrip is more harmful. CRDN has been pushing for infrastructure as the activity on site is ongoing and traffic needs to go through the community. Does CNSC even have regulatory oversight over the airstrip?
- Nana: re-emphasized CNSC’s role with airstrip. The CNSC is regulating the airstrip because it was included in the project description of the EA, so it is part of the EA.
- Jeff: legal statute for CNSC recommendation to not proceed with airstrip?
  - Nana: NexGen proposed airstrip in Project description, so a part of Rook 1 project that is currently subject to an ongoing EA under CEAA 2012. The proposed "temporary" airstrip is in the same footprint as the airstrip proposed in the project description and CNSC considered it to be the same. If there is an alternative proposal then it would be for NexGen to propose and the province to approve it as long as it was not related to any activities described in NexGen’s Rook 1 project description.

- Jeff: CRDN has been pushing for alternative transport in the region for a long time. It is a safety concern for the nation and feel blind sighted by the CNSC when we are supposed to have an open relationship and inadequate consultation.
  - Adam: important for CRDN to raise important items and communicate with CNSC as well, to be able to understand full context. Temporary airstrip caught us off guard a bit too and didn't mean to step on toes or speak on behalf of CRDN, reference to Indigenous Nations was high level and more toward MN-S and not CRDN. Its important to meet frequently through the regulatory process so everyone is aware of the any new developments. CNSC is fully committed to the relationship with CRDN and want to ensure we improve communications all matters of potential interest to CRDN.
- Camm: It's been hard to get an understanding of the regulatory process and requirements, as well as the communication protocol between SK, and how it impacts CRDN. CRDN needs a better understanding of that at the working level so that we can share with those in the community.
  - Adam: CNSC would be happy to continue to help to share with the CRDN engagement team and/or at the community level how the CNSC regulatory process works and help differentiate between the CNSC's role on what/how we regulate in comparison to what/how the province regulates.
- Ken - CRDN has expressed safety concerns regarding increase in traffic due to the projects on people and wildlife and that this safety concern and roads will likely need to be upgraded and widened. This is one of the ways CRDN see's reducing impacts on people and wildlife in the area.

### **Cluff Lake**

- Orano is putting forward an application for the transfer of Cluff Lake property from CNSC's responsibility to the Province into the Institutional Control Program (ICP). The hearing is planned for March 2 or 3 2023, likely in Ottawa. CNSC wants to understand how CRDN wants to be consulted and engaged on the Cluff Lake ICP ask and is open to meeting with CRDN team further and the larger community into the fall and winter months.
- Ryan : PFP is being provided and notice has been provided to CRDN if they wish to intervene. The closing date is September 30, 2022. Please let us know if extension is needed.
  - Jeff: amount? Timing? What are items we could put in the application?
  - Adam: a total of up to \$100,000 is being provided through PFP (to be awarded amongst all applicants). CNSC encourages CRDN to provide a PFP application that highlights CRDN's interest in the project that outlines how they plan to engage with the community members and leadership, as well as the CNSC and bring concerns they have before the commission. The review of the CMD that CNSC has prepared, meetings with leadership and community is all fair to include in CRDN's PFP application.
- Pat and Ron discussed CNSC Hearing process
  - Jeff: understanding regulatory regime here, decision is primarily based on staff's recommendations so what can CRDN do regarding Cluff. If CRDN doesn't feel like it is safe, community members are avoiding the site out of fear.
  - Ron: inspection coming up and there's room for CRDN members to join to walk the site.
  - Ken: it sounds like a done deal because staff separate the social and perception issues and only look at the technical/scientific terms. Needs a long term educational program to bring people up to speed and in turn reduce avoidance.
  - Pat: not a done deal, gave details on Point Lepreau and NSDF rulings by the Commission. CNSC CMD document should be ready for review mid-November 2022.

**Action 3** - CNSC to send record of decisions on NSDF and Point Lepreau Hearings – (see Edocs attached) - **COMPLETE**

- Jeff: Province not talking to CRDN. CRDN wants Orano to propose long term monitoring plan that includes CRDN and addresses fear and avoidance.
- Jeff: Orano being a little difficult in terms of capacity funding. Needs proper planning for monitoring initiatives and co-development of a western region.
- What technical documents does staff use to form the basis of our technical findings? Ideally, CNSC, Orano and CRDN would be aligned in our goals and recommendations to the Commission.
  - Wanda: if there was no involvement in Cluff in regards to executing remediation, what are we supposed to influence? No involvement of CRDN in Cluff, and no acceptance of risk from CRDN. Beyond just perception, remediated sites are not the same, grass and trees don't grow the same. CRDN wasn't involved in scientific collection and just relying on the "trust us, we're scientists".
  - CNSC encouraged CRDN to work with Orano in the past to propose involvement of the community in Orano's sampling that was being proposed long-term.
  - Ryan: CNSC is committed long-term to working with the Nation and CRDN members in the region in the long-term to help build trust that the land is safe to use for traditional activities. CNSC staff can help with education and communication on uranium mining and milling to CRDN but its also up the proponents to work with CRDN to complete studies, do workshops and open houses, and answer questions on their sites.

**Action 4** - CNSC to follow-up with CRDN on the contacts from the province for ICP and LTMP —Adam L. forwarded email address to Camm and Chief Clark to share with CRDN team of provincial contact for ICP LTMP - **COMPLETE**

[Institutional Control Program](#) | [Mineral Exploration and Mining](#) | [Government of Saskatchewan](#)

**Action 5** – CRDN will following-up with Orano on sampling plan design for Cluff Lake discussions and CRDN involvement long-term as not heard back from in sometime.

#### **CNSC/Orano Cluff Lake Visit and Inspection – September 9, 2022**

- CNSC noted that there is a plan in place to visit Cluff Lake on September 9, 2022.
  - CRDN expressed that they were not aware of the site visit and perhaps could re-send this information?
  - CNSC confirmed that invite was accepted by Chief Clark but would follow-up with Orano directly to ensure an invite is extended again to CRDN and team is aware
- Wanda: what is a CRDN community member meant to do along this trip? What are their expertise to accompany CNSC, and what are they supposed to say when there? Wanda: someone going along isn't going to tell you anything different than what you've heard and it is too late to change minds now. It seems like someone going up from CRDN is just a checkbox exercise.
- Pat: not meant to get any binding conclusions but meant to benefit CNSC staff's knowledge
- Ron: have the right person from CRDN join and can influence other participants on the trip, like the proponent & the province.
- Jeff: next steps, Orano hasn't invited CRDN yet so please reach out them to include us.

**Action 6:** Ron to follow-up with Orano on communication for inclusion on observing the CNSC inspection. Note that Orano is responsible for logistics and for coordinating visitors to the site - **COMPLETE**

**Other :**

Uranium Mines and Mills Division is holding its 2021 Regulatory Oversight Report outreach session on September 15, 2022 in Saskatoon. The UMM ROR will focus on the oversight in 2021 of the operating Uranium Mines and Mills including Cigar Lake, Key Lake, McArthur River, Rabbit Lake and McLean Lake. There will also brief update on the two EAs taking place in the province and the IEMP.

- The province of Saskatchewan will be providing a presentation on the Institutional Control Program (ICP) in Saskatchewan in the afternoon.
- CRDN indicated they would potentially be interested and send someone to listen into it virtually so asked if CNSC staff could forward the invite and agenda for the meeting once finalized.

**Action 7:** CNSC – Ryan/Patrick to follow-up with CRDN and send invite/agenda to 2021 UMM ROR outreach session taking place September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Saskatoon - **COMPLETE**

**Action 8** – Ryan to continue to work with Camm and set-up next monthly meeting with CRDN with hopes of meeting more frequently to make some progress on the ToR/other concerns. Next monthly meeting currently planned for **Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 10 am CST**. Ryan will confirm with CRDN if this works

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** November 14, 2022 12:42 PM  
**To:** Wanda Lewis  
**Cc:** Dene Cheecham-Uhrich; Froess, Ryan; O'Neill, Shannon; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** RE: Leadership Approved Nexgen IRs

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Thanks so much Wanda! I just want to make sure I place them in the correct context!!

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**From:** Wanda Lewis <[wanda@wandaco.com](mailto:wanda@wandaco.com)>  
**Sent:** November 14, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Dene Cheecham-Uhrich <[dene.cheecham-uhrich@mltc.ca](mailto:dene.cheecham-uhrich@mltc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Leadership Approved Nexgen IRs

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Nicole  
Yes I'll do that today. Sorry, wasn't thinking.  
Appreciate you keeping us in the loop.  
Thanks  
Wanda

Wanda  
587-579-8800

On Nov 14, 2022, at 8:51 AM, Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Thank you Wanda !

I am just wondering if - in addition to page numbers – if you could please add in the relevant EIS section that would be a big help in placement into the Federal indigenous Review Team (FIRT) Information Request (IR) Table that I'm putting together for submission to NexGen on Wednesday.

Let me know if this is something you can provide to me today or tomorrow as it will help me in placing your IRs in the FIRT Table.

I will also be sure to send you a copy of the FIRT table ahead of sending it back to NexGen so that you can see what CRDN IRs have been included in this table. As previously discussed, please note that any CRDN IR's that are not included in this table will be part of the public comment table that I am still working on and aiming to send to NexGen by next week some time. I'll send you a copy of that one as well prior to sending back to NexGen.



Thank you!  
Nicole

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**From:** Wanda Lewis <[wanda@wandaco.com](mailto:wanda@wandaco.com)>  
**Sent:** November 11, 2022 7:20 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** [cno@sasktel.net](mailto:cno@sasktel.net); Cam Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Dene Cheecham-Uhrich <[dene.cheecham-urich@mltc.ca](mailto:dene.cheecham-urich@mltc.ca)>; Jeff Langlois <[jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca](mailto:jlanglois@jfkllaw.ca)>  
**Subject:** Leadership Approved Nexgen IRs

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Hello Nicole,  
Please find the above-mentioned document attached.  
Thank you,  
Wanda

*Wanda*  
587-579-8800

---

**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** October 7, 2022 8:25 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** cno@sasktel.net; Adam Levine; Froess, Ryan; lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca; Adam Engdahl  
**Subject:** Letter of Engagement-EA and EIS Support for NXE from CRDN to CNSC  
**Attachments:** CRDN-Letter of Support - EIS - NXE -Oct-22.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Evening Nichole,

I write under the guidance and direction of Chief Clark as per forwarding CRDN's support of the Engagement- EA and EIS support for the Rook 1 Project with NexGen Energy.

Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving everyone !

Camm Willier  
CRND  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319



October 07/22

Nicole Frigault,  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca) /Tel : 343-542-7657

Dear Nicole,

Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) are proud to provide this support letter as part of the formal federal draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) public review for the Rook I Project. Informed through long-standing engagement processes with the CRDN, the EIS that was submitted by NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) was confirmed by the CNSC on July 12, 2022, to contain the required information to proceed with the federal technical review of the EIS and was subsequently released for a 90-day public review period

#### Engagement History

NexGen began exploration in our traditional territory in 2013. Prior to the first drill hole ever being drilled at the Rook I site, NexGen engaged with our leadership and community. As NexGen continued to advance exploration programs from year to year, they continued to engage early and often for each subsequent program being conducted. The engagement NexGen conducted was to ensure that CRDN understood the scope of the programs and NexGen's continued prioritization of health, safety, and environmental aspects of all activities. Through this engagement, CRDN were made aware of applicable permitting processes, informed of regulatory applications, able to meaningfully participate in the assessment of the program applications, and subsequently benefitted through associated employment and contracting opportunities. Further to engagement on exploration activities, NexGen has worked closely with CRDN leadership to bring positive community

initiatives that enhance education, economic development, and cultural and traditional practices for all CRDN peoples and the community as a whole. Some of the initiatives implemented and that continue to date are, the breakfast program at our local school, and the scholarship and summer student mentorship programs which provide our youth with opportunities and guidance for the future jobs that will be right in our backyard at Rook I.

This positive and early engagement set the foundation for continued engagement with NexGen through the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Rook I Project, which was formalized through the signing of the Study Agreement between NexGen and CRDN on October 16, 2019. The Study Agreement provided a collaborative platform for CRDN and NexGen to identify potential impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights and socio-economic interests, and to identify potential avoidance and accommodation measures in relation to the Rook I Project. This successful platform was conducted through a Joint Working Group (JWG) to support the inclusion of CRDN's traditional knowledge throughout the EA process and by incorporating the Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey (IRKS) and Dietary study that CRDN internally designed, scoped, and undertook. Throughout the entire process, NexGen provided the capacity funding for all aspects of the Study Agreement including the development and negotiations of an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA).

On April 22, 2022, NexGen and CRDN signed an industry-leading IBA. This IBA encompasses the most important principles to CRDN and its people in environmental protection and assurance and support for culture and traditional values. In addition to these important principles, this IBA also provides the CRDN membership with jobs, contracts, and sustainable financial assurance for generations to come. This IBA formalizes the respectful and meaningful relationship that CRDN and NexGen have developed over the past 10 years. Through this open, transparent, and respectful manner that NexGen engaged with our community, we have developed a strong relationship and solid partnership to collaboratively develop the Rook I Project in a responsible manner.

### **Environmental Assessment**

The comprehensive and transparent engagement approach through the EA process was conducted jointly in a respectful manner between CRDN and NexGen. Through this process, the CRDN leadership, membership, and technical consultants were introduced to the EA process at an early stage. This approach provided CRDN the opportunity to review and provide input to assist in drafting of the EIS through avenues such as JWG meetings, leadership meetings, community information sessions, and our self-directed IRKS study.

The positive impact of this process has been validated by CRDN in reviewing the Rook I Project EIS that was released by the CNSC for public review on July 13, 2022. The EIS is consistent with what has been engaged on with CRDN by NexGen, reflects CRDN's input through engagement conducted to date, and demonstrates NexGen's accountability for environmental performance and safety at the highest levels.

### **Full Support for the Rook I EIS**

The relationship built to date between CRDN and NexGen has been founded on trust, respect, and accountability. It is with this genuine relationship, and NexGen's approach to best in class practices and to continually addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action #92, that we can say with confidence that CRDN fully supports the Rook I Project EIS. As a partner with NexGen, CRDN looks forward to progressing the Rook I Project in a responsible and sustainable manner with the objective to create as much positivity with all our Nation's members for generations to come.

Should you require further information on this item and file, please contact our engagement Lead Camm Willier at 403-505-8319

Marci cho,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teddy Clark", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Teddy Clark

cc Council Elect  
Engagement Team  
CRDN Community Forum  
Leigh Curyer - NXE



---

**From:** Dene Cheecham-Uhrich <dene.cheecham-uhrich@mltc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 13, 2022 8:58 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** My IRs  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6834582-v1-  
Information\_Requests\_Federal\_Indigenous\_Review\_Team\_from\_the\_Technical\_Review\_of  
\_the\_NexGen\_Rook\_I\_draft\_EIS\_July\_2022.docx; EA IR's.docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello again, I figured I should attach my word document with my IRs and the IR template. You will notice I was only able to submit 3 IRs using the template.

Again, please let me know if you have some time to meet tomorrow 😊

Marsi Cho [Thank You], Hotíě ēděk'úlní [Take Care].

~

**Dēnē Cheecham-Uhrich**

Independent Consultant for Collaborative Environmental Research

Dēnēsulinē Treaty 8 Territory, Clearwater River Dēnē Nation

PI Collective Climate Accountability & Adaptation Project

Ph: 306.280.5247

5030 Clearwater River

Clearwater River, SK S0M 3H0



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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** November 2, 2022 2:06 PM  
**To:** 'Chief Teddy Clark'; cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** sagerich@hotmail.com; 'Wanda Lewis'; Jeff Langlois; Frigault, Nicole; Levine, Adam; Nickolet, Sydney; Wylie, Doug; DeCoste, Laura  
**Subject:** Clearwater River Dene Nation - CNSC meeting mins - October 27, 2022

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Clark, Camm and team ,

Please find attached meeting mins from our meeting with CRDN last week. Please let us know if we missed anything or any edits. We would like to thank the CRDN team for taking the time to meet with Nicole, Adam, Sydney and I and we look forward to our next meeting and continuing to build our relationship.

I believe we will have a decision from the FRC on funding decision for Cluff Lake later next week and as proposed we would like to suggest a meeting with CRDN sometime during the week of November 28 as Chief Clark indicated might work? I will be in touch with Camm on Cluff Lake and other actions below in the coming days and week ahead.

As always do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything in the short-term.

Thanks,  
Ryan

**Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) - CNSC Meeting Minutes- NexGen Rook I & Orano Cluff Lake Project**

October 27<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm-3:30pm CST

Participants: Nicole Frigault (CNSC), Ryan Froess (CNSC), Sydney Nickolet (CNSC), Adam Levine (CNSC), Adam Engdahl (NexGen), Luke Moger (NexGen), Chief Clark (CRDN), Camm Willier (CRDN Engagement Lead), Ken Rich (CRDN Consultant), Wanda Lewis (CRDN Consultant), Jeff Langlois (CRDN Lawyer - JFK Law Corporation) – apologies did not write names of two others in room supporting CRDN.

**Projects Discussed: NexGen Rook I and Orano Cluff Lake -**

**NexGen Rook I:**

**CNSC Update on EA -**

- The technical public comment period for review of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has concluded.
- All public comments are available on the Government of Canada registry [Impact Assessment Agency of Canada - Canada.ca \(ceaa-acee.gc.ca\)](https://www.canada.ca/ceaa-acee.gc.ca)
- CNSC is aiming to get all comments back to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
- CRDN mentioned a concern with the public comment period and how if anyone in the world can make comments then it tends to delay the project
  - Chief also spoke about concerns of MN-S delaying the project
    - CNSC staff explained that the public comment period is open to all members of the public and that NexGen would have to eventually respond to all public comments unless they are deemed out of scope for the proposed project

- Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) comment period has also concluded – CNSC will submit all information requests (IRs) from the FIRT technical review back to NexGen on Nov 10<sup>th</sup>
- NexGen can take however long they need to respond to the draft EIS comments – NexGen will begin their review of the IR's and comments when they receive them from CNSC on Nov 10<sup>th</sup>

#### **CRDN Update on the Rook I Project –**

- CRDN is planning to have a meeting with the Province of Saskatchewan: Ministry of Environment regarding the project sometime in November
- CRDN FIRT comments have been sent to the CNSC however, those comments have not been approved by Chief and Council. Wanda working for CRDN will confirm which FIRT comments have been approved and resend them to the CNSC.
- CRDN and CNSC had a long discussion regarding the 'temporary' airstrip proposal – CRDN feels that CNSC is put in a box when it comes to making decisions (using the airstrip as an example) and made a mistake
  - CNSC staff explained that we are working under the CEAA 2012 and under CEAA 2012, the proposed temporary airstrip was submitted as part of the project description and deemed to be the same as the proposed airstrip that is currently undergoing CEAA 2012 environmental assessment.
- CRDN has concerns with road conditions near the project site – CRDN commented on how if the airstrip would have been approved, it would have reduced traffic and would have increased safety for all including people and wildlife in the area. CRDN is also very concerned with the socio-economic impacts due to increased traffic if construction begins and not building the airport (drugs, alcohol, traffic) and lost revenues and jobs that could have been working already on completing the airstrip.
- CRDN believes that NexGen went outside the box with their community and engaging CRDN on the project and process – CRDN are very happy with how NexGen has been working with the community on the project
- Even though CRDN is happy with the proponent on the project, they still have concerns with the Provincial and Federal governments regarding the project including:
  - existing road conditions and that the road is still not being upgraded to the community and to the site. This is a lost opportunity to provide jobs and improve safety.
  - migratory birds and how the Province is treating this issue with respect to exploration permits
  - major concern with drugs and alcohol in the community – believes that the Project will bring more people and jobs and increased traffic to the community which will bring about socio-economic changes both positive and negative.
  - concern with the overall Provincial approach to this project (i.e. giving blanket permits, migratory birds, not approving 13 km road upgrades into site etc.)
- CRDN indicated that they are still interested in working closely with CNSC staff on a Rights Impact Assessment and addressing the numerous concerns that were brought up by community members in the TKLUS.
  - CRDN to let CNSC know who from CRDN will be working on the RIA with CNSC. CNSC will reach out to team and work with Wanda and team on next steps.
- CNSC staff indicated that existing PFP funds can be reallocated to RIA work
  - CRDN to provide an update to CNSC on how much PFP has been used to date and what is left to be reallocated to the RIA work, etc.
  - CNSC will re-send how much PFP has been awarded to CRDN to date and will require an update from CRDN in expenses to date.

#### **Orano Cluff Lake: (NexGen staff left the room at 2:00 pm)**

#### **CNSC Update on Cluff Lake –**

- CNSC noted that the results of the Participant Funding Program (PFP) application for Cluff Lake will be sent to the Nations in mid-November
- The CMD for Cluff Lake is going through the final approval process and should be available to the public in late-November
  - CRDN has asked to see a draft of the CNSC's recommendations before it goes public. CNSC has agreed to share what the CNSC has drafted upon hearing concerns from CRDN on Cluff.

- CNSC wants to meet with CRDN as well as the Province and Orano to discuss the Cluff Lake project and community concerns – these meetings can take place sometime in November or December. CRDN also thinks this is a good idea and is open to the meeting. Chief Clark said perhaps the week of November 28 might work. CNSC will follow-up with CRDN on potential dates.
- Community interventions are due January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- The Cluff Lake hearing is March 2<sup>nd</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 in Ottawa, ON

#### **CRDN Update on Cluff Lake –**

- CRDN has concerns with the tailings area at Cluff Lake – they have heard from community members that it was not done properly and that the lake near Cluff Lake would become a ‘dead lake’ due to the tailings at the site. They have also heard that the ground around the tailings is soft.
- CRDN wants to participate and be involved in Cluff Lake but have received limited responses from Orano – have also received very limited funding/capacity opportunities to participate from Orano
  - It has been frustrating for CRDN trying to work with Orano. Glenn Lafleur will text Chief Clark and consider that consultation and CRDN is frustrated with that approach.
- CRDN did provide comments on Orano’s Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance Plan (LTMMP) – CRDN will share these comments with the CNSC
  - CRDN made comments on what they would like to see put in place going forward into the future for the Cluff Lake site
- CRDN agrees that having a meeting with Orano, the Province and CNSC is a good next step moving forward
- CRDN spoke about the perception with Cluff Lake and how that is the biggest concern with community
  - Need to find a way to ease everyone’s minds on the site
- One recommendation that CRDN wants to see is having the province walk the land with the community before it goes to ICP – CNSC recommended adding this to their intervention for the hearing
  - Chief Clark mentioned in the past finding barrels, hoses, etc. found in and around the site – the province should be aware of this before it goes to ICP and all of this should be cleaned up before it does
- CRDN also wants to see future moose harvested tested from the Cluff Lake site – could help with perception as Chief mentioned he did notice people are hunting moose from the area.

#### **Actions:**

1. NexGen - CRDN will confirm with Chief and Council which IR’s are to be submitted for the FIRT process
2. NexGen - Adam (CNSC) will send to CRDN an update on current status of funding and suggested next steps for closing out each funding arrangement with CRDN (**complete**)
3. NexGen - CRDN will provide an update to CNSC on existing PFP – what has been spent to date and how much money is remaining
4. NexGen - CRDN will let CNSC know who will be working with CNSC on the RIA. CNSC/CRDN work to set up a meeting to discuss next steps.
5. Cluff - CRDN will share the comments on the Cluff Lake LTMMP with CNSC
6. Cluff - CNSC will coordinate with CRDN, the Province and Orano on setting up a meeting regarding Cluff Lake sometime after Nov 28<sup>th</sup>
7. Cluff - CNSC will share the recommendations they made to the Cluff Lake CMD with CRDN prior to the document going public (**complete**)

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

## **BRIEFING NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT**

### **Meeting with Chiefs of Clearwater River, Buffalo River, and Birch Narrows Dene Nations and CEO of NexGen Energy Ltd.**

**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST**

**Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission – President's Office - 280 Slater Street, Ottawa,  
Ontario.**

### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

President Velshi, Ramzi Jammal and Michael DeJong, will be meeting with the Chiefs of three Saskatchewan First Nations and the CEO of NexGen Energy. The meeting request came from NexGen and the Nations to meet with President Velshi to discuss the Rook 1 Project and how they are all working together on this project and supportive of it advancing.

Proposed Agenda (annotated):

1. Introductions
  - President Velshi to introduce herself as President and CEO of the CNSC and explain her role with regards to CNSC staff and President of the Commission tribunal and clarify that she is not able to discuss any specific matters that may be brought before the Commission
  - President Velshi can also start the meeting with a land acknowledgement:
  - President Velshi would like to acknowledge that the land on which we are gathered on today (Ottawa) is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg peoples and would also like to recognize that the NexGen Rook 1 Project is located in Treaty 8 territory and is within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.
2. Overview of the Rook 1 Uranium Project and Partnerships with Indigenous Nations
  - NexGen plans to provide an overview of the Rook 1 Project, work to date with Indigenous partners and how the project can support Canada playing a sustainable, long-term supply of Uranium well into the future. The three Chiefs may also want to provide an update on how working with NexGen has been to date on the Rook 1 project.
3. Overview of the CNSC's role and mandate
  - CNSC to provide a summary of our role and mandate as Canada's nuclear regulator.
4. Roundtable discussion
  - Recommend emphasizing that the CNSC is committed to building long-term relationships and engaging directly with Indigenous Nations and communities and their leadership and appreciate the Chiefs' efforts to engage with CNSC staff to date on this Project and others in their territories.
  - Recommend that President Velshi recuse herself for any potential detailed discussions with regards to the ongoing regulatory process for the NexGen project that may be before the Commission for decision in the coming months.

### **PARTICIPANTS**

- President Velshi (President and CEO – CNSC)
- Ramzi Jammal (EVP- ROB- CNSC)

- Michael DeJong (VP-RAB - CNSC)
- Chief Teddy Clark (Clearwater River Dene Nation)
- Chief Jonathon Sylvestre (Birch Narrows Dene Nation)
- Chief Norma Catarat (Buffalo River Dene Nation)
- Leigh Curyer (CEO - NexGen Energy Ltd.)
- Phillipe Bolduc (Wellington Advocacy Group)

## **KEY MESSAGES:**

### **Commitment to Meaningful Consultation and Relationships**

- The CNSC is appreciative of the three Chiefs taking time out of their busy schedules to come to Ottawa to meet and discuss their priorities and share their perspectives.
- The CNSC is fully committed to building strong, collaborative long-term relationships with Indigenous Nations and communities in the region (northwestern Saskatchewan). Reconciliation is a priority for the CNSC and the Government of Canada.
- The CNSC is proud of the positive relationships that we have developed with Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN), Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) and Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN). CNSC signed a Terms of Reference for consultation on the NexGen Environmental Assessment with Clearwater River Dene Nation in 2021.

### **The CNSC's Mandate and Role in Relation to the Rook 1 Project:**

- The CNSC's mandate is focused on health and safety by ensuring that there is no unreasonable risk for people and the environment with regards to nuclear energy and materials. The CNSC's mandate does not include economic considerations.
- The CNSC is responsible for making all licensing decisions under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA) and environmental assessment decisions under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) on nuclear facilities in Canada and conduct life-cycle oversight, regulation, and engagement with Indigenous Nations on all nuclear facilities.
- The CNSC is committed to conducting a thorough and efficient regulatory process for all nuclear projects, including the NexGen Rook 1 project. We will never compromise safety but will also not be an impediment to innovation and development that meets our regulatory requirements.

### **CNSC's Approach to Consultation on the Rook 1 Project:**

- The CNSC must ensure the proposed project meets all environmental and safety standards, and that the Duty to Consult and Accommodate is met before the Commission can make a decision.
- CNSC staff have been carrying out a thorough consultation and engagement process in relation to the NexGen Rook 1 project in line with best practices across the Government of Canada.
- CNSC staff were very happy to participate in meetings and visit your communities in June 2022

### **The President's Role as a Commission Member:**

- As the President of the Commission, I am not able to discuss in detail any matter that may before the Commission tribunal for a decision in the coming months. For any specific matters and details



regarding the ongoing regulatory process for the Rook 1 project I will have to recuse myself and my colleagues, VP- Ramzi Jammal and VP-Michael DeJong will continue the conversations.

## **BACKGROUND**

- NexGen Energy submitted their Project Description for the new uranium mine and mill site in 2019. The project is located in northwestern Saskatchewan approximately 130 km north of the closest community La Loche and is within Treaty 8 territory and homeland of the Métis in Northern Region 2 (see Annex B for map).
- The Rook I Project, a proposed new uranium mining and milling operation, is currently undergoing review by the CNSC pursuant to CEAA 2012 and by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (ENV) pursuant to the Environmental Assessment Act. The Project is also undergoing a licensing and technical review by the CNSC under the NSCA.

### **CNSC's Indigenous consultation and engagement:**

- The CNSC has a strong working relationship with a number of Indigenous Nations who are located within the region. In 2021 CNSC signed a Terms of Reference for consultation for the NexGen project with CRDN and the Métis Nation Saskatchewan (MN-S). CNSC staff have met regularly with representatives from CRDN, NexGen and other Indigenous Nations' and communities in the region since 2019. PFP was provided to both Nations to provide comments and work with CNSC.
- CNSC staff have met with BNDN and BRDN on a number of occasions including with leadership in their communities and have offered to meet as requested with these Nations throughout the EA process. PFP was provided to support these Nations as well to comment on NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and participate in the EA process.
- The CNSC/NexGen are also engaging and consulting with other Indigenous Nations and communities including the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resource Office (YNLR) and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN). PFP was also provided to these Nations to provide comments on Draft EIS and participate in the EA process.
- In June of 2022, CNSC staff (8) travelled to the region and the NexGen site and the three Nations (CRDN, BNDN and BRDN) during Treaty Days to meet with leadership and community members (Edoc# [6832731](#)). CNSC's staff completed outreach on our role as Canada's nuclear regulator, with a focus on regarding NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill project. CNSC staff participated in 5 separate open house information sessions in 4 different Indigenous communities, and the public alongside NexGen and the province of Saskatchewan's EA division.
- Topics of concern to date have included environmental protection, impacts on treaty rights, socio-economic impacts, cumulative impacts, economic partnerships. Other topics included the need for better roads in the area, youth activities, education and training for jobs from NexGen.
- Long-term legacy impacts are also a concern and people use the land for traditional uses now and into the future. They see the legacy sites (Beaverlodge, Gunnar, Lorado) and decommissioned sites of Cluff Lake and have concerns new projects will end up the same once decommissioned.

### **NexGen's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

- NexGen Draft EIS passed conformity review by CNSC staff on July 13, 2022, kicking off a 90 day technical review period. CNSC staff along with the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) completed their review and provided their technical information requests (IRs) in November of 2022 to NexGen's on the Draft EIS Edoc# [6916550](#)). The technical review resulted in 271 IRs as well as 40 Advice to Proponent comments.
- CNSC's last meeting with the three First Nations on the NexGen project was in October of 2022 when EAD/ISRD staff travelled to Saskatoon and met directly with leadership/engagement teams to discuss comments on the Draft EIS as well as the CNSC regulatory process
- All three Chiefs (CRDN, BRDN and BNDN) have each sent a letter to the CNSC signalling their support for the Rook 1 project to proceed to the CNSC. The letters have been posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (CIAR) [project page](#) alongside their comments on the Draft EIS.

### **NexGen's Proposed Temporary Airstrip**

- On April 26, 2022, CNSC staff were made aware of NexGen's plans from the Prairie and Northern Region of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), who received a designation request from the MN-S for a temporary airstrip on the NexGen property. A copy of the designation request was provided to CNSC staff.
  - As per section 5 of the CNSC-IAAC MOU, the Agency commits to consult with the CNSC prior to making recommendations to the Minister regarding any requests to designate projects that are received under the IAA.
- The Request for Designation was regarding NexGen's request to build a temporary airstrip as part of their Rook 1 Property – 2022 Site Program Application (Revision 1 – April 2022). This application was submitted to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment.
- Once CNSC staff were made aware of NexGen's plans, CNSC staff reached out to NexGen for further information. CNSC staff met separately with NexGen, IAAC, the province of SK EA division to gather information.
- CNSC staff reviewed the designation request from MN-S along with the additional information provided by NexGen and compared it to the proposed work detailed in the project description for the NexGen's Rook 1 project that is currently undergoing an EA under the CEAA 2012. Based on the information provided to the CNSC (and to the Province of SK), the proposed activities appeared to be very similar to the activities that are currently within the scope of the ongoing CEAA 2012 EA.
- CNSC therefore recommended that NexGen not proceed with the construction of a temporary airstrip until after provincial and federal environmental assessment decisions have been issued as an airstrip of similar size and location was scoped into the EA for the Rook 1 project. Aspects of the project scoped into the project description for the CEAA 2012 EA can not proceed until the EA decision is made by the Commission.
- Refer to E-doc # [6817614](#) for a copy of the Ministerial Decision and reply to MN-S stating that as per section 182 of the IAA, a project that is already undergoing a federal environmental assessment under CEAA 2012 will continue to be assessed under that Act.
- NexGen and the three Nations do not agree with the CNSC's recommendation with regards to the airstrip as they believe the construction of the airstrip and associated roads some facilities of the

site should be allowed to begin. The Nations and NexGen believe the proposed temporary airstrip will address health, safety, and environmental impacts by reducing the traffic on the highways.

### **NexGen's work with Indigenous Nations and communities**

- NexGen Energy has signed Impact Benefit Agreements (IBAs) with the three First Nations participating in the meeting (CRDN, BNDN and BRDN). NexGen has not signed IBA agreements with MN-S, ACFN or YNLR to date. As a result of these IBAs being signed, the three First Nations and NexGen have signalled to the CNSC that they would like to see the Rook 1 Project to move forward to construction and development as soon as possible.
- CNSC staff are not a party to the IBAs and are not aware of the specific details of each agreement, however, in general IBAs typically define the environmental, cultural, economic, employment and other benefits to be provided to the Nations by proponents in respect of the Project, and to confirm the consent and support for the Project throughout its complete lifecycle, including reclamation with these Nations.
- The three First Nations are supportive of the project proceeding as quickly and safely as possible and working directly with NexGen to gain economic opportunities that would benefit the First Nation and community members and the broader region.

### **DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

- As the life cycle regulator for the Rook 1 Project the CNSC is committed to the relationships with the Indigenous Nations and communities in the region, hearing their concerns and addressing them, conducting a thorough and efficient regulatory process for the Project that meets all applicable regulatory requirements and expectations, including the Duty to Consult and Accommodate.
- It is important to emphasize, that although the CNSC is pleased to hear that the Nations have signed agreements with NexGen and would like to see the project move forward as soon as possible, that the CNSC's is an independent regulatory body and must follow our legal statutes and mandate under the NSCA and CEAA 2012 for all proposed nuclear projects. Decisions are made based on all available facts, including those gathered through Commission hearings and interventions including those by the public and Indigenous Nations and communities.
- The CNSC encourages all Nations to continue to be engaged in the regulatory and consultation process with CNSC staff and to participate in the Commission hearing process for the Rook 1 project when it is scheduled. We look forward to our ongoing work with NexGen and the three First Nations moving forward.

ANNEXES (2):

ANNEX A: BACKGROUND ON ATTENDEES

ANNEX B: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INDIGENOUS AND TREATY RIGHTS

**Prepared by:** Ryan Froess, Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous Consultation, ISRD, SPD

**Prepared by:** Sydney Nickolet, Policy Officer, Indigenous Consultation, ISRD, SPD

**Reviewed by:** Adam Levine, Team Leader-Indigenous Consultation and Participant Funding, ISRD

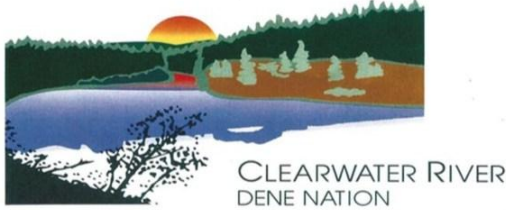
**Reviewed by:** Clare Cattryse, Director, ISRD, SPD

**Approved by:** Keith Dewar, Director General, SPD

**Date:** 20/01/2023

## Annex A: Background on Attendees

### Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN):



The Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) is a Dene First Nations band government in the boreal forest area of northern Saskatchewan, Canada is also the closest First Nation community to the Rook 1 Project and a signatory of Treaty 8. It maintains offices in the village of Clearwater River situated on the eastern shore of Lac La Loche. The CRDN reserve of Clearwater River shares its southern border with the village of La Loche.

The CRDN has a long-established presence in north-western Saskatchewan and northeastern Alberta. The CRDN is a Dene speaking community. As of September 2013, there were 1,875 registered members with 804 members living on-reserve and 1,071 members living off-reserve. CRDN is also represented by Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located within the treaty and traditional territories of CRDN; the Project is located approximately 120km from the main Clearwater reserve, near La Loche. NexGen has been engaging with CRDN since May 2014 and signed an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) with NexGen in April of 2022.



Chief Teddy Clark of CRDN and his daughter Traya

CRDN Chief and Council: Teddy Clark (Chief re-elected in 2021), Brenda Janvier (Councillor), Roy Sean Cheecham (Councillor), Randy Janvier (Councillor), Sandy Herman (Councillor), Clifford Laprise (Councillor), Janelle Kokan (Band Manager)

### **Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN):**



Buffalo River Dene Nation is a Dene speaking nation situated approximately 84 kilometres northwest of Ile a La Crosse, SK on the western shore of Peter Pond Lake near Dillon, SK and is a signatory to Treaty 10. The Nation is approximately 8,259 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 1,233 with an on-reserve population of 640 members. The village of Dillon is the administrative headquarters of the Buffalo River Dene First Nations band government and is accessed by Highway 925 from Highway 155. The Nation is also affiliated with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC) and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN).

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located approximately 190 km from the main BRDN reserve and is within BRDN's traditional territory. NexGen has been engaging with BRDN since February of 2017 and signed an Impact Benefit Agreement with BRDN in 2021.



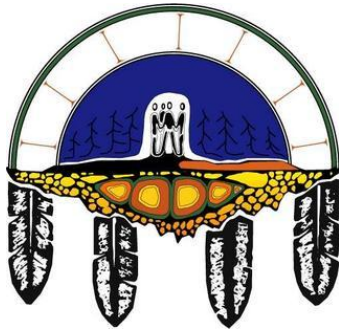
Chief Norma Catarat of BRDN

BRDN Chief and Council: Norma Catarat (Chief), Louise Chanalquay (Councillor), Dallas Billette (Councillor), Merle Catarat (Councillor), Colin Catarat (Councillor), Terrence Byhette (Councillor)

As a mother and a grandmother of five, Norma Catarat knows the importance of supporting members to grow a strong future. Catarat's priorities include supports for families, economic development, education and health services. Catarat is ready to work with Council to generate more resources for the community. She was elected as Chief in February 2022.



### **Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN):**



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), a Dene speaking nation, is situated in northern Saskatchewan north of Buffalo Narrows on Wasekamio Lake and is a signatory to Treaty 10. The Nation is approximately 2,693 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 807 members with an on-reserve population of 431 members. The Nation has year-round road access. BNDN is affiliated with Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located approximately 130 km from the main Birch Narrows reserve and in BNDN's traditional territory. NexGen has been engaging with BNDN February of 2017.

BNDN Chief and Council: Jonathon Sylvestre (Chief re-elected in 2022), Trevor Moberly (Councillor), Conrad Sylvestre (Councillor), Robert Sylvestre (Councillor), Kimberly Sylvestre (Councillor), Douglas Barks (Band Manager)

Chief Jonathon Sylvestre represents the Meadow Lake Tribal Council. He is the Chief of BNDN. Previous to being Chief, he was a Councillor for 4 years and before that, Recreation Director for his community. Chief Sylvestre has lived in Birch Narrows for his entire life. He completed high school is La Loche, and Arts & Science at the Northlands College in Buffalo Narrows, as well as beginning his career in health care, before representing his community became his job. Chief Sylvestre enjoys the outdoors, camping, travel and reading.

### **NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen):**

NexGen Energy is a Canadian company focused on optimally developing the Rook I Project into the largest low cost producing uranium mine globally, incorporating the highest levels of environmental and social governance. The Company has a strong portfolio of highly prospective projects, including the Company's 100% owned Rook I property that is the host to the high-grade Arrow Deposit (discovered February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014), South Arrow (discovered July 2017), Harpoon (discovered August 2016), Bow (discovered March 2015) and the Cannon area (discovered April 2016). NexGen is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia, with an operations office in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



CEO of NexGen Leigh R. Curyer

The Rook I Project is a proposed new uranium mining and milling operation owned and operated by NexGen, a Canadian uranium development company. The Project is located adjacent to Patterson Lake in the southern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, 80 km south of the former Cluff Lake mine site, and 640 km northwest of Saskatoon. The scope of the Licence Application is intended to cover the construction and commissioning of all underground and surface structures, systems, and components with ore to support future operations, which includes the production of up to 31 million pounds (14 million kilograms) of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> per annum. The NexGen Rook 1 project is currently undergoing a Federal Environmental Assessment under CEAA 2012 and a licensing review under the NSCA, both led by the CNSC, as well as a Provincial EA led by the Province of Saskatchewan.

Leigh R. Curyer has over 20 years' experience in the resources and corporate sector. Mr. Curyer is the founder, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NexGen Energy Ltd. and was previously the Head of Corporate Development Accord Nuclear Resource Management assessing uranium projects worldwide for First Reserve Corporation, a global energy focused private equity and infrastructure investment firm. Prior to Accord, he was Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of Southern Cross Resources (now Uranium One).

Mr. Curyer's uranium project assessment experience has been focused on assets located in Canada, Australia, USA, Africa, Central Asia and Europe, incorporating operating mines, advanced development projects and exploration prospects.

## **Wellington Advocacy:**



Phillippe Bolduc

Wellington Advocacy is a national full-service public affairs team with decades of combined professional experience serving as senior advisors in Canada's highest political offices.

Wellington Advocacy creates comprehensive plans to get people noticed. This includes leveraging their unique relationships and backgrounds to develop a story, reach more people and execute fresh engagement strategies. Their services include government and stakeholder relations, campaign services, digital advocacy, strategic communications and executive coaching, and international development.

Fluently bilingual, Philippe Bolduc brings a strong background in legislative processes and the Canadian regulatory environment. Drawn from his many years as a senior advisor and Chief of Staff on Parliament Hill, his experience includes familiarity with the Cabinet process, communications and issues management. Phil has deep political relationships in both the political and public service realms across Canada. As an expert in parliamentary procedure, Phil brings an understanding to the way things work in Ottawa that few have.

## Annex B: Additional information on Indigenous/Treaty rights

### **Treaty 8 (1899):**

The Rook 1 Project falls within the territory of Treaty No. 8 (signed in 1899) which covers approximately 841,487 square kilometres in the Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta, and the northwest quadrant of Saskatchewan. Treaty 8 is home to 39 First Nations, including three nations in Saskatchewan, 24 nations in Alberta, 6 nations in Northwest Territories, and 6 in British Columbia.

There are three signatories to Treaty 8 in Saskatchewan and one in Alberta that CNSC staff are consulting with on the NexGen Rook 1 project:

#### **Clearwater River Dene Nation (located approximately 120 km from Project site)**

Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation (located approximately 370 km from Project site) and represented by the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resources Office.

Black Lake Denesuline First Nation (located approximately 380 km from Project site) and represented by the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resources Office.

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (located in Northeastern Alberta)

### **Treaty 10 (1906):**

There are seven signatories to Treaty 10. While the Rook 1 Project is not located in Treaty 10 territory it is in close proximity to some of the signatory Nations (see figure 2) and therefore CNSC has identified three Treaty 10 Nations as having a potential interest in the Rook 1 Project, due to their proximity to the project and claimed traditional territories.

English River First Nation (located approximately 130 km from the Project site)

**Birch Narrows First Nation (located approximately 135 km from the Project site)**

**Buffalo River Dene Nation (located approximately 190 km from the Project site)**

Treaty 10 covers 220,000 square kilometres including the northeast quadrant of Saskatchewan to the border with Manitoba, north to the border with Northwest Territories, south to central Saskatchewan and west into Alberta.

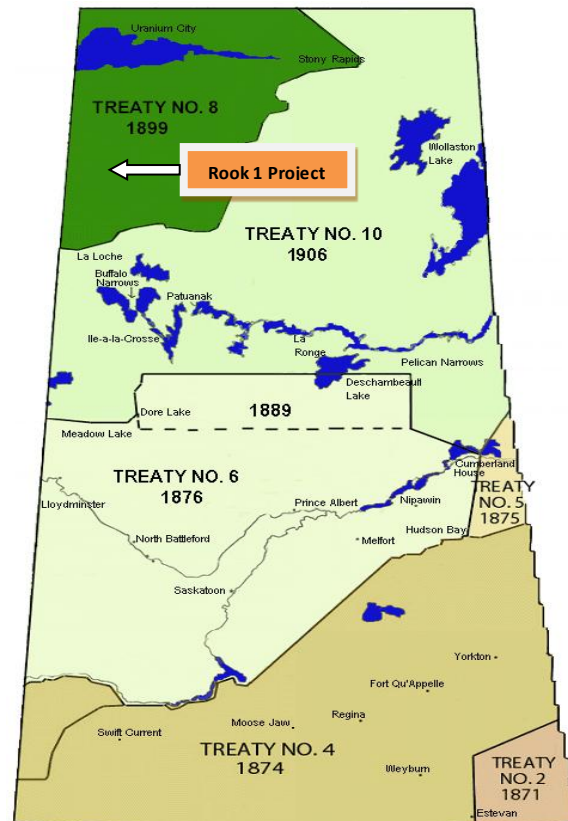
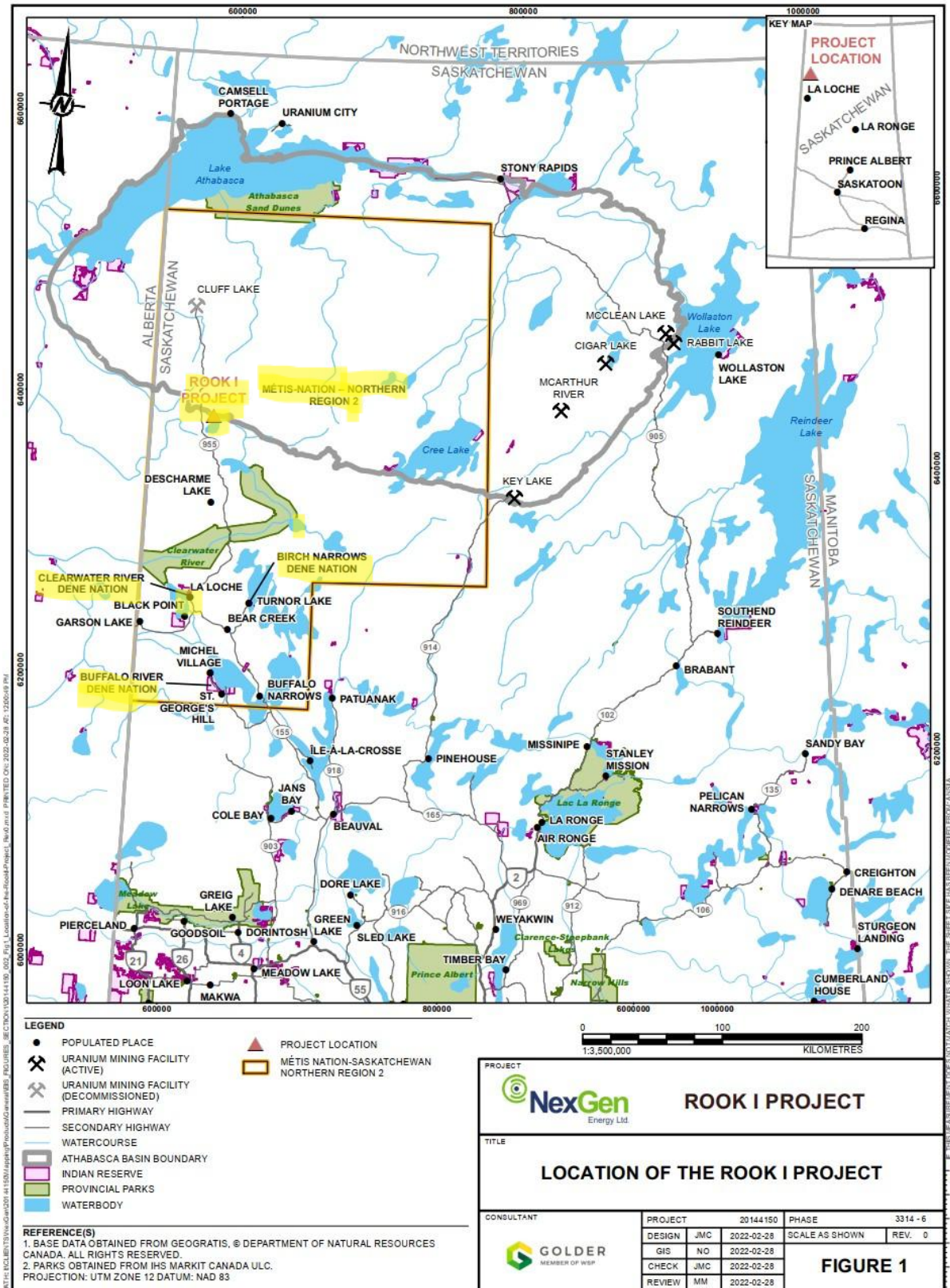


Figure 2. Treaty map of Saskatchewan and Rook 1 Project







# Domestic Outreach Report / Rapport sur les relations externes nationales

To / À : CNSC.F ExecutiveTeamMembers / MembresdelÉquipedirection F.CCSN

Cc. Engagement / Engagement (CNSC/CCSN)

**Date of activity/Date de l'activité:** June 12 to June 16, 2023

**Title of activity/Titre de l'activité:** CNSC Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour 2023

**Location (city and province)/ Lieu (ville et province):** Communities/Nations located in the Saskatchewan North Western Athabasca Basin (Buffalo Narrows, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, La Loche, Clearwater River Dene Nation, Turnor Lake, Birch Narrows Dene Nation, Dillon, Buffalo River Dene Nation)

**CNSC representative (s) + (directorate)/ Représentant(s) de la CCSN et direction:** Dana Pandolfi and Brenda Duhaime (DNCFR), Ryan Froess and Katherine Manickum (SPD), Doug Wylie and Nicole Frigault (DERPA)

**Other representative (s) + (name of organization)/ Autre(s) représentant(s) et nom de l'organisation:** Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen)., Fission Energy

## **Objective/ Objectif:**

The objective of the trip was for CNSC staff to travel to communities in the Western Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan to take part in open houses, hosted by NexGen. The trip's goal was to foster relationship building in the region and to answer questions about the CNSC's Licensing and Environmental Assessment processes and how nuclear projects are regulated in Canada.

## **Highlights/ Faits saillants:**

Participating in this tour for the second year in a row allowed staff to demonstrate CNSC's ongoing commitment for meaningful engagement with the Indigenous Nations and communities in the region. For staff that participated in the 2022 tour, this experience helped to build on relationships established last year. For staff that were visiting the communities for the first time, the outreach trip provided invaluable experience in relationship building, knowledge exchange, and improving their understanding of the NexGen project and its potential impact on the Indigenous communities in the area.

CNSC staff were also able to interact with leadership, such as band council members, and elders in more informal settings of the open houses. These interactions provided additional opportunities to build relationships and better understand leaderships' perspectives on the NexGen project.

For many CNSC staff, there is little opportunity to engage "face-to-face" with community members from these remote locations. This trip allowed CNSC staff to see the communities firsthand and better understand the sort of challenges faced and also gave community members opportunities to ask questions and better understand what CNSC does as a life-cycle regulator.

Orano's Cluff Lake site was raised by several community members. One Elder (pictured below) explained his experience and fears from his time working at Cluff Lake, and how he would like to see the NexGen

site and explain to his community the differences between the projects.

Improved roads, training/job opportunities, protection of the environment, and questions about what CNSC does as a regulator were the most common topics of discussion. Other topics heard throughout the community information sessions included economic reconciliation, health and safety concerns and involvement and inclusion of the communities early in the project's life cycle.

**Presentation(s) (e-Doc#)/ Présentation(s) – numéro e-Doc:** [7041981](#)

**Lessons Learned:**

Based on the experience gained from participating in this outreach tour for the last two years, CNSC staff would recommend considering the following for future outreach tours:

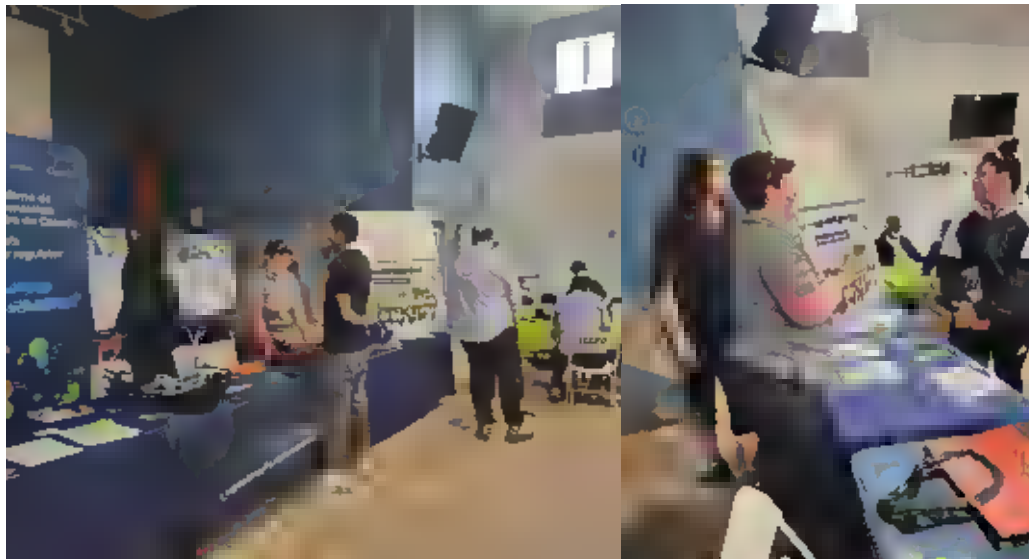
- Consider planning the tour for earlier in the year when schools are still in session. CNSC staff could work with schools to provide educational activities or presentations to engage youth in the communities.
- Consider changing the time of day for the community events. This year most engagement sessions were held on weekdays, during working hours, which may have decreased the number of community members able to attend. Suggest holding community outreach events in the late afternoon / evening with a community dinner. This would also allow CNSC staff to plan leadership meetings and visit schools during work/school hours.
- Consider having CNSC lead the organization of the community tours so that there can be more of a focus on building the CNSC relationship with the communities and on CNSC regulatory activities.
- Consider providing CNSC branded clothing (i.e. shirts, baseball hats, etc) and name tags to CNSC staff performing outreach. CNSC staff are often confused with the proponent/licensee at these events and uniformity in clothing could help clarify this or at least establish some differentiation. Furthermore, using the Government of Canada logo would further help clarify CNSC is apart of the federal government.

**Photos:**

**CNSC and NexGen staff preparing for engagement session at Buffalo Narrows Friendship Centre.**



**CNSC staff discussing with community members at La Loche Friendship Centre.**



CNSC booth at Turnor Lake/Birch Narrows Community Centre outreach event.



CNSC staff with an Elder at Buffalo River Dene Nation outreach event.



**Opening ceremonies at the Clearwater River Dene Nation Treaty Days.**



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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** July 25, 2023 11:43 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Adam Engdahl; 'Luke Moger'; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca  
**Subject:** CRDN's participation letter to CNSC (FIRT) Program  
**Attachments:** CRDN Letter to CNSC re NexGen Validation of FIRT Comments - July -23.docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Morning Nicole,

Trust this email finds you doing well considering the modes of our crazy seasonal weather patterns across Canada. It was our intent of in getting this you earlier, however, we are presently in a recovery mode from this summer's unexpected mother nature's signs of warnings .

Chief Teddy Clark has advised to forward the attached letter of CRDN's participation with the previous technical review that was conducted under the FIRT process for the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted by Nexgen Energy Ltd. on the Rook 1 project.

Please note as the primary impact community, CRDN has collectively participated with effective and meaningful community specific conclusions and whereas, Nexgen has raised the bar addressing all collaborated platforms beyond acceptance to the community of CRDN and its members.

Thanks again and hope you are having a wonderful summer

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319





July 25, 2023

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

**RE: Rook I Project – Technical Review of Draft EIS by Federal-Indigenous-Review Team**

Dear Nicole,

On behalf of the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) please accept this as our formal notice in our participation in the technical review conducted by the Federal-Indigenous-Review Team (FIRT) for the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted by NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen) for the proposed Rook I Project (Project).

In November of 2022, the FIRT completed the technical review of the EIS and identified 271 information requests (IRs) for response by NexGen. These IRs are reproduced in a document entitled *Annex 1 – Information Requests for the Rook I draft EIS*, which was published by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to the Project's webpage on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry on 16 November-2022-(Annex-1) (<https://ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80171>).

The FIRT also provided 40 'Advice to Proponent' comments that contain additional guidance and advice that NexGen should take into consideration when responding to the IRs and when revising the draft EIS. These comments are similarly reproduced in a document entitled *Annex 2 – FIRT Advice to Proponent for NexGen Rook I Draft EIS*, which was published by the CNSC to the Project's webpage on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry on 16 November 2022 (Annex 2).

Following our participation in the FIRT, the CRDN have meaningfully engaged directly with NexGen by jointly participating in committees formed in connection with the Project and its ongoing environmental assessment. Through our participation in these effective and efficient platforms, NexGen has addressed or responded to all of the CRDN's IRs as set out in Annex 1 (note: Annex 2 does not include any specific guidance from the CRDN). Specifically, NexGen has addressed our comments in a manner acceptable inclusively with the CRDN community.

Accordingly, through this letter, we formally acknowledge and confirm to the CNSC that NexGen's responses to the CRDN's IRs as set out in Annex 1 to the FIRT review have been verified such that NexGen has adequately addressed all CRDN IRs.

For completeness, the list below outlines the CRDN comments included in Annex 1 for which this collaborative process has been conducted between the CRDN and NexGen.



The following IRs are now considered 'closed' by the CRDN as it pertains to the federal EA review process for the Project:

- No. 7
- No. 10
- No. 22
- No. 23
- No. 139

Should you require further information on this item and file, please contact our Engagement Lead Camm Willier at : [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca) and on cell at - 403-505-6319.

Marci cho,

Chief Teddy Clark

Cc: CRDN Council Elect  
CRDN Engagement Team  
Leigh Curyer, President of NexGen  
Adam Engdahl, Vice President – Community, NexGen  
Luke Moger, Vice President – Environment, Permitting & Licensing, NexGen

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** September 7, 2023 1:33 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** Nickolet, Sydney; Levine, Adam  
**Subject:** CRDN -CNSC Touch base - NexGen/Fission and ISCF funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hey Camm,

It was great to catch up with you and Rich yesterday on NexGen and other files you are working on with CRDN. I know the CRDN team is very busy but I just wanted to follow-up as discussed on setting up some monthly meeting again into the fall/winter months between the CNSC and CRDN again as summer winds down and we start our technical review of the NexGen EA and other Fission file begins to moves forward. We also wanted to touch base on CRDN's successful application through Stream 1 Indigenous Capacity Support to hire a Community Liaison Officer to work with CNSC on these and other projects.

I am cc'ing Sydney Nickolet my colleague who is also based in Saskatoon that is going to be CNSC's consultation lead on the Fission file and Adam. Let me know if you have an hour sometime later this month or early October to set up a time to discuss next steps on touching base on more frequent basis with a small team from CNSC so we can continue our work together to collaborate on the consultation with the CRDN team on these files.

It would be great to connect sometime the week of September 25 if that works if not perhaps the following week? Let us know what works and we would be happy to set up a call!

Have a great weekend,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** October 12, 2023 10:52 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Cc:** lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca; Adam Engdahl; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; 'Luke Moger';  
Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN); Burton, Patrick; adam.levine@canada.ca  
**Subject:** Letter from CRDN on Issues and Interests Validation - Rook 1 Project -NXE  
**Attachments:** Letter to CNSC - CRDN\_NXE\_Issues and Interests\_Oct -23.pdf

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Morning Nicole,

Hope you are doing well and this season of fall brings that inspired spirit towards good health for you and your family and associates.

Attached is a letter signed by Chief Clark in our quest of community commitments and support for the Rook 1 project with NXE.

A primary industry model that has been well accepted and supported by the community members of Clearwater River Dene Nation.

I am available should you require further information on this specific validation document.

Sincerely,

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319



September 22, 2023

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

**RE: Rook I Project – Issues and Concerns Validation**

Dear Nicole,

On behalf of the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) and a primary community stakeholder, please accept this letter as our formal notice that the manner in which NexGen has responded to our issues and concerns raised during Rook I Project (Project) development and environmental assessment (EA) process has been accepted by the CRDN. In addition, the CRDN through our community consultative working approach confirms that all issues and concerns identified at this time have been reviewed and resolved, and for issues and concerns that can only be addressed during the Project lifespan, NexGen and CRDN have developed a meaningful approach to ensure collective resolution methods are in place through our established and recognized working process.

Considering our mutual commitments of the engagement activities completed to date, the CRDN have conveyed to NexGen issues and concerns associated with the proposed Project and its development, where and as applicable. Engagement between NexGen and the CRDN has been ongoing since early Project exploration activities and continued through Project design, and during conduct of the EA by NexGen, which has provided CRDN opportunities to convey our issues and concerns to NexGen, and for NexGen to address them. In addition, during the EA process, representatives of the CRDN participated in the technical review of NexGen's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) conducted by the Federal-Indigenous Review Team (FIRT). In parallel to the CNSC-led FIRT process, the CRDN have continued to meaningfully engage directly with NexGen by jointly participating in committees formed in connection with the Project and its ongoing EA, which have provided additional opportunities to convey our Issues and concerns.

I would also like to mention, NexGen and CRDN have sought to understand proactively and transparently, with collaborate efforts, resolve issues and concerns as they have been raised. It is our understanding that as part of the Federal EA process the CNSC requires confirmation of the process undertaken by CRDN and NexGen to identify, discuss, and resolve key Issues and concerns in relation to the Project. By way of this letter, CRDN is confirming that this process has been completed for the purpose of the Federal EA process.

As noted above, CRDN and NexGen have invested countless committed years proactively to address issues and concerns related to the Project as they have arisen, since 2013. To support the Federal EA requirement to validate that issues and concerns have been adequately captured and addressed, NexGen and the CRDN completed a validation process through the Environmental Committee established under the Impact Benefit Agreement between CRDN and NexGen. As part of this process through the Environmental Committee, a

P.O. Box 5050, Clearwater River, Saskatchewan, Canada S0M 3H0  
Phone 306-822-2021 Fax 306-822-2212

consolidated list of issues and concerns, along with NexGen's response and the mutually agreed upon key accommodations and mitigations that either have been or will be implemented to resolve the issues and concerns, underwent review through a series of meetings and activities undertaken by the Environmental Committee. Final validation of the consolidated list of issues and concerns, responses provided by NexGen, and mutually agreed upon key mitigations and accommodations occurred during an online workshop conducted between NexGen and CRDN on 25 April 2023. The final issues and concerns documentation resulting from this validation workshop has been provided as an attachment to this cover letter. CRDN's understanding is that this documentation will also be provided within NexGen's Final EIS submission to the CNSC.

In context of our solidified community support, CRDN is completely satisfied that NexGen has addressed or responded to all of CRDN's issues and concerns in a manner acceptable inclusively within the CRDN community and members. Accordingly, through this letter, we formally acknowledge and confirm to the CNSC that the way in which NexGen has addressed or responded to the CRDN's key issues and concerns has been accepted by CRDN.

Should you require further information on this item and file, please contact our Engagement Lead Camm Willier at: [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca) and on cell at (403) 505-6319

Marci ch6,



Chief Teddy Clark

Cc: CRDN Council Elect  
CRDN Engagement Team  
Leigh Curver, President of NexGen  
Adam Engdahl, Vice President – Community, NexGen  
Luke Moger, Vice President – Environment, Permitting & Licensing, NexGen



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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** October 13, 2023 2:11 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca; Adam Engdahl; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; 'Luke Moger'; Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN); Burton, Patrick; adam.levine@canada.ca  
**Subject:** RE: Letter from CRDN on Issues and Interests Validation - Rook 1 Project -NXE

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Camm,

I hope this find you well!

We appreciate receiving your letter and happy to see the continued positive relationship between CRDN and NexGen.

At this point in the EA process, we are awaiting a resubmission from NexGen prior to undertaking the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) technical review of NexGen's IR responses – of which CRDN is a part of – therefore we will plan to post this letter to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for the Project along with the results of the technical review of IR responses.

We will be in touch soon, however if you have any additional questions for me please reach out any time!

Best Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** October 12, 2023 10:52 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca; Adam Engdahl <aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca>; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; 'Luke Moger' <lmoger@nxe-energy.ca>; Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <ryan.froess@canada.ca>; Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; adam.levine@canada.ca  
**Subject:** Letter from CRDN on Issues and Interests Validation - Rook 1 Project -NXE

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Good Morning Nicole,

Hope you are doing well and this season of fall brings that inspired spirit towards good health for you and your family and associates.

Attached is a letter signed by Chief Clark in our quest of community commitments and support for the Rook 1 project with NXE.

A primary industry model that has been well accepted and supported by the community members of Clearwater River Dene Nation.

I am available should you require further information on this specific validation document.

Sincerely,

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319

---

**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** December 19, 2023 2:24 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Cc:** Burton, Patrick; Imoger@nxe-energy.ca; aengdahl@nexgenenergy.ca; Melissa Scansen; mbrown@nxe-energy.ca; clarkteddy007@gmail.com  
**Subject:** CRDN's FIRT Review Response  
**Attachments:** FIRT Review of NexGen Oct 2023\_Responses to FIRT\_CRDN. - CRDN - Dec -23.pdf

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Afternoon Nicole

Attached please find CRDN'S FIRT acceptance response inclusively, sorry in the delay in getting this you earlier

Have a great Christmas Everyone and blessings for the New Year of 2024.

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-5056319

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** January 19, 2024 4:01 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Good Afternoon Ryan

And more importantly Happy New Year to you both, I am meeting with Chief Clark this coming week and I will present a request to meet with you on this item.

On that note we will also be introducing our new guys who will assume the role as our Consultation/Lands Manager for our engagement program. I wish to introduce you him when we do meet and will invite for our get together. in addition to this year's program development we are also introducing our environmental partner of Axiom to support our environmental platform for CRDN.

Some of the new changes and development for working process moving forward, will also set up a formal date for our intro for this group with you as well.

Will chat more when I do see you in person, take good care.

Hope all is well Nichole and all the best to both of you in 2024

Camm

-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 10:41 AM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca  
Cc: Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

Good morning Camm,

Happy New Year to you and the CRDN engagement team! I hope you all managed to have a restful holiday spent with family and friends.

As discussed late last year CNSC is hoping to meet with up with CRDN with respect to providing an update on the NexGen Rook 1 EIS. We did receive the letter dated December 19, 2023 from CRDN and signed off by Chief with acceptance of the IR responses for the NexGen EIS so thank you for that!

We were hoping to set up a short meeting to provide an update on the regulatory aspects of the project, discuss next steps and timelines, and also answer any outstanding questions CRDN may have for CNSC moving forward.

When talking with NexGen earlier this week it was our understanding that CRDN may be in Saskatoon to hold a environment committee meeting in early to mid February and we were wondering if this may be good opportunity to connect when are in town to meet to provide an update and answer any questions the CRDN may have on the project. Hoping we can find a time to connect with CRDN team and will wait to hear back from you and we can work on agenda together.

Thanks Camm and have a great weekend!

Ryan Froess

Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca> | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** February 8, 2024 5:29 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Nickolet, Sydney  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hey Camm,

It was great catching up with you and Rich yesterday in Saskatoon. I hope your travels back today were ok with the weather was ok!

As discussed yesterday CNSC staff plan to send our second round of technical comments back on NexGen's most recent submission next week. We will make sure CRDN is included in the response through the FIRT so you can update Chief and Council as required. Moving forward as discussed there will be additional opportunities for CRDN to continue to work with CNSC on the review and contribute to the Rights Impact Assessment report and sections that will be included on our EA report to the Commission and review sections to ensure they reflect CRDN issues and concerns with respect to potential impacts and mitigation measures. I will reach out at the end of the month and perhaps next time you are in town we can meet and continue our conversation and next steps. Nicole and I can also have a call via Teams to discuss next steps. If you would like more have any questions on the above or will not be in town.

I also wanted to introduce you via email to my colleague Sydney Nickolet who is leading the consultation and engagement on the licensing aspect of the Fission Triple R Project. I know you and Rich had some concerns and questions on the differences between the two regulatory processes so I am connecting you with Sydney and she would be happy to set-up a call with her team to give you an update and try to provide some clarity on how things will work differently.

Let me know if you have any more questions on NexGen or other and as always feel free to reach out anytime to chat!

Take care,

Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan  
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 5:14 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca  
Cc: Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

Good afternoon Camm,

I hope things are well with you and CRDN! I am following up to my email from January 19, 2024 to see if there is interest from CRDN to meet with CNSC staff to discuss the NexGen Project Environmental Assessment and next steps. As you are likely aware NexGen has re-submitted their Draft EIS and CNSC has nearly completed our technical review and will be responding to NexGen in the coming weeks.



If CRDN is interested in meeting with CNSC staff on the NexGen Project in the coming weeks or month please let us know and we would be happy to meet and discuss next steps in more detail with the Nation and meet those new on the team!

Feel free to give me a call if you prefer and/or to set up time to meet.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

-----Original Message-----

From: Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 12:16 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca  
Subject: RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

Thank you both! And I look forward to meeting with you Camm!

Nicole

-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Sent: January 22, 2024 12:52 PM  
To: cammer7@shaw.ca  
Cc: Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

Sounds good Camm,

Keep us posted on a date in Feb that might work to connect and looking forward to meeting with some of CRDN's new team and learning more about who will be in role of Consultation/Lands Manager for CRDN.

Thanks,  
Ryan

-----Original Message-----

From: cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
Sent: January 19, 2024 3:01 PM  
To: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Cc: Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
Subject: RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Good Afternoon Ryan

And more importantly Happy New Year to you both, I am meeting with Chief Clark this coming week and I will present a request to meet with you on this item.

On that note we will also be introducing our new guys who will assume the role as our Consultation/Lands Manager for our engagement program. I wish to introduce you him when we do meet and will invite for our get together. in addition to this year's program development we are also introducing our environmental partner of Axiom to support our environmental platform for CRDN.

Some of the new changes and development for working process moving forward, will also set up a formal date for our intro for this group with you as well.

Will chat more when I do see you in person, take good care.

Hope all is well Nichole and all the best to both of you in 2024

Camm

-----Original Message-----

From: Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 10:41 AM

To: cammer7@shaw.ca

Cc: Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

Subject: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with CRDN

Good morning Camm,

Happy New Year to you and the CRDN engagement team! I hope you all managed to have a restful holiday spent with family and friends.

As discussed late last year CNSC is hoping to meet with up with CRDN with respect to providing an update on the NexGen Rook 1 EIS. We did receive the letter dated December 19, 2023 from CRDN and signed off by Chief with acceptance of the IR responses for the NexGen EIS so thank you for that!

We were hoping to set up a short meeting to provide an update on the regulatory aspects of the project, discuss next steps and timelines, and also answer any outstanding questions CRDN may have for CNSC moving forward.

When talking with NexGen earlier this week it was our understanding that CRDN may be in Saskatoon to hold a environment committee meeting in early to mid February and we were wondering if this may be good opportunity to connect when are in town to meet to provide an update and answer any questions the CRDN may have on the project. Hoping we can find a time to connect with CRDN team and will wait to hear back from you and we can work on agenda together.

Thanks Camm and have a great weekend!

Ryan Froess

Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca<mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca> | Tél. Cell:  
306-914-7892



Subject  
Objet

NexGen Northern Community Tour – Trip Report for UMMD, ERD & ISRD: Northern Saskatchewan – May 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Location:** Dillon, Turnor Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche and Clearwater River in Northern Saskatchewan

**Dates:** Monday May 27<sup>th</sup>-Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**CNSC Participants:** Dana Pandolfi, Senior Project Officer, UMMD; Maria Healy, Project Officer, UMMD; Shannon O'Neill, Environmental Review Officer, ERD; Sydney Nickolet, Policy Officer, ISRD and Rachel Lane, Radiation and Health Science Specialist, HSECD

**Event:** NexGen Northern Community Tour

**Background:** CNSC staff from UMMD, ERD, HSECD and ISRD attended the NexGen Northern Community Tour from Monday May 27<sup>th</sup> until Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup> in multiple northern Saskatchewan communities including Turnor Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, and Clearwater River. This is the third year that CNSC has accompanied NexGen on this community tour where CNSC set up a booth in 5 different northern communities to talk about who we are, our role on the NexGen project as well as answer any questions that community members have about the CNSC. Due to the Fission Patterson Lake South (PLS) project being located across the lake from the NexGen Rook I project, CNSC was also able to speak to community members and share information regarding both projects. The display booth included outreach materials and information pamphlets.

### Highlights:

- NexGen invited the high school students to participate in the events which allowed for many youth to attend the CNSC booth. Approximately 100 community members visited the booth over the course of the three days.
- NexGen also invited different northern educational supports to also set up a booth in all communities where they were able to support students on applying for post secondary education and employment after high school.
- Many of the questions posed by community members consisted of our role and of nuclear activities in Canada, timelines for the NexGen project, protection of the environment and monitoring. We also heard concerns regarding the NexGen and Fission projects being right door next to each other and cumulative effects we may see developing due close proximity of the proposed projects. Lastly, there were also concerns regarding the length of the approval process, and many community members were supportive of NexGen moving forward for economic reasons.
- CNSC staff were also able to provide information about the difference between CNSC's role with respect to the NexGen federal environmental assessment and the Fission provincial environmental assessment.

### Lessons Learned:

- At this event, most of our outreach materials were very popular with the community members. For example, the fishing lures and camping mugs were very popular at this event. However, most people were struggling to carry around all the swag from each booth in their hands. In the future and if available, CNSC should order the CNSC branded bags for outreach events to make it easier for booth attendees to receive a bit of everything including the hand outs. Creative Services should ensure that CNSC branded bags are always in stock.
- Having some type of game at the booth in order to limit the amount of swag that is given out would also be beneficial (i.e., a prize wheel or plinko style game).
- The CNSC's booth would be more eye-catching if it involved more dimension (such as acrylic stands for pamphlets and displays for outreach materials).

### Next Steps:

- It is recommended that CNSC staff continue attending the NexGen Northern Community Tour every year as it is a great opportunity to talk with members directly in their community and to hear about concerns and questions relating to the NexGen and Fission projects.
- CNSC is planning a regulator-led community tour for the fall of 2024 where we are planning to visit the same communities, give a presentation in the schools and provide a supper and community meeting in the evenings. Ideally, this would be done in coordination with the Province of Saskatchewan.



Figure 1: CNSC team at the booth in Turnor Lake, SK

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** June 15, 2024 9:20 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Cc:** Burton, Patrick; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; john@kihewconsulting.com; 'Leigh Curyer'; 'Adam Engdahl'; Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN); 'Luke Moger'  
**Subject:** Letter of Community Support on "CRDN's EIS participation and conclusions" on the NXE- Rook 1 Project  
**Attachments:** 20240614083122222.pdf

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Morning Nicole,

Trusting all is well and mother nature is providing you a better, spring leading into summer, weather then what we are experiencing in the west.

On behalf of Chief Clark and the Clearwater River Dene Nation Council, please see the attached letter of support that the Clearwater River Dene Nation have provided on the latest submission by NexGen Energy as it relates to the updates and responses regarding the Rook I EIS.

This letter of support secures and identifies our full community support and recognition for this final submission for the Rook I Project as NexGen Energy and the Clearwater River Dene Nation work in partnership of commitments in the development of the Rook I Project.

The relationship between CRDN and NexGen to date has raised the bar to another level and created a new path of true meaningful relationship practices for other industry groups to follow, resulting with Chief Clark's full support and endorsement moving forward with the NXE Rook 1 project. A project in what we (CRDN and its members) believe will bring a new community enhancement direction for the Clearwater River Dene Nation.

In closing, I am cc'ing John Desjarlais who will be assuming the role of the CRDN Community Impact Coordinator for the engagement team, please feel free to reach out to him directly with any questions on this project file.

Thank you and as always our Kind Regards and blessings,

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319



June 13, 2024

To Nicole Frigault,  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Dear Nicole,

As a primary community stakeholder, Clearwater River Dene Nation ("CRDN") are proud to provide this letter confirming our full endorsement of the Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") for the Rook I Project. Informed through a long-standing engagement process with the CRDN, the final EIS that was submitted by NexGen Energy Ltd ("NexGen") to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission ("CNSC"), was done so with the full understanding, involvement, support and backing from CRDN.

#### **Full Support for the Rook I EIS**

The relationship built between CRDN and NexGen has been founded on trust, transparency, respect, and accountability. It is with this genuine relationship, and NexGen's unique approach to best in class practices and to continually addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action #92, that we say that CRDN fully supports the final Rook I Project EIS and we have the full confidence that NexGen has addressed all Information Requests ("IRs") from the CNSC. As a partner with NexGen, CRDN looks forward to progressing the Rook I Project in a responsible and sustainable manner with all our Nation's members for generations to come. With the Provincial environmental assessment approval in place and understanding that NexGen has addressed all IRs – including working in collaboration with our Nation to address all of our IRs, issues, and concerns – CRDN supports and is expecting the CNSC to set a Commission Hearing Date for the Rook I Project immediately. Any delay to this hearing date by the CNSC has major negative and unnecessary impacts on the positive social, environmental, and economic opportunities for our Nation, which includes direct and unprecedented employment, and contracting revenues for our Nation. These are opportunities that have never been realized by our Nation, nor by any other community in this area.

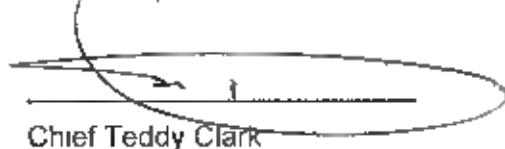


## Partners in the Project

On April 22, 2022, NexGen and CRDN signed an industry-leading Impact Benefit Agreement ("IBA") that encompasses the most important principles to CRDN and its people in environmental protection and assurance, and support for cultural and traditional values. In addition to these important principles, this IBA also provides the CRDN membership with the unprecedented opportunity for meaningful consultation, environmental and cultural stewardship, employment, contracts, and sustainable financial assurance for generations to come. This IBA formalizes the respectful and meaningful relationship that CRDN and NexGen have developed over the past 10 years, which included active participation in the development and review of the EIS. Through this open, transparent, and respectful manner that NexGen engaged with our Nation, we have developed a strong relationship and solid partnership to collaboratively develop the Rook I Project in a responsible manner. For the reasons outlined above, CRDN strongly urges the CNSC and Government of Canada to approve the Project immediately to ensure the generational change that needs to occur in our community can occur.

Should you require further information on this item and file, please contact our Engagement & Impact Coordinator - John Desjarlais at 306-370-8760

Mardi cho,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teddy Clark', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval.

Chief Teddy Clark

cc Council Elect  
Engagement Team  
CRDN Community Forum  
Leigh Curyer - NXE

---

**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** October 7, 2024 11:30 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** Re: CNSC Community Outreach - Clearwater River Dene Nation

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Thank you Ryan  
looking forward to that

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 7, 2024 8:20 AM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC Community Outreach - Clearwater River Dene Nation

Sounds good Camm,

I think we are going up that week be great to meet with folks from CRDN as well.

Keep me posted as will need to apply to get some funds to support a meeting and meal sooner rather than later !

Ryan

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 5, 2024 1:22 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: CNSC Community Outreach - Clearwater River Dene Nation

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Afternoon, Ryan

I am seeing the Chief in a week or so, sorry its hunting season and everyone is out and hard to land for a call

I am working on this and will get an answer when I do reach the Chief

Thanks

Camm

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 1:54 PM  
**To:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca) <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC Community Outreach - Clearwater River Dene Nation

Hey Camm,

Great chatting with you and Adam this morning on the upcoming meeting in November with Chief Clark and the president on November 6 in Ottawa. As discussed we will be working together to set the agenda and looking forward to seeing you and the Chief.

I do want to pick up on the planning and date change we discussed about getting the CNSC and the province up north to speak to the CRDN on the proposed mining projects in CRDN's traditional territory. I am going to be reaching out to my CNSC colleagues and start planning but wanted to get confirmation that the week of **November 18 will work for CRDN?** I know you said things were looking good for that week but if you can talk to the Chief and get back to us with a 100% thumbs up we will start looking into booking flights etc. If any days work best that week let us know and will do our best to make it happen.

Let me know what you think so we can start working on some if the details etc. We can help CRDN with application for funding to support a community supper and work together to communicate to the Nation.

Talk soon,

Ryan

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 8, 2024 4:32 PM  
**To:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC Community Outreach - Clearwater River Dene Nation

Good afternoon Camm,

I hope you are all enjoying the summer and have had some time to enjoy and make some memories with family and friends.

As discussed a few weeks ago I wanted to touch base to see if there is interest from the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) for CNSC staff to hold a community outreach event in CRDN this fall on the two proposed uranium mines (NexGen and Fission). Our goal would be to work directly with CRDN leadership and the community to hold an open house to deliver some presentations related to the two projects and our regulatory processes and answer any questions community members have about the projects located at Patterson Lake with the regions Indigenous Nations and communities.

We're in the early stages of planning but it will take some effort and community support to pull together so want to start planning early. This visit would be **without** the project proponents (NexGen and Fission) and would be done with representatives from the province which would likely include staff from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment Branch and Saskatchewan Ministry of Health. We were thinking that perhaps one afternoon meeting with Chef and Council and one community evening meeting (4 – 8 pm) would provide the best opportunity for community members to attend.

We can support a community lunch/supper and some logistics (hall rental, other) through our **Participant Funding Program to help support this event** and would look to CRDN to help organize a venue and advertise the events in advance. We are currently targeting the **week of October 7, 2024** but wanted to check if there would be community interest in this type of event and if this week would work for your community first before we get too far. Let me know what your thoughts and we will be in touch as things advance and we begin planning for the fall.

I will be out of office all of next week but Nicole Frigault the lead for the NexGen Rook 1 project is copied on the email as are my ISRD colleagues Justin and Sydney. We would also be happy to discuss this further and set up a meeting to discuss CRDN and the new team in coming weeks as well!

Thanks Camm and talk soon.

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** October 10, 2024 5:44 PM  
**To:** nicole.friault@cnsccsn.gc.ca; Froess, Ryan; Levine, Adam; 'Luke Moger'; Adam Engdahl; clarkteddy007@gmail.com  
**Subject:** CRDN Letter of Confirmation on NXE- Federal EA Public review  
**Attachments:** 20241010160544522.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Afternoon, Nicole,

Trusting this email finds you doing well, attached is CRDN's letter of confirmation satisfaction on NexGen's CRDN comments submitted as part of the federal EA public review process of the draft EIS.

We welcome additional follow-up requirements should you need on our attached submission, in addition we are looking forward to our meeting with President Trembley and your associates on Nov 06/24 in Ottawa.

Chief Clark expresses his gratitude of appreciation for your colleagues taking the time to coordinate this vital and important meeting.

Have a great and wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.

Sincerely,

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319



September 20, 2024

To Nicole Frigault,  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Dear Nicole,

As a primary community stakeholder, Clearwater River Dene Nation ("CRDN") are pleased to provide this letter confirming that CRDN is satisfied with NexGen's ("NXE") responses to the CRDN comments submitted as part of the federal EA public review process of the Draft EIS. CRDN also would like to state that the collaborative approach and support provided by NXE during CRDN's thorough review of the responses once again shows the true meaning of reconciliation and partnership.

#### **Process of Review**

Prior to and since the time CRDN submitted these comments, NXE and CRDN have regularly held discussions and meetings with respect to the Rook I Project, including topics specific to the federal EA process. Informed by these discussions, NXE provided their responses to our Nation's comments in a succinct table early in 2024. The table allowed our team and subject matter experts to work through the responses provided, with the ability to connect with NXE in the case that we had any queries or comments. Throughout the spring and summer of 2024, following NXE sharing the table, CRDN had frequent correspondence with NXE and multiple meetings, including our Environmental Committee ("EC") meetings. The open and transparent approach of the EC meetings and furthermore our relationship with NXE has proven to be a positive mechanism for the review of NXE's responses. With this approach, the EC will continue to be the mechanism that provides CRDN with a platform to work with NXE on any issues, interests, and concerns for the life of the Rook I Project.

In closing, please take this letter and correspondence confirming that CRDN has reviewed NXE's responses to the CRDN comments submitted as part of the federal EA public review process of the Draft EIS, and CRDN is satisfied with the responses.



Should you require further information on this item and file, please call Camm Willier (CRDN Engagement Lead) at (403) 505-6319, or email him at [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)

Marci cho,



Chief Teddy Clark -- CRDN

cc: Camm Willier  
Council Elect  
CRDN Engagement Team  
NXE Engagement Team  
Ryan Froess - CNSC

---

**From:** Jean Charles, Emmanuelle  
**Sent:** November 22, 2024 12:02 PM  
**To:** clarkteddy007@gmail.com  
**Cc:** cammer7@shaw.ca; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua; Burton, Patrick; Levine, Adam; Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; Moses, Colin  
**Subject:** Letter to Chief Teddy Clark of Clearwater River Dene Nation  
**Attachments:** Letter To Chief Teddy Clark of CRDN.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

2024-11-22

**Delivered via Email**

**Subject:** Letter to Chief Teddy Clark of Clearwater River Dene Nation

Please find attached a letter from C. Moses (CNSC) concerning the subject line above.

Thank you,

**Emmanuelle Jean Charles**

Executive Officer | Agente Administrative Exécutif  
Regulatory Affairs Branch | Direction Général des Affaires Réglementaire  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
| 343-542-7656





November 22, 2024

Chief Teddy Clark  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
P.O. Box 5050  
Clearwater River, Saskatchewan  
S0M 3H0  
Canada  
clarkteddy007@gmail.com

Dear Chief Clark,

On behalf of Pierre Tremblay, President of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), I would like to express our thanks to you and the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) delegation for visiting us in Ottawa on November 6, 2024. You and CRDN representatives are always welcome in CNSC spaces. We both appreciated the opportunity to meet, and to learn more about your Nation's priorities and perspectives.

Further to our subsequent meeting, I would like to thank you and the Nation for your efforts to engage with the CNSC to date on the NexGen Rook 1 Project and other future projects in your traditional and treaty territories. The CNSC is fully committed to continuing to build a strong, collaborative long-term relationship with CRDN on nuclear projects and is committed to ensuring that the regulatory review process is effective, efficient, fair, and held to the highest standards. As discussed in our meeting, the CNSC's role and mandate is to ensure that proposed nuclear projects, including uranium mines and mills, are safe for people and the environment.

**NexGen Rook 1 Project**

The CNSC continues to make progress in advancing the timelines for the NexGen Rook 1 Project. As committed to at our meeting, I would like to provide you with an update on the status of our review and on the expected next steps in our process.

On November 19, CNSC staff confirmed to NexGen that the technical review by the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) was complete. The FIRT found that the information provided by NexGen addresses the regulatory requirements for the environmental assessment (EA). All responses to Information Requests and Advice to the Proponent comments are now deemed as accepted: [Rook 1 Project](#).

NexGen must now submit a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). NexGen is also expected to provide responses to the comments from the public and Indigenous Nations and communities. Once received, CNSC staff will complete their review within 30 days. Assuming CNSC staff deem the final EIS to be acceptable, we will confirm to NexGen that the EIS meets regulatory requirements and notify the CNSC's Commission Registrar of the need to identify hearing dates.

Information on the Commission Hearing process can be found here: <https://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/>.

In addition to the EA, NexGen has also applied for a licence to prepare site and construct their facility. CNSC staff have evaluated NexGen's licence application against the requirements in the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, the *General Nuclear Safety and Control Regulations*, and the *Uranium Mines and Mills Regulations*, among others. CNSC staff have already publicly posted notification that NexGen's application is sufficient for the Commission to commence its review.

The CNSC is fully committed to collaborating with CRDN to ensure that any proposed project in your territory protects your community, territory, rights and interests. To this end, CNSC staff will continue to keep CRDN apprised of the status of progress towards finalizing the EIS and any next steps. In the immediate term, if you have any questions or concerns relating the ongoing environmental assessment for the NexGen Rook 1 Project, please feel to contact Ryan Froess or Nicole Frigault.

I hope this update is useful as you engage with your community on this project. We would also be happy to meet with CRDN leadership and your technical team to provide a full status update on the NexGen Rook 1 Project and next steps.

In closing, I would like to reiterate our commitment to working with CRDN as this project moves forward in the final stages of the regulatory review process, to continue to build our partnership to protect your lands, resources and territory for now and the long-term.

Sincerely,

2024-11-22

 Colin Moses

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Signed by: Moses, Colin  
Colin Moses  
Vice-President, Regulatory Affairs and Chief Communications Officer

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
c.c.: Camm Willier, Council Elect, CRDN  
N. Kwamena, P. Burton, A. Levine, R. Froess, N. Frigault, CNSC

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**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Sent:** November 29, 2024 5:16 PM  
**To:** Moses, Colin; Tremblay, Pierre; Levine, Adam; Froess, Ryan; nicole.friault@cnscccsn.gc.ca; Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca; Burton, Patrick; clarkteddy007@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Fw: Letter to Chief Teddy Clark of Clearwater River Dene Nation  
**Attachments:** CNSC Staff Response to NexGen's Correspondence of January 23 and 24, 2024.pdf; Letter To Chief Teddy Clark of CRDN.pdf; CRDN - CNSC Meeting Follow-up Action - Nov 29-24- Rev final.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Afternoon Colin,

Attached is CRDN's response document signed by Chief Teddy Clark in our quest to forward all areas of attention of securing a collective conclusion towards CNSC regulatory requirements.

In conclusion, our sincere appreciation of thanks is conveyed to your prompt executive group by Chief Clark.

Thank you and have a great weekend everyone.

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319

---

**From:** Jean Charles, Emmanuelle <[emmanuelle.jeancharles@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:emmanuelle.jeancharles@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 22, 2024 9:02 AM  
**To:** [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com) <[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca) <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Moses, Colin <[Colin.Moses@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Colin.Moses@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Letter to Chief Teddy Clark of Clearwater River Dene Nation

2024-11-22

Delivered via Email

**Subject:** Letter to Chief Teddy Clark of Clearwater River Dene Nation

Please find attached a letter from C. Moses (CNSC) concerning the subject line above.

Thank you,

**Emmanuelle Jean Charles**

Executive Officer | Agente Administrative Exécutif

Regulatory Affairs Branch | Direction Général des Affaires Réglementaire

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

| **343-542-7656**



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada





November 29, 2024

To: Colin Moses,  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission ("CNSC")

Dear Colin,

First off, thank you for meeting with our Clearwater River Dene Nation ("CRDN") delegation on November 6, 2024 and following up on our letter and confirming your commitment to engage respectfully with the CRDN as it relates to the Rook I Project ("Project"). Along with our leadership and membership, NexGen Energy ("NexGen") has always collaboratively worked with us and all of the Nations in the area like we've never seen before to create massive positive opportunities in the heart of CRDN's traditional territory.

As noted in your letter dated November 22, 2024, the Federal Indigenous Review Team ("FIRT") concluded the technical review and confirmed publicly that the information provided by NexGen addressed all the regulatory requirements and information requests from the CNSC in order to finalize the Rook I Project Environmental Assessment ("EA"). This is a major milestone for CRDN and its membership as we have been a true partner in the responsible development of the Project and leading the path forward for Canada in the Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action #92. This Project has been fully signed off by all local Indigenous interests for a significant amount of time while the CNSC continuously took longer, with unclear timelines, to complete its reviews.

In your November 22, 2024 letter you noted "NexGen must now submit a final Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS"). NexGen is also expected to provide responses to the comments from the public and Indigenous Nations and communities. Once received, CNSC staff will complete their review within 30 days. Assuming CNSC staff deem the final EIS to be acceptable, we will confirm to NexGen that the EIS meets regulatory requirements and notify the CNSC's Commission Registrar of the need to identify hearing dates."

This statement is of high concern, as a letter we previously received from CNSC Director General Luc Sigouin, dated February 23, 2024 stated, "Discussions on a Commission hearing date can only progress once NexGen has addressed the remaining information requests related to the technical review of the environmental assessment submissions."

P.O. Box 5050, Clearwater River, Saskatchewan, Canada S0M 3H0

Phone 306-822-2021

Fax 306-822-2212

Once NexGen has reached this milestone, a potential Commission hearing date for the Rook I Project will be determined by the Commission Registrar.”

With the CNSC review completed for the final remaining Information Requests (“IRs”), CRDN reiterates the importance for the CNSC to adhere to their commitments regarding the following critical action and directive related to the Rook I Project:

- Set a Commission hearing date immediately, for a date as early in the New Year as achievable for final Federal Project Approval, no later than March 31, 2025.

As discussed during our meetings, establishing a hearing date for the Rook I Project is of paramount importance to the CRDN in allowing us to plan for and maximize the generational opportunities this Project represents for our people. Having a hearing date set in January 2025 is critical for receiving approval to commence construction during the short snow-free and summer season. Not achieving this date would result in potential further material delays in excess of 12 months for our people and we see absolutely no reason why Commission Members cannot make our Nation and this Project a priority and convene early in 2025.

Please provide confirmation of receipt of this letter and how these remaining actions will be addressed by the CNSC as per our expectations.

We eagerly await your response, in anticipation of creating a collective legacy between the CNSC, the community of Clearwater River Dene Nation, and NexGen.

Should you require further information on this item and file, please call Camm Willier (CRDN Engagement Lead) at (403) 505-6319, or email him at [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca).

Marci cho,

---

Chief Teddy Clark – CRDN

cc. Camm Willier  
Council Elect  
Nana Kwamena  
Patrick Burton  
Adam Levine  
Ryan Froess  
Nicole Frigault

**Froess, Ryan**

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**Subject:** RE: Follow-up with CRDN on Next Steps for the NexGen Rook 1 Project

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**From:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 12, 2024 12:04 PM

**To:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)

**Cc:** [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com); Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Pandolfi, Dana <[Dana.Pandolfi@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Dana.Pandolfi@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Follow-up with CRDN on Next Steps for the NexGen Rook 1 Project

Hi Camm! I hope things are going well with you and the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) team. I am writing to provide an update with respect to your discussion earlier in the week with our Vice-President Regulatory Affairs and Chief Communications Officer, Colin Moses.

As you are aware the CNSC is committed to ensuring that the regulatory review process for nuclear projects are effective, efficient, fair, and done to the highest standards. As discussed in our meeting in Ottawa on November 6, 2024, the CNSC's role and mandate is to ensure that all proposed nuclear projects, including uranium mines and mills, are safe for people and the environment. The CNSC continues to advance the timelines for the regulatory review and approvals process for the NexGen Rook 1 Project. As committed to by Colin on your phone call, I would like to provide you with an update on the status of our review and on the expected next steps in our process.

- On November 30, NexGen submitted their Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) package to the CNSC, and staff are now completing their review within 30 days. NexGen has also provided responses to the comments from the public and Indigenous Nations and communities on the EIS. Assuming CNSC staff deem the final EIS to be acceptable, we will confirm to NexGen that the EIS meets regulatory requirements and notify the CNSC's Commission Registrar of the need to identify hearing dates for 2025. This is expected to be completed by December 30, 2024.
- CNSC staff will work with the Registrar to complete an internal process to determine the hearing format, timing, and location in 2025 and once determined, this will be communicated to CRDN.
- A Notice for the Public Hearing will likely be posted in early 2025 that will include details on the timing of the public hearing as well as:
  - a. deadlines for applicants to apply for Participant Funding – likely Winter/Spring 2025
  - b. deadlines for CNSC staff and NexGen to submit their final reports to the Commission – likely Summer 2025
  - c. deadlines for intervenor submissions – likely Fall 2025
  - d. CNSC Hearing timing – likely Fall 2025

The CNSC will need to allow sufficient time for all interested parties including Indigenous Nation and communities and the public to make applications for participant funding, NexGen and CNSC staff to complete

their Commission Member Documents and EA report submissions, and for intervenors to review the information and prepare their submissions along with time for the Commission members to review all of these materials as part of their decision-making process.

We do understand that from CRDN's perspective that the process appears to be lengthy, but it has been developed from numerous years of experience, best practices nationally and internationally, and established procedures and legal requirements, to ensure we have a robust and transparent process that helps ensure the project is safe for people and the environment and to mitigate any further risks to the overall process. CNSC staff will continue to keep CRDN apprised of the status of progress towards finalizing the EIS and next steps to move towards a Commission hearing date.

In closing, CNSC staff would welcome a meeting with CRDN leadership and technical team early in the New Year to provide a full status update on the regulatory review process for the NexGen Rook 1 Project and next steps. CNSC staff are committed to working with CRDN as the project moves forward in the final stages of the regulatory review process to ensure that we continue to build our partnership together.

In the immediate term, if you have any specific questions or concerns relating to the ongoing final EIS 30-day review period for the NexGen Rook 1 Project, please feel to contact Ryan Froess or Nicole Frigault.

**Happy Holidays!**

Adam Levine

Director- Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

613-462-5159



December 19, 2024

To Pierre Tremblay,  
Canadian Nuclear Safety ("CNSC")

Hello Mr Tremblay,

I am following up on the disappointing correspondence received from CNSC Director-Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division - Adam Levine via email to Clearwater River Dene Nation's ("CRDN") Engagement Lead, Camm Willier on December 12, 2025. This correspondence was in reply to a letter I had sent directly to you on November 29, 2024, and subsequently, was respectfully discussed on a call with CNSC Vice-President Regulatory Affairs and Chief Communications Officer, Colin Moses.

After requesting in my letter to you, the conclusion of a Commission Hearing and full approval by March 31, 2025, the email below from Adam is now suggesting Q3 2025 is the expected earliest date for a Commission Hearing, which is of great concern.

I am formally reiterating, the CRDN as a primary Indigenous Nation stakeholder along with the other 3 Indigenous communities completely support the requirement for a robust and transparent process for approvals of projects in our traditional territory as described in your e-mail.

Our Nation is totally satisfied that this has been completed by the CRDN, the Government of Saskatchewan and the CNSC. This is demonstrated by the Provincial Environmental Assessment Approval completed November 2023 and confirmation received last month from the CNSC that the EA technical review requirements had been completed and accepted by the CNSC. Comments submitted as part of the public review process the CNSC conducted in 2022 have also been responded to by NexGen including CRDN comments which were fully reviewed and formally signed off by the CRDN and confirmed in writing to the CNSC in a letter dated September 20, 2024. The Métis Nation Saskatchewan Northern Region 2 also advised the CRDN they have done the same regarding their satisfaction of the responses by NexGen to public comments submitted in November 2024. This is all in addition to Study Agreements signed in 2019 which documented traditional land use and cultural studies of the four communities, followed by Impact Benefit Agreements completed and signed with each community after extensive consultation and community engagement by NexGen on the Project.

P.O. Box 5050, Clearwater River, Saskatchewan, Canada S0M 3H0

Phone 306-822-2021

Fax 306-822-2212

As outlined in my letter to the CNSC on November 29, 2024, conclusion of the Federal Approval process before March 31, 2025 is critical to meeting the summer construction commencement window, otherwise it will result in an additional and unnecessary 12 month delay to mid 2026 to commence site activities. This would be highly detrimental to ours and my neighbouring communities who have invested significantly in time, training and financial resources for the summer 2025 construction start. Given all the consultation, engagement, formalized support and commitment to the Project from all stakeholders and completion of the Provincial Environmental Approval and now Federal EIS technical review completeness, we respectfully request immediate priority and the conclusion of the Commission Hearing and full Federal Approval by March 31, 2025.

Given the 11 years of consultation, studies and engagement with all key stakeholders having formally supported the Project, we see no reason this cannot be achieved in Q1 2025, all while incorporating the highest levels of environmental protection and safety for our people. It seems this is completely achievable and an opportunity for the CNSC to conclude and deliver generational positive outcomes to all peoples involved and impacted.

Please provide confirmation of receipt of this letter and how these remaining actions will be addressed by the CNSC as per our expectations.

Should you require further information on this item and file, please call Camm Willier (CRDN Engagement Lead) at (403) 505-6319, or email him at [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca).

Marci cho,



Chief Teddy Clark – CRDN

cc Camm Willier  
CRDN Council Elect  
Colin Moses  
The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson



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**From:** Levine, Adam  
**Sent:** December 30, 2024 3:47 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; Pandolfi, Dana; Snider, Richard; Beaton, Dana; Cropley, Julia; Sigouin, Luc; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua; Burton, Patrick  
**Subject:** Fw: Follow-up Letter with High Attention Concerns  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FYI

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

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**From:** Tremblay, Pierre <pierre.tremblay@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 30, 2024 2:34:04 PM  
**To:** clarkteddy007@gmail.com <clarkteddy007@gmail.com>; cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
**Cc:** Moses, Colin <Colin.Moses@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; CEO President / PD Président (CNSC/CCSN) <President-CEO@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Crowe, Heather <Heather.Crowe@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up Letter with High Attention Concerns

Dear Chief Clark,

It was a pleasure to meet you when you made the trip to Ottawa in November and thank you for your letter dated December 19. I appreciate you writing to share your concerns.

I understand the urgency and recognize that this is an important undertaking for your Nation. This is an example of Indigenous economic reconciliation that is significant, and I acknowledge the direct impact this project will have on your Nation.

With that said, as Canada's nuclear regulator, it is our mandate to protect the health and safety of persons and protection of the environment. We cannot take short cuts in our regulatory process. It is imperative that this be done right and that we follow our processes to ensure we do not compromise on the protection of your territory today and in the long term.

CRDN is a critical partner in ensuring NexGen exercises the highest level of safety in their activities and upholds their responsibility for the protection of the environment.

I understand that in his letter dated December 12, Mr. Levine outlined the steps in the process and requested a meeting at the working level to go over the process, including reviewing with you the outstanding items from NexGen to complete the EIS. We would like the opportunity to explore these issues together and align on how to move this forward efficiently and with adequate rigour. I encourage you to meet with Mr. Levine so that he can provide additional granularity on the status of the EA/Licensing process for NexGen's Rook 1 project and next steps.

As I expressed during our meeting, I would welcome the opportunity to visit you in 2025 should we be able to coordinate schedules.

Thank you for your continued engagement and collaboration with the CNSC and best wishes for a healthy and peaceful new year.

Pierre,

Pierre F. Tremblay

*(he/him/il)*

President and Chief Executive Officer  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Government of Canada  
[Pierre.Tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Pierre.Tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tel: 343-572-0755

Président et premier dirigeant  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire | Gouvernement du Canada  
[Pierre.Tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Pierre.Tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tel: 343-572-0755

---

**From:** <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 23, 2024 12:03 PM

**To:** Tremblay, Pierre <[pierre.tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pierre.tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Moses, Colin <>; [minister.ministre@NRCan.gc.ca](mailto:minister.ministre@NRCan.gc.ca); Levine, Adam <>

**Subject:** Follow-up Letter with High Attention Concerns

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Dear Mr. Trembley,

I was asked by Chief Clark to forward the following attached letter to you in CRDN's ongoing and exhausting technical participation efforts leading towards the completion and accommodation of CNSC regulatory requirements on the Nexgen - Rook 1 project.

With the outmost sincerity towards your understanding in our community quest in envisioning a "ray of light" in the near future, Thank you kindly.

On behalf of Chief Clark and the CRDN engagement team Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Camm Willier  
CRDN  
Engagement Lead

403-505-6319

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** February 3, 2025 10:18 AM  
**To:** Williamson, Elizabeth; McDonald, Taya  
**Subject:** FW: Summary of Meeting with CRDN- Jan.29, 2025

Can we add this to CRDN NexGen log please.

Ryan

---

**From:** Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 30, 2025 2:04 PM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; sagerich@hotmail.com; clarkteddy007@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Pandolfi, Dana <Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Summary of Meeting with CRDN- Jan.29, 2025

Hi Chief Clark, Camm and Ken! Thank you again for the constructive meeting and discussions yesterday. Here is a summary of our discussion and next steps/actions. Let me know if you have any questions and we look forward to having a follow up meeting next week. Talk soon!

Adam

**Meeting between CRDN and CNSC- Update on the Regulatory Review Process for the Rook 1 Project**

**Date:** January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Location:** Hampton Inn, Saskatoon and virtual

**Participants:**

CRDN- Chief Clark, Camm Willier, Ken Ritch

CNSC- Adam Levine, Nana Kwamena, Nicole Frigault, Dana Pandolfi

**Summary:**

- CNSC staff gave an update on the status of the regulatory review process for the NexGen Rook 1 Project
  - o CNSC staff have accepted NexGen's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as final (week of January 27<sup>th</sup>)
  - o CNSC staff will be requesting that the Commission Registry set a hearing date
  - o The estimated timelines for the first hearing date to be in Q4 2025. The hearing timelines and format are ultimately set by the Commission Registry.
  - o CNSC staff gave an overview of the different reports that CNSC staff need to produce and submit to the Commission and make public (EA Report, Commission Member Document for licensing and a Consultation Report) and the steps that are required to finalize the documents including collaboration with Nations, internal reviews, approvals processes and translation.
  - o CNSC staff gave an overview of the remaining steps and actions CNSC and NexGen need to take on the licensing process including the Financial Guarantee.
- CRDN gave an overview of its priorities for the NexGen project and desire to have the Commission hearing by May 2025 or as soon as possible

- CRDN expressed concerns with the timelines CNSC staff presented for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process and wanted to know why it would take that long
- CRDN asked about what potential solutions could be done to accelerate the timelines including drafting the reports faster, additional staff, translation software etc.
- CNSC staff indicated that the NexGen Rook 1 project review process is a top priority and that we are looking at all possible efficiencies while still ensuring the process is done appropriately and as per legal and procedural requirements
- CRDN expressed an interest in having a meeting as soon as possible with CNSC staff and NexGen to understand what specifically CNSC staff and NexGen need to complete in order to get to a Commission hearing and decision and to see where efficiencies can be gained to move towards a Commission hearing date as soon as possible.
- CNSC staff agreed that a meeting between all parties would be helpful so that everyone is on the same page and we all have a clear understanding of what the remaining actions and steps are for the regulatory review process for the project. CNSC staff also recommended that CRDN and CNSC set up regular monthly meetings to collaborate on the remaining steps of the process including drafting sections of CNSC staff reports that are relevant/specific to CRDN.

**Actions:**

- CNSC staff to coordinate a meeting on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> with CRDN and NexGen (Complete)
- CNSC staff to provide CRDN with a summary list of the remaining actions and steps for both NexGen and CNSC Staff to complete before a hearing can take place
- CNSC staff to set up regular monthly meetings with CRDN representatives (Complete)

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**From:** McKeown, Justin  
**Sent:** February 18, 2025 3:22 PM  
**To:** Boser, Sydney; McDonald, Taya  
**Subject:** FW: Next Steps of Consultation with CRDN - Proposed Rook I Project  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#7460092-v3-2025-02-14-Letter-CNSC\_to\_CRDN\_-\_Next\_steps\_of\_the\_Regulatory\_Process-Rook\_I\_EA.pdf

---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 14, 2025 2:31 PM  
**To:** clarkteddy007@gmail.com  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Pandolfi, Dana <Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Zenobi, Adam <adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; cammer7@shaw.ca  
**Subject:** Next Steps of Consultation with CRDN - Proposed Rook I Project

Dear Chief Clark,

I am sending the attached letter on behalf of the CNSC, outlining proposed next steps of the CNSC's consultation process with Clearwater River Dene Nation for the Rook I regulatory review process.

We look forward to meeting with you again and our continued work together on this file.

Sincerely,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657



CIAR NO.: [80171](#)

e-Doc: 7460092

**February 14, 2025**

Chief Teddy Clark  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Box 5050, La Loche SK  
S0M 3H0  
[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)

**Subject: Proposed Next Steps of Consultation with Clearwater River Dene Nation for the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process for the Proposed Rook I Project**

Dear Chief Clark:

CNSC would like to thank Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) for taking the time to meet with CNSC staff over the past few weeks. We are looking forward to our continued work together on the remaining steps of the regulatory review process for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s (NexGen) proposed Rook I Project (the Project).

### **Current Status of the Process of the federal Environmental Assessment**

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the federal review of NexGen's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concluded, and the Final EIS was accepted by CNSC staff as it meets the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, 2012 (CEAA, 2012). As communicated in CNSC's January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 email to the project distribution list for the project, the documents can be found on the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry \(the Registry\)](#).

CNSC staff have reviewed the responses NexGen provided to comments that were received during the public comment period on the draft EIS in 2023, including those from CRDN. The comments and NexGen's responses are now [available on the Registry](#). CNSC staff have also responded to comments that were applicable to CNSC's oversight and responsibilities and look forward to further discussing these as part of our proposed next steps as described below. CNSC's responses to these comments can also be [found on the Registry](#).

### **Proposed Next Steps of Consultation**

CNSC recognizes that CRDN has provided a letter of support in relation to the Rook I Project. The CNSC wishes to cooperate and collaborate with CRDN throughout the next steps of the regulatory process in way that reflects CRDN's position on the Rook I Project.



CNSC staff will be preparing the following reports and documents to support staff's recommendations to the Commission:

- **An Environmental Assessment (EA) Report** which provides information and analysis to assist the Commission in its determination on whether the proposed project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.
- **A Consultation Report** which will include an assessment of the Project's potential impacts to the Rights and interests of potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and communities as well as recommendations regarding the Duty to Consult and Accommodate and CRDN's perspective and position on their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), as appropriate.
- **A Commission Member Document (CMD)** which presents CNSC staff's findings, recommendations and conclusions from the technical review of NexGen's licence application and supporting documentation.

Building on the ongoing consultation, relationship building, and engagement that began in 2019 between CRDN and CNSC in relation to the Project, CNSC staff propose the following approach and next steps.

CNSC staff are interested in collaborating with CRDN to ensure that CRDN's perspectives, issues and concerns, Indigenous Knowledge and Land use information, potential impacts of the proposed Project on CRDN's rights, CRDN's position and priorities related to the NexGen Rook 1 project and other topics of interest to CRDN are properly reflected in CNSC staff's reports and recommendations. This would involve CNSC staff developing the content as a first step based on information that CRDN has submitted and provided to date to the CNSC and NexGen and then providing the draft content for review and comment. CNSC staff will be providing detailed timelines on the remainder of the regulatory process once a Commission hearing date has been identified by the Commission Registry.

Funding through CNSC's Participant Funding Program (PFP) will be available to support the review of CNSC's reports and consultation and engagement with the CNSC, as well as to support the preparation of a written intervention to submit to the Commission and participation in the Commission's hearing process through an oral intervention.

CNSC staff are committed to continued collaboration with CRDN to ensure that the consultation for the Project is meaningful, addresses CRDN's concerns, protects your Nation's rights and interests, and upholds the Honour of the Crown. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any matters related to the regulatory review process of the Project, please contact:

- Nicole Frigault, Environmental Review Officer, Rook I EA Lead  
Email: [nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)
- Justin McKeown, Team Leader Western and Northern Regions, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Email: [justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

Please provide any feedback on the next steps in the regulatory review process for the proposed Rook I Project by **March 14, 2025 or we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss.**

The CNSC looks forward to continuing to build a long-term relationship with CRDN and working together throughout the regulatory review process for the proposed Rook I Project.

Yours sincerely,



Nana-Owusua Kwamena  
Director  
Environmental Review Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



Adam Levine  
Director  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

c.c./c.c. : CNSC: J. McKeown, P. Burton, N. Frigault, R. Froess, D. Pandolfi, A. Zenobi  
CRDN: C. Willier

#### References:

- [1] CNSC, Regulatory Guide, *REGDOC- 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement*, Version 1.2, August 2022, [REGDOC-3.2.2, Indigenous Engagement, Version 1.2](#)
- [2] CNSC, *Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement*, May 2016, <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng>

## **CRDN – CNSC monthly meeting – by transcription and AI notes**

**April 23, 2025 at 1:30 CST**

### **Attendees:**

**CRDN – Matthew General, Camm Willier**

**CNSC – Nicole Frigault, Justin McKeown, Hilary Hunter**

### **Meeting notes:**

- **EA Report Drafting:** Nicole updated the team on the progress of drafting the Environmental Assessment (EA) report and the Commission Member document. She mentioned that the report is partially written and is awaiting input from subject matter experts on various valued components. The team plans to share portions of the document with CRDN for review next month.
  - **Drafting Progress:** Nicole informed the team that the EA report and Commission Member document are in the drafting phase. The report is partially written, and input from subject matter experts on various valued components is awaited. The team expects to receive these inputs next month, after which portions of the document will be shared with CRDN for review.
  - **Subject Matter Experts:** Nicole highlighted that the completion of the EA report is dependent on the contributions from subject matter experts. These experts are working on different areas of valued components, and their input is crucial for the report's progress. The team is managing multiple projects simultaneously, which sometimes leads to delays due to limited availability of experts.
  - **CRDN Review:** Nicole mentioned that once the subject matter experts' inputs are received, the team will share relevant portions of the EA report with CRDN. This is to ensure that CRDN's concerns and comments are accurately captured in the report. The team aims to have the report in good shape by next month for CRDN's review.
- **Issues and Concerns Table:** Nicole and Justin discussed the creation of an issues and concerns table that captures CRDN's comments and concerns from the draft EIS. The table will include how Next Gen has proposed to resolve these concerns through commitments and mitigation measures. The table will be shared with CRDN for review.
  - **Table Creation:** Nicole and Justin explained that an issues and concerns table is being created to capture CRDN's comments and concerns from the draft EIS. This table will document how Next Gen has proposed to resolve these concerns through commitments and mitigation measures.
  - **Resolution Documentation:** The table will include detailed documentation of Next Gen's proposed resolutions for each concern raised by CRDN. This includes

commitments made by Next Gen and the mitigation measures they plan to implement to address the concerns.

- **CRDN Review:** Nicole and Justin emphasized that the issues and concerns table will be shared with CRDN for review. CRDN will have the opportunity to verify that their concerns have been accurately captured and addressed in the table.
- **Caribou Mitigation Offset Plan:** Nicole provided an update on the Caribou mitigation offset plan, stating that Next Gen must have a provincially and federally approved plan. She mentioned that the federal strategy requires more stringent offset measures compared to the provincial strategy. The team is working to ensure alignment between provincial and federal requirements before the hearing.
  - **Plan Approval:** Nicole stated that Next Gen must have a provincially and federally approved Caribou mitigation offset plan. The provincial approval has been obtained, but federal approval is still pending due to more stringent requirements.
  - **Federal Requirements:** Nicole explained that the federal strategy for Caribou mitigation requires more stringent offset measures compared to the provincial strategy. This includes larger offset areas and more comprehensive mitigation efforts.
  - **Alignment Efforts:** The team is actively working to ensure alignment between provincial and federal requirements for the Caribou mitigation offset plan. Senior officials from Canadian Wildlife Service and provincial Caribou experts are involved in discussions to resolve any discrepancies.
  - **Next Gen's Role:** Nicole mentioned that Next Gen is consulting with CRDN on the Caribou mitigation offset plan. CRDN's input is being considered to ensure that the plan meets both provincial and federal requirements and addresses the concerns of land users.
- **Consultation Report:** Justin explained the components of the consultation report, which will include individual tables per nation outlining correspondence and engagement outcomes. The report will also capture views expressed by consulted nations and tie them to the environmental effects review reports. CRDN will be given the opportunity to review and ensure accuracy.
  - **Report Components:** Justin detailed the components of the consultation report, which will include individual tables per nation. These tables will outline the correspondence and engagement outcomes with each nation.
  - **Views Expressed:** The consultation report will capture the views expressed by consulted nations and tie them to the environmental effects review reports. This ensures that the concerns and comments of each nation are accurately reflected in the report.

- **CRDN Review:** CRDN will be given the opportunity to review the consultation report to ensure that their views and concerns have been accurately captured. This review process is iterative and aims to achieve alignment on the documented outcomes.
- **Rights Impact Assessment:** Justin elaborated on the rights impact assessment process, which will be appended before the Part 2 hearing. The assessment will capture CRDN's main issues and concerns and tie them to the narrative-based assessment of how their rights are being impacted. The process will involve back-and-forth consultation to ensure accuracy and address any additional mitigations proposed by CRDN.
  - **Assessment Process:** Justin explained that the rights impact assessment process will be appended before the Part 2 hearing. This assessment will capture CRDN's main issues and concerns and tie them to a narrative-based assessment of how their rights are being impacted.
  - **Consultation:** The rights impact assessment process will involve back-and-forth consultation with CRDN to ensure accuracy. This iterative process aims to address any additional mitigations proposed by CRDN and achieve alignment on the documented impacts.
  - **Timeline:** Justin mentioned that the rights impact assessment process will be conducted over the summer into the fall, allowing sufficient time for thorough consultation and review before the Part 2 hearing.
- **Tri-Party Meeting:** Camm suggested the possibility of a tri-party meeting involving CRDN, Next Gen, and CNSC to review the issues and concerns table together. Nicole and Justin agreed that such a meeting could be beneficial if there are sticking points or areas that require collective discussion and resolution.
  - **Meeting Proposal:** Camm proposed a tri-party meeting involving CRDN, Next Gen, and CNSC to collectively review the issues and concerns table. This meeting aims to address any sticking points or areas requiring collective discussion and resolution.
  - **Agreement:** Nicole and Justin agreed that a tri-party meeting could be beneficial. They suggested that such meetings be held if there are specific issues that need to be worked through collectively.
- **Environmental Partner Involvement:** Camm proposed inviting a representative from CRDN's environmental partner to join future meetings, as they have a firm understanding of the Northwest region and industry-related technical areas. Nicole agreed that the meetings are open to whoever CRDN would like to attend.
  - **Partner Proposal:** Camm proposed inviting a representative from CRDN's environmental partner to join future meetings. This representative has a firm understanding of the Northwest region and industry-related technical areas.

- **Meeting Inclusion:** Nicole agreed that the meetings are open to whoever CRDN would like to attend. She welcomed the inclusion of CRDN's environmental partner in future discussions.
- **Next Steps:** Nicole mentioned that the team is on track with their project plans and will be sharing information with CRDN for review in May. She also confirmed that future meetings can be scheduled more frequently or as needed.
  - **Project Plans:** Nicole confirmed that the team is on track with their project plans. They have detailed timelines and review schedules to ensure timely completion of tasks.
  - **Information Sharing:** Nicole mentioned that the team will be sharing information with CRDN for review in May. This includes portions of the EA report and other relevant documents.
  - **Meeting Frequency:** Nicole confirmed that future meetings can be scheduled more frequently or as needed. This flexibility aims to accommodate CRDN's review process and ensure timely communication.

**Follow-up tasks:**

- **EA Report Draft:** Share portions of the EA report with CRDN for review to ensure accurate capture of their concerns. (Nicole)
- **Caribou Mitigation Plan:** Update CRDN on the status of the Caribou mitigation offset plan and ensure alignment with both provincial and federal requirements. (Nicole)
- **Issues and Concerns Table:** Send the draft of the issues and concerns table to CRDN for review and feedback. (Justin)
- **Tri-Party Meeting:** Organize a Tri-Party meeting with Next Gen and CRDN to review the issues and concerns table and discuss how Next Gen has addressed CRDN's concerns. (Nicole)
- **Environmental Partner Involvement:** Invite CRDN's environmental partner to future meetings to address technical areas and ensure comprehensive understanding. (Camm)
- **Communication with Adam and Levine:** Reach out to Adam and Levine to give them a heads up on the ongoing discussions and updates. (Camm)
- **Monthly Updates:** Continue monthly meetings to keep CRDN updated on the progress and ensure alignment on all aspects of the project. (Nicole)
- **Review of Shared Documents:** Review the shared documents from CNSC and provide feedback on any missing or incorrect information. (CRDN)



**From:** [Hunter, Hilary](#)  
**To:** [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com); [sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com); [Frigault, Nicole](#); [McKeown, Justin](#);  
**Subject:** CNSC & CRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** [CRDN Consultation Report - Section 4.1 - For Review.docx](#); [CRDN\\_-\\_Rook\\_I\\_Environmental\\_Assessment\\_Report\\_-\\_Views\\_Expressed.docx](#);  
**Sent:** 2025-06-02 1:49:00 PM

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Good morning Chief Clark,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.1 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with CRDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on CRDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by CRDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without CRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

**June 19, 2025**

**CRDN-CNSC Monthly Meeting**

**Meeting Participants:**

CRDN: Camm Willier, Matthew General

CNSC: Nicole Frigault, Hilary Hunter

**1. CRDN update:**

- CRDN has been continuing to meet with NexGen to discuss the status of the ongoing commitments as outlined in the Impact Benefit Agreement between CRDN and NexGen
- CRDN wants to continue to stress the importance of maintaining the Rights and Title commitments from industry /proponent
- There is still a lot of mistrust within the CRDN community members when it comes to nuclear as the only experience they have is with Cluff Lake and they want to ensure that the same thing won't happen with these new developments
- Members of CRDN use the Patterson Lake watershed and surrounding area for hunting/fishing/gathering/cultural use right up to the area of Cluff Lake
- CRDN also mentioned that they are engaged in other things such as exploration and ensuring environmental commitments and economic measure commitments and ways to build revenue source back to the community
- CRDN has an upcoming election taking place on July 3, 2025

**2. CNSC Update:**

- CNSC staff followed up with CRDN on the information that CNSC shared with CRDN via e-mail on June 2, 2025, and asked if CRDN had any questions and if they are on target to meet the June 27, 2025 deadline to get back to CNSC with any comments
  - CRDN confirmed that they are on pace to get back to CNSC on June 27, 2025
  - CNSC to re-send the documents to CRDN - Complete

**3. Other Topics Discussed:**

- CRDN asked CNSC staff if we have additional details on how much time CRDN will have to present at the Part 2 public hearing and the set up for the day
  - CNSC staff indicated that we do not have a set agenda at this time however there is normally a separate day set aside for Indigenous Nations and Communities to ensure there is an extended period of time for Nations to present and to answer questions from the Commission to ensure the Commission has all of the information that they need in making a decision
  - CNSC will reach out to the CNSC Registrar to discuss options for the Part 2 CRDN presentation / intervention
- CRDN asked questions about how Commitments are tracked if and when a licence is granted. CNSC staff explained how the Commitments Report becomes a condition in the Licence Conditions Handbook and therefore all commitments made to Indigenous Nations and communities are tracked in the CNSC tracking system. In addition, a new condition is being introduced for all projects moving forward that will require annual reporting by the licensee to the CNSC on engagement activities including status/progress updates on commitments made to Nations.

- CRDN asked when the decisions on PFP for the Rook 1 Project would be announced
  - CNSC staff indicated that the Funding Review Committee met yesterday therefore decisions should be announced in the next few weeks
- CRDN informed CNSC staff that they will be applying to the CNSC Stream 1 capacity funding for a land use relationship planning study

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**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** June 27, 2025 2:58 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin  
**Cc:** Camm Willier; Teddy Clark  
**Subject:** CRDN Comments on Draft Documents  
**Attachments:** CRDN\_CNSC\_response\_Consultation Report and EIS review - June 27-25.pdf; CRDN Consultation Report - Section 4.1 - For Review (1).docx; CRDN\_-\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_-\_Views\_Expressed (1).docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon Hilary and fellow CNSC colleagues.

I have been asked to provide you with the attached document (and attachments) by the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) in response to your communication of June 2, 2025 where you request input/comments on draft sections of the CNSC Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports.

With thanks.

Matt General  
for Cam Willier: Clearwater River Dene Nation Engagement Lead



June 27, 2025

Hilary Hunter

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

Dear Hilary H

In response to your email sent on June 2, 2025, regarding CNSC & CRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs please see below.

On behalf of the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN), I am acknowledging receipt of your email and attachments, which present partial information from the Consultation Report and Environmental Assessment (EA) Report drafted by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for the Rook I Project (Project).

CRDN understands that the CNSC request is for us to review the attached documentation and either verify the information as accurate or provide comments where information may be misrepresented, missing, or inaccurate. As stated in your e-mail, these documents provide only text drafted by the CNSC Staff as it relates to the CRDN with only a general summary provided of what the rest of the reports will contain.

While we understand that the Consultation Report and EA Report represent summaries of CRDN involvement in the EA process, it is unclear why CRDN is only receiving partially completed reports and not the fully drafted reports for review. Also, the CRDN has been fully signed off on all aspects of the CNSC EA review since early last year and the information in your attachments appears to be summarized from documents available to CNSC staff before and since that time. It is confusing as to why these documents are only being provided now, particularly in light of CRDN's repeated requests that all matters related to the Rook I Project be expedited and repeated assurance from CNSC staff that they were.

Overall, based on the level of detail presented in the attached documents we do not feel that there is sufficient context provided for the CRDN to fully address the CNSC's request however we welcome this opportunity assist the CNSC in completing their reports by restating some key aspects important to the CRDN as well as provide general feedback on the accuracy of the content of the documents. We provide this feedback for CNSC staff to consider with CRDN overall primary interest remaining in the expedient completion of all activities required by the CNSC for the Rook I Project to commence construction including the finalization of these CNSC staff reports.

P.O. Box 5050, Clearwater River, Saskatchewan, Canada S0M 3H0

Phone 306-822-2021 Fax 306-822-2212

CMD 25-H12.B-C1- Page 0305

## General Comments

As primary community stakeholders and stewards of the lands/environment enriching ground truth culture and practices, CRDN leadership, local cabin owners', and occupancy users of CRDN membership all support the Rook I Project, which represents a generational opportunity for CRDN members while also protecting the environment for traditional purposes. In this regard, the CRDN's primary interest is the expedient approval of the Rook I Project for the benefit of the CRDN.

Our position regarding the Rook I Project is that fulsome engagement has occurred through the engagement partnership and protocols established between CRDN and NexGen, sufficient engagement for the purposes of the EA has occurred between the CRDN and the CNSC, and that all issues and concerns raised by the CRDN to date regarding the Rook I Project EA have been addressed by NexGen. This has included the CRDN working with NexGen to address all requirements of the CNSC EA process, including the CRDN having endorsed the Rook I Project Environmental Impact Statement, signed off on NexGen's responses to all comments provided by the CRDN as part of the CNSC public review and Federal Indigenous Review Team processes and validating that all issues and concerns have been addressed by NexGen.

Moving forward, we are confident that the mechanisms in place between CRDN and NexGen, including those established through the execution of the Impact Benefit Agreement between the parties, provide the necessary protocols to meaningfully address any future Rook I Project issues and concerns as they relate to the EA and as they arise.

## EA Report

- While we understand this document to represent a summary from CNSC staff, without source references we are unclear where certain information describing CRDN concerns in the EA Report specifically came from.
  - CRDN Comment: Documentation within the Rook I Project Environmental Impact Statement (which the CRDN has fully and formally endorsed) including specific information related to CRDN issues and concerns, represents the CRDN points of truth. As documented in the Rook I Project Environmental Impact Statement CRDN undertook a collaborative process with NexGen to confirm, review, and validate these issues and concerns and respective accommodations and mitigations during the EA process.
- While we understand that historical context is important to present within the EA Report, we note that the CRDN views on the predicted changes to the environment primarily focuses on past concerns raised by our community members (for example issues associated with Cluff Lake) with very little discussion regarding the CRDN's views on NexGen and the Project specifically.
  - CRDN Comment: We feel that better balance is required, with the primary focus being towards the Rook I Project and recognizing that steps have been taken between the CRDN and NexGen to ensure that the Project remains safe to people and the environment. For example, following each entry in the CNSC draft we feel it is important that a statement be added recognizing that CRDN and NexGen have worked collaboratively to address any issues and concerns raised and that CRDN are confident that the mechanisms in place between the CRDN and NexGen, including those established through the execution of the Impact Benefit Agreement between the parties, provide the necessary protocols to meaningfully address future Project issues and concerns as they arise.
  - Specific examples: the Indigenous Land Use section of the report makes reference in the first paragraph to "CRDN concerns" regarding exploration activities in a general sense. CRDN confirms that this context is not relevant to activities undertaken by NexGen and that CRDN have been fully engaging on and supportive



of all exploration activities undertaken which have been conducted in a manner that reflects CRDN expectations and demonstrates a new standard for Nation and industry collaboration on consultation and partnership. CRDN feel that this differentiation should be recognized in the EA Report. The same would apply to text currently included in the last sentence of the section on Landscape Fragmentation in the Increased Access section and in the Cumulative Impacts of mining projects section.

- Specific example: in the Community Health and Socio-Economic section the first sentence is not accurate. There has been no documented rise in cancer cases within the community and CRDN feels this needs to be corrected accordingly. This statement was made in respect to historic approvals from provincial and federal regulatory bodies with respect to the Cluff Lake mine and the impacts of these activities on Nation members and is not relevant to the Rook I Project. The Rook I Project has its own processes between CRDN and NexGen under the Impact Benefit Agreement to monitor the health and wellbeing of CRDN members including through conducting studies as required.

### Consultation Report

Similar to the EA Report, information in the Consultation Report is highly generalized, which makes it challenging for us to verify that the information represents an accurate representation of consultation with the CRDN completed by the CNSC.

- CRDN Comment: While we understand that the Consultation Report summarizes CRDN involvement in the EA process we feel it is important to highlight that the CRDN had significant Indigenous Knowledge contributions that were shared and collaboratively discussed with NexGen and are presented within the Rook I Project Environmental Impact Statement.
- CRDN Comment: A key issue that remains for the CRDN is CNSC staff and the Commission being able to adhere to expected and communicated timelines and the overall expediting of Rook I Project approvals.

I trust that the above will be of assistance to CNSC staff in finalizing your reports.

The CRDN notes that there is a reference in the EA Report to work on a CRDN-specific Rights Impact Assessment and work to be conducted in advance of the Part-2 hearing. CRDN are unclear on the requirements for any additional work required with the CNSC for approval of the Rook I Project and looks forward to resolving this item with the CNSC as a matter of priority. As the CNSC are aware CRDN has entered into an Impact Benefit Agreement with NexGen with respect to the Rook I Project. This Agreement has been developed and negotiated to define the environmental, cultural, economic, training, employment, business opportunities, and other benefits to be provided to the CRDN by NexGen and has been entered into in “recognition” of CRDN’s Rights and title holders. This Agreement sets out the agreed upon mechanisms between NexGen and the CRDN to work together throughout the lifecycle of the Project.

Yours truly:



(M. General for) Camm Willier  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Engagement Lead

Cc: Chief Teddy Clark  
Matt General – CRDN Consultant  
Ken Rich – CRDN Consultant  
Nicole Frigault – CNSC, Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Justin McKeown – CNSC, Team Leader, Western & Northern Regions I, Indigenous  
Consultation and Engagement Division

Attch.

## **4.1 Consultation Activities with Clearwater River Dene Nation**

### **4.1.1 Background on Clearwater River Dene Nation**



**Figure 15. Clearwater River Dene Nation logo**

Clearwater River Dene (CRDN) Nation is a Treaty 8 signatory, and their reserve lands are also the closest in proximity to the Rook 1 Project. CRDN has a long-established presence in north-western Saskatchewan and northeastern Alberta. CRDN is a Dene speaking community. As of April 2025, there were 3,248 registered members with 1,162 members living on-reserve and 2,036 members living off-reserve. CRDN is also represented by Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

In their own words:

“CRDN people's way of life depended on the availability of and access to preferred lands, waters and natural resources of sufficient quality and quantity to maintain the traditional seasonal harvesting cycles. CRDN's way of life also depended on the ability to pass knowledge about the traditional seasonal harvesting cycle, traditional hunting, trapping, fishing, and gathering practices and spiritual as well ceremonial beliefs and practices to successive generations. The knowledge of CRDN's way of life was passed to successive generations orally, through cultural and spiritual practices, and through participation in traditional hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering practices which depended on the availability of and access to preferred lands, waters and natural resources. Our community members continue to actively exercise these treaty rights through our Traditional Territory. To this day, our families depend on our ancient lands for a range of cultural, sustenance, livelihood, spiritual and socio-economic purposes. Our ability to depend and rely on our lands is still critical to our community. Our families generally face high levels of unemployment and must continue to depend on the land to put food on the table. Any impact, disruption or diminution of our community's ability to rely on our wildlife, fish, berries, plants, forests and water resources can result in serious impacts and ramifications.”

The Rook 1 Project is located within Treaty 8 and the traditional territory of CRDN (Figure 6). The Project is located approximately 120km from the main Clearwater reserve, near La Loche, Saskatchewan, and CRDN maintains that it is the most directly impacted First Nation in relation to the proposed Project. NexGen has been engaging with CRDN since May 2014.

### **4.1.2 CNSC's Consultation Activities with Clearwater River Dene Nation**

Since beginning the regulatory review process for the Project in 2019, CNSC staff have consulted and engaged with CRDN to keep the community informed of the Project and provided ongoing opportunities to meet and discuss any issues or concerns related to it. CNSC staff offered to develop both a Terms of Reference (TOR) for long-term engagement and a project-specific TOR with CRDN. A project-specific TOR was signed in November 2021 to support a mutually agreeable approach to consultation, collaboration on the regulatory review process, and working together to understand the potential impacts of the proposed Project on CRDN's rights and interests. The TOR included opportunities for CRDN's participation in the consultation process, including their technical review of the draft EIS, reviews of responses to information requests, participation in the Federal, Provincial, Indigenous Review Team (FIRT), collaboration on drafting relevant sections of CNSC staff's reports, and collaborating on a CRDN-specific Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) process.

CNSC staff remain open to and interested in developing a TOR for long-term engagement that outlines how the CNSC and CRDN can continue engaging and collaborating on ongoing communication, oversight, monitoring and reporting with regards to this Project and other nuclear projects in their territory. Since 2019, the CNSC and CRDN have been committed to a monthly meeting schedule to discuss the Project, working together to understand, assess and address the concerns that CRDN has raised about the Project. .

In October 2021 with funding support from NexGen, CRDN completed a *Clearwater River Dene Nation Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey Related to the Proposed NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project in the Patterson Lake Area* and shared it with NexGen and the CNSC. NexGen included the study results in the draft and final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). CNSC staff have collaborated with CRDN in reflecting and including information from the study to support CNSC staff's review of the NexGen EIS, as well as drafting CNSC reports, assessments, and recommendations to the Commission. CNSC staff drafted a What We Heard Report (WWHR) based on the study and shared it with CRDN for review and accuracy.



CNSC and CRDN have had ongoing discussions to address project-specific concerns and potential impacts to their Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights. CRDN has previously expressed concerns in relation to technical elements of the project and those concerns are summarized in the Appendix \_\_\_ Issues Tracking Table.

CNSC staff have worked with CRDN and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions, and comments, and CRDN has concluded that they are satisfied with NexGen's consultation process to date. In April 2022, NexGen and CRDN signed an [Impact Benefit Agreement \(IBA\)](#) which addresses the interests of the Nation as well as the concerns and priorities of CRDN in relation to the Project. CRDN sent a letter of support for the Project to the CNSC which stated their consent for the Project to proceed. Since receiving CRDN's letter of consent and support for the

Project, the CNSC has been working and meeting with CRDN to address questions and concerns about the remaining steps, timelines, and requirements to complete the regulatory review process and finalize CNSC staff's recommendations to the Commission. The CNSC and CRDN have also continued to meet monthly to collaborate on drafting content for the CNSC staff's Consultation Report, to ensure that information specific to CRDN, their rights, knowledge, concerns and perspectives are captured accurately.

Key correspondence related to the consultation activities listed below can be found in Appendix —.

**Table 6 Summary of the key consultation activities with Clearwater River Dene Nation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Consultation Activity</b>
April 2019 – June 2019	<p>CNSC staff sent CRDN an email and letter to provide notice that the CNSC had received an application for the Project. The letter outlined CNSC's licensing and EA processes and opportunities for CRDN participation, including funding opportunities.</p> <p>CNSC staff reminded CRDN about the 30-day public comment period on the Project description.</p>
July 2019 – December 2019	CNSC staff and CRDN met in person in Saskatoon to discuss their working relationship and the consultation process, including CRDN's expectations for consultation on the Project, the Cluff Lake renewal decision, and strategies for the CNSC and CRDN to build a meaningful long-term relationship.
January 2020 – June 2020	CNSC staff met with CRDN to discuss concerns on legacy uranium mining and CRDN's participation in the NexGen regulatory process. CRDN and CNSC staff discussed the consultation and engagement process for the Project. As a follow-up to the meetings, CNSC staff sent a draft Consultation TOR outlining the relationship between the CNSC and CRDN on the Project. CNSC staff also sent a funding application to support the development of a TOR and CRDN-specific RIA process.
July 2020 – December 2020	CNSC staff met with CRDN to provide updates on the Project EA process, discuss the status of the TOR for consultation, and receive updates on CRDN's engagement with proponents. CNSC



	<p>staff and CRDN discussed plans for future meetings on the EA and RIA process.</p>
January 2021 – June 2021	<p>CNSC awarded funding to CRDN to support their review of the draft EIS.</p> <p>CNSC staff and CRDN continued to meet to tailor the draft TOR based on CRDN’s feedback and discussed the best way to consult and engage with CRDN on the Project. Options to set up monthly meetings with a working group to implement the TOR were also discussed.</p> <p>CRDN had an election and paused engagement until the end of July so that the new Council could be briefed. CNSC responded by indicating a willingness to meet and discuss the Project when CRDN indicated it was ready to resume engagement.</p>
July 2021 – December 2021	<p>CNSC staff and CRDN re-initiated monthly meetings, which included reconvening work on finalizing the draft TOR. CNSC staff and CRDN finalized and signed the TOR. Both discussed plans for a January meeting to outline next steps for the RIA process.</p>
January 2022 – June 2022	<p>CNSC staff and CRDN continued to meet monthly when possible, including meeting in-person meeting in Saskatoon, to discuss updates and next steps on the Project. CRDN was invited to participate in the FIRT for the technical review of the draft EIS. CNSC staff explained the purpose and composition of the FIRT, as well as CRDN’s anticipated role in the process. CRDN agreed to participate in the FIRT.</p> <p>CRDN provided their Indigenous Knowledge and Rights Study ‘<i>Clearwater River Dene Nation Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey Related to the Proposed NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project in the Patterson Lake Area</i>’ to CNSC staff and confirmed the confidentiality of the study. CNSC staff developed a What We Heard Report, which was shared with CRDN for feedback to ensure accuracy of the IKRS.</p>

	<p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session and met with CRDN leadership in La Loche to discuss CRDN's concerns about the Project.</p>
<p>July 2022 – December 2022</p>	<p>CNSC staff and CRDN continued to meet to provide updates on the technical review of the EIS. CRDN participated as a member for the FIRT by reviewing the EIS and providing comments.</p> <p>CNSC staff and CRDN discussed the review of the proposed NexGen airstrip at a hybrid meeting in Saskatoon.</p> <p>CNSC staff and CRDN met in person in Saskatoon to discuss the outcome of the EIS review and CRDN's issues and concerns outlined in the EIS. CRDN noted that outstanding concerns included road conditions, migratory birds, and socio-economic challenges.</p> <p>CRDN provided CNSC Staff with a letter of support as part of the formal federal draft EIS public review for the Project. This letter emphasized the strong engagement provided by NexGen on the Project, including funding the IRKS and consulting CRDN throughout the process and signing an IBA.</p>
<p>January 2023 – June 2023</p>	<p>CNSC staff participated in the NexGen-led Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour, which included attending the Clearwater River Dene Nation Treaty Days in Clearwater River, SK.</p>
<p>July 2023 – December 2023</p>	<p>CNSC staff and CRDN communicated about re-starting monthly meetings. CRDN was provided funding for a Community Liaison Officer to work with the CNSC on this and other projects through the CNSC's Capacity Fund.</p> <p>In July 2023, CRDN provided CNSC staff with a letter indicating that all CRDN EIS information requests had been addressed in a manner acceptable to the CRDN community.</p> <p>In October 2023, CRDN provided CNSC staff with a letter of support that highlighted NexGen's and CRDN's positive relationship and the signing of an IBA. CNSC staff acknowledged</p>

	<p>receipt of the letter and outlined next steps for the EA and regulatory review process.</p> <p>In December 2023, CRDN provided CNSC staff with a letter confirming CRDN's acceptance of NexGen's responses to CRDN's FIRT information requests.</p>
January 2024 – June 2024	<p>CRDN and CNSC staff met in person in Saskatoon to discuss NexGen's most recent submission of the EIS. CNSC staff discussed additional opportunities for CRDN's participation, including collaborating on a CRDN-specific RIA and sections of CNSC staff's Indigenous Consultation Report and the EA report.</p> <p>CRDN provided CNSC staff with a letter of support that emphasized CRDN and NexGen's meaningful relationship, their IBA and their desire for the project to be approved as soon as possible.</p>
July 2024 – December 2024	<p>CNSC staff reached out to CRDN to hold a community outreach event.</p> <p>CRDN provided CNSC staff with a letter that confirms that CRDN is satisfied with NexGen's responses to the CRDN comments submitted as part of the federal EA public review process. CRDN also emphasized the collaborative approach that NexGen championed and their desire for the project to be approved as soon as possible.</p> <p>CNSC staff met with CRDN and NexGen in Ottawa to discuss the status of the regulatory review process and CRDN's desire for the process to be expedited and the project approved. The CNSC provided a letter thanking CRDN for engaging with the CNSC on the Project. The letter provided updates and next steps for the Project, as well.</p> <p>CRDN sent additional letters to the CNSC highlighting their concerns about next steps and reiterating the importance of setting a Commission hearing date and approving the project imminently.</p>

January 2025 – June 2025	<p>CNSC staff and CRDN met in person in Saskatoon to provide an update on the status of the regulatory review process for the Project. CNSC staff provided an overview of the remaining steps, reports, and outstanding technical items for NexGen to address before CNSC staff could finalize its recommendations to the Commission. CNSC staff noted that the final EIS had been accepted, and that staff would work with the Commission Registry to recommend a hearing date. CNSC staff provided an overview of the key reports that staff need to produce to support the Commission hearing process, including developing the EA report, Commission Member Document, and the Consultation Report. CRDN expressed concerns about timelines and emphasized the need for the hearing to take place as soon as possible.</p> <p>CNSC staff sent an email and letter with proposed next steps for consultation and engagement with CRDN for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process for the proposed Project. This letter included updates on the acceptance of the final EIS, as well as next steps for developing the EA report, Consultation Report, and Commission Member Document.</p>
July 2025 – December 2025	TBD.

#### 4.1.2 Key issues and concerns raised by Clearwater River Dene Nation

The key issues and concerns specific to the Project that CRDN has raised to date are summarized below. CRDN raised these concerns in their November 2022 submission on the draft EIS, as well as during consultation activities with the CNSC. The detailed issues tracking table for CRDN can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_. The specific row discussing these issues can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ and is listed beside each bullet. Please refer to this row in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ for additional context regarding the issue, CNSC staff's response and the issue's current status.

1. Concerns around Treaty Rights and Governance including:

a. CRDN emphasizes the importance of holding the government accountable for upholding treaty promises and obligations.

b. CRDN seeks active involvement in the co-development of management plans and expects to provide ongoing advice to the licensee and government.

2. Concerns around Stewardship and Sacred Responsibility that there is a deeply held belief that CRDN has a sacred obligation to protect and care for the land for future generations.

3. Concerns about Cumulative Effects and Monitoring based on:

a. Concerns about the transparency and reliability of Cumulative Effects assessment including understanding the methodologies used, and lack of trust in the predicted outcomes.

b. A call from CRDN for co-developing a regional monitoring body with First Nations to manage cumulative effects, conduct ongoing monitoring, and recommend adaptive management techniques.

4. Concerns about social and cultural impacts of the proposed project around the following topics:

a. Fears of being displaced and reduced safety on the land, potentially leading to a decline in traditional harvesting.

b. Loss of traditional knowledge, stories, and practices.

c. Continued avoidance of historically impacted areas, such as legacy mines sites.

d. Threats to Denesuline identity, heritage and cultural practices

e. The importance of harvesting and processing traditional foods for family sustenance.

f. Psychosocial impacts on CRDN members due to project-related changes.

5. Environmental and Wildlife Concerns including:

a. Potential degradation of wildlife and fish habitats from construction and operations.

b. Anticipated worsening of habitat destruction and species decline with uranium extraction.

c. Specific concerns about moose populations and habitat.

d. Risks of water contamination in Patterson Lake and the Clearwater River watershed, which are vital to Denesuline identity.

- e. Safety concerns regarding underground tailings.
  - f. Concerns about radionuclides and conventional drilling toxins contaminating Patterson Lake and flowing downstream.
  - f. Impacts of light and noise pollution on the night sky and bird migration.
8. Concerns around health and safety impacts of the proposed project such as:
- a. Psychosocial effects of nearby mining activities including transportation and employment.
  - b. Concerns about cancer cases linked to mine-related employment and yellowcake transport.
  - c. Potential health risks from consuming locally harvested plants and animals.
  - d. Potential accidents or malfunctions affecting CRDN members and traditional lands.
  - e. Restricted access to traditional lands and lease area, especially during decommissioning and closure, hindering knowledge transfer to younger generations.
  - f. Limitations on waterway travel within CRDN traditional territory.
9. Concerns about community involvement and land use planning including:
- a. The need for CRDN community members to be present during site visits.
  - b. A call to develop a regional land use plan that ensures CRDN lands remain healthy and viable for future generations.

These concerns have been responded to and addressed by both NexGen and CNSC staff through the consultation and engagement process including clear technical responses and discussions, agreements, mitigations and accommodation measures including an IBA signed between NexGen and CRDN. CNSC acknowledges that CRDN has indicated their disappointment with the scheduling of the hearing dates and wished to have the hearing moved earlier, as possible. CNSC staff's key responses and proposed commitments are outlined below.

#### **4.1.3 CNSC staff's response**

CNSC staff acknowledge the issues and concerns that CRDN has raised to date relating to the Project. CNSC staff have worked to understand, assess and address the concerns to the greatest extent possible through consultation, having focused discussions, providing detailed responses, reflecting CRDN's views in CNSC's documentation and discussing the Project at regularly scheduled meetings with CRDN to better understand their concerns and identify a path forward to



addressing them through commitments and mitigations, as necessary. CNSC's staff view is that the approach to consultation conducted for the Project has been in line with best practises and is flexible based on the specific needs and requests of each potentially impacted Indigenous Nation and community. CNSC staff will continue to monitor NexGen's engagement through the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and ensure that NexGen is addressing CRDN's questions, concerns and requests, and implementing the commitments they have made to CRDN. CNSC staff have and will continue to provide opportunities for CRDN to provide input and feedback on how they would like to be consulted for the Project and what would be meaningful for them.

CNSC staff have made initial commitments (listed below) to address the concerns raised to date. These commitments are being proposed currently and CNSC staff will discuss these further with CRDN. CNSC staff are committed to working with CRDN through the RIA process and further consultation on the Project by identifying additional commitments, mitigations and paths forward to addressing concerns relating to the Project, as appropriate. The outcome, as well as a final commitment list will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission.

Information regarding specific responses to each of CRDN's concerns are included in the issues tracking table found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

In summary, CNSC staff are committed to:

- Continuing to discuss the requests for mitigation and accommodation that CRDN has raised, including with NexGen, as appropriate;
- Collaborating on monitoring, oversight and engagement with CRDN;
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with CRDN for this Project on regular information sharing including discussions through the proposed TOR for long-term engagement between the CNSC and CRDN;
- Oversight of NexGen's commitments to CRDN;
- Oversight of NexGen's engagement with CRDN; and
- Continuing ongoing community visits and engagement with CRDN.

CNSC staff encourage NexGen to continue discussions and collaboration with CRDN to address any concerns that arise. CNSC staff anticipate receiving an update from NexGen on their engagement efforts in an IER to be filed on record, as part of the upcoming Commission hearings.

CNSC staff have worked with CRDN and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions and comments and CRDN has concluded that they are satisfied with CNSC's consultation process to date, as well as NexGen's engagement on the Project. CRDN has clearly indicated that they have given their FPIC for the Project. NexGen's commitments to CRDN are summarized in Section X and further information will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission. CNSC looks forward to continuing work with CRDN through our proposed long-term engagement TOR and throughout the lifecycle of this project, if approved.

Information regarding specific responses to each of CRDN's concerns are included in the issues tracking table found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

#### **4.1.4 Conclusion**

CNSC staff are committed to continuing to consult, engage and work collaboratively with CRDN and NexGen in advance of the Part-2 Commission hearing to address any outstanding concerns, should they arise. This includes work on drafting an CRDN-specific RIA, which will provide updated information about potential impacts of the Project application on CRDN's Indigenous Rights. Mitigation and/or accommodation measures to address any identified impacts will be included in the supplemental submission, to be submitted to the Commission prior to the Part-2 hearing.



# Environmental Assessment Report: Rook I Project

September 2025



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

## ***Executive Summary***

*Background*

*Environmental assessment requirements*

*Scope of the assessment*

*Potential effects of the project on the environment*

*Indigenous consultation and engagement*

*Follow-up monitoring program*

*Recommendations*

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*Note, this Table of Contents is only a draft for context.*

## **Section 6 - PREDICTED CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

### **6.1. Atmospheric environment**

#### 6.1.1. Air quality

Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) requested clarification on whether contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) in interstitial air are tracked, as well as clarification on the calculation and definition of relative risk levels for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

### **6.2. Aquatic Environment**

#### 6.2.1. Changes in surface water and sediment quality

CRDN indicated they have overarching concerns regarding exploration and mining activities taking place at Goráchághı tu [Patterson/Forrest Lake] and they are concerned about the potential contamination of the entire Des Nëtthé [Clearwater River]. CRDN indicated that harvesters have noted changes to water quality since exploratory drilling on Goráchághı tu have taken place. In addition, CRDN harvesters expressed doubt that radioactive and drilling contaminants will not impact Goráchághı tu and downstream environments.

#### 6.3.2. Vegetation

CRDN members are concerned that impacts from the Project may result in vegetation being contaminated, thus raising concerns related to human health.

### **6.4. Geological and hydrogeological environment**

#### 6.4.1. Changes in groundwater flow / 6.4.2. Changes in groundwater quality

CRDN raised concerns of permafrost thaw and if contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) would infiltrate groundwater due to the thawing of permafrost and increased hydraulic connectivity.

### **6.5. Human Environment**

#### 6.5.1. Human Health

CRDN noted that levels of stress and perceptions of stress affect health and can worsen physical and mental health outcomes. As such, CRDN recommended that NexGen work with the Nation to establish risk thresholds for a Health Impact Assessment that will enable the identification and mitigation of perceived risks amongst community members. Additionally, CRDN requested the inclusion of several key missing indicators for wellbeing, including mental health, functional health, and public health. The Nation also requested clarification on the methodology for calculating and communicating levels of risk to human health.

## **7. PREDICTED EFFECTS ON VALUED COMPONENTS**

### **7.1. Fish and Fish Habitat**

#### 7.1.1. Fish habitat loss and alteration / 7.1.2. Fish health

CRDN noted their concerns that operations from the Project may adversely impact fish and fish habitat which may impact the quantity and quality of fish available for harvesting.

## **7.2. Terrestrial Biota / 7.3. Migratory Birds / 7.4. Ungulates, Furbearers and Woodland Caribou**

### Habitat Loss and Alteration / Sensory disturbance

CRDN requested that NexGen share its invasive species management plan. The Nation also asked how NexGen would minimize the impacts of light and noise pollution on the migration patterns of wildlife.

## **7.5. Indigenous uses: Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes**

### Indigenous Land Use

CRDN has shared concerns that the provincial government and proponents of industrial and extractive projects are inclined to characterize exploratory endeavors as low impact activities which do not warrant consultation with potentially affected Indigenous communities. However, without advance information from the Indigenous communities who are affected and whose members are intimately familiar with the traditional lands involved, there is no basis for assuming that the planned industrial activities will have little or no impact. The range of reported mineral exploration disturbances which have physically affected CRDN traditional land use and the customary activities of members include no hunting/access signage, harassment, access roads, drilling pads, camps, cutlines, clear-cutting, waste and garbage, noise/lights, traffic, and wildfires.

For CRDN a location such as Goráchághı tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area), where plant medicines, berries, or moose have been intensively and continuously harvested for generations beyond memory, is inextricably linked to innumerable stories and teachings which are integral to CRDN's history, heritage and identity. The loss of such a place contributes to the erosion of Denesuline ecosystem knowledge, stories, lore, teachings, and customary practices. Since Denesuline harvesting activities are discontinued in an area deemed to be unclean, the appearance of the drilling barges resulted in an immediate cessation of fishing activities on the lake as was reported by a number of CRDN harvesters in 2014 and again in 2016. More harvesting cessations at Goráchághı tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area) were reported in the 2020 IRKS interviews. CRDN members also noted experiencing loss of access to longstanding harvesting areas, loss of access to longstanding trails and travel routes, and loss of access to cabins and harvesting camps.

### Landscape Fragmentation and Changes to Terrestrial Environment

CRDN have expressed concerns regarding habitat degradation and species decline resulting from the Rook 1 Project. CRDN members highlighted the importance of species including moose, fish, birds and wildlife in their diet and culture. The observed decrease in animal populations within CRDN traditional lands Up North, reported by CRDN members since 2014, is a matter of particular concern reported by the Nation's hunters who find that they are having to travel further and further away to maximize the success of their efforts to procure moose meat for household and extended family sustenance. The habitat destruction and degradation and resultant species declines which have already occurred at Goráchághı tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area) due to NexGen's exploration activities are anticipated to be exacerbated by the more than two decades (and possibly longer) of active uranium extraction and milling operations being proposed.

### Surface Water and Groundwater Contamination and Use

CRDN has expressed apprehension that the project may adversely impact or contaminate the aquatic environment, waterways, fish, and fisheries, affecting their traditional way of life, including water use, fishing, and land harvesting practices tied to “No Hoe Neneh”. The proposed Rook 1 uranium mine and mill is situated in the upper reaches of the Des Nēthē [Clearwater River] Watershed. Goráchághī tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area) is a main lake which is an integral part of Des Nēthē [Clearwater River] system – the big/wide river which flows through the greater part of CRDN’s traditional lands. All the waters within CRDN traditional lands are also understood to be connected to underground rivers which include muskegs.

For CRDN members, an operating uranium mine and mill increases the risk of above and below ground waters being contaminated with radioactive stuff, heavy metals, and other toxic elements through industrial process water use and release, accidents, malfunctions, and other unplanned events. CRDN Denesuline standards for clean water, air, and ground differ from western scientific and government-approved standards. CRDN emphasized that they cannot be invalidated and dismissed in the regulatory assessment process as ‘perceived misconceptions. CRDN Denesuline ‘perceptions’ of contamination (i.e. unclean conditions) are actual impacts (observed and experienced) although in regulatory processes such perceptions are typically dismissed as unfounded (perceived) by western scientific definition. A massive fish decline is reported to have occurred at Goráchághī tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area) following exploratory drilling which took place on the lake, sometime during the late 1970s and 1980s (while Cluff Lake Mine was in operation). Deformities in fish that were caught at the time were also noted.

### Increased Access & Changes to Access

CRDN members shared concerns about being displaced from Goráchághī tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area) as a result of NexGen’s exploration activities. CRDN members noted experiencing loss of access to longstanding harvesting areas, loss of access to longstanding trails and travel routes, and loss of access to cabins and harvesting camps. The presence of so many outsiders doing so many things (stuff) never seen before within No Hoe Neneh (CRDN’s traditional lands) has resulted in an unknown number of CRDN members constraining their customary activities or removing themselves from the Patterson Lake Area for reasons of emotional, spiritual, and physical safety. CRDN also notes that with all the mineral exploration activities taking place Up North, traffic on Cluff Lake Road is reported to have steadily increased, and the heavy traffic and activities are chasing the animals away making it necessary for hunters to travel further and further out. CRDN members also note that travel Up North is not quiet and relaxing as it once was.

### Legacy Impacts and Fear and Avoidance

CRDN members have identified concerns regarding their previous experience in the Cluff Lake Area as how members may feel regarding the proposed NexGen Rook I project. CRDN has expressed concerns the approval of a uranium mine and mill at Goráchághī tu/Pelican Lake (Patterson Lake Area) within the upper reaches of the Des Nēthē [Clearwater River] watershed will magnify and exacerbate the existing impacts which have already experienced by CRDN families due to Cluff lake operating from 1980 to 2002. During the operating and decommissioning time frame, the unrecognized/unacknowledged impact of the Cluff Lake uranium mine and mill for CRDN members is that the Cluff Lake Area was considered to be

contaminated (unclean) by Denesuline standards. Since it was deemed to be an unsafe place from which to procure foods, the larger area surrounding Cluff Lake was abandoned and avoided by CRDN members. CRDN members report that there were a number of problems with the Cluff Lake Mine transportation route, besides the fact that the haul road ran right through town. Yellowcake dust is believed to have fallen from the hauling trucks all along the route through CRDN traditional lands.

The perception of uranium contamination/radioactivity at Cluff Lake Mine in the present day is widespread within CRDN and the La Loche community and other Indigenous communities in the north. Even if it looks nice and green on the surface, CRDN and other First Nation's members are very aware of what's underneath the ground and caution avoidance of the area. This unacknowledged impact to CRDN cannot be relegated to the past. Although the Cluff Lake Mine area was declared 'safe' according to current regulatory standards (some twenty years later), for many CRDN harvesters it still does not meet Denesuline standards of what is considered to be safe or clean.

#### Cumulative Impacts of mining projects and exploration activities

CRDN members shared concerned that cumulative impacts of substantial and growing projects and mineral exploration activity will severely limit their ability to practice continued and use of the region around and north of Patterson Lake.

CRDN has noted that the provincial government and proponents of industrial/extractive projects are inclined to characterize exploratory endeavors as low impact activities which do not warrant consultation with potentially affected Indigenous communities. However, without advance information from the Indigenous communities who are affected and whose members are intimately familiar with the traditional lands involved, there is no basis for assuming that the planned industrial activities will have little or no impact.

#### Community Health and Socio-Economic

CRDN members report that there was a noticeable rise in cancer cases within the La Loche community-at-large which was attributed to mine-related employment and the transport of milled uranium (yellowcake) through La Loche Village during Cluff Lake operations and people are concerned the same may happen again. Of the many stories which circulate within the community about Cluff Lake Mine, the story most often told is that the benefits of the project for CRDN were negligible. There was no compensation for loss of use and short- and long-term damage to the land (including wildlife) and, in the end, only a handful of people were actually employed, most in menial jobs.

### **8. OTHER EFFECTS CONSIDERED**

#### **8.2. Effects of accidents and malfunctions**

CRDN is concerned that an accident or malfunction would be devastating for the Nations members and traditional lands. In addition, CRDN indicated that an operating uranium mine and mill increases the risk of surface and groundwater containing contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) and being released as a result of an accident, malfunction or unplanned event.

---

**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** August 23, 2025 7:08 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Cc:** cammer7@shaw.ca; Luke Moger; Adam Engdahl; Hunter, Hilary; McKeown, Justin  
**Subject:** Re: Revised notice of public hearing - Rook I

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Thanks so much Nicole and team.

Matt General  
for the Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Acting for Cam Willier: CRDN Engagement Lead

On Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 2:54 PM Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Matt,

As discussed, here is the updated notice regarding the upcoming Rook I public hearing:

[Revised notice of public hearing and participant funding - CMD 25-H12](#)

Also, if you are not already signed up you can sign up here to receive all CNSC updates: [Subscribe to our emails](#)

Meeting notes to follow shortly!

Tks all!

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**



Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada

Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada

[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 782-409-4833

---

**From:** Jean, Arielle  
**Sent:** August 29, 2025 1:31 PM  
**To:** Matthew General  
**Cc:** Hunter, Hilary; Camm Willier; Patrick Corrado  
**Subject:** RE: Signed CRDN PFP Contribution Agreement  
**Attachments:** PFP - CA - CRDN - NEX04 - 2025 - RPPPD.pdf

Hi Matthew,

Please find attached the agreement signed by CNSC for your records.

Have a great day!  
Arielle

---

**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** August 28, 2025 3:19 PM  
**To:** Jean, Arielle <arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Camm Willier <cammer7@shaw.ca>; Patrick Corrado <patrick.corrado@pqservices.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Signed CRDN PFP Contribution Agreement

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Thank you so much!

Matt

On Thu, Aug 28, 2025 at 3:13 PM Jean, Arielle <[arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Matthew,

Thank you for sending this along! I will send you the fully executed copy of the agreement as soon as possible.

Arielle

---

**From:** Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** August 28, 2025 3:06 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Jean, Arielle <[arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:arielle.jean@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Patrick Corrado <[patrick.corrado@pqservices.ca](mailto:patrick.corrado@pqservices.ca)>

**Subject:** Signed CRDN PFP Contribution Agreement

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon Hilay and Jean, I attach the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CSNC) document and the page signed off by Chief Teddy Clarke of CRDN.

Please let us know if this will meet the CNSC's needs.

With thanks,

Matt General

for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** September 25, 2025 10:04 AM  
**To:** Matthew General; Levine, Adam; Adam Engdahl; Camm Willier; Teddy Clark; Hunter, Hilary; McKeown, Justin; Luke Moger; Froess, Ryan; ken rich; O'Neill, Shannon  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC- NexGen Monthly Meeting - Rook I @ Thu, Sep 25, 2025 1:00pm – 2:00pm (GMT-04)

Good morning Matt!  
I will reschedule to a similar time tomorrow.  
Thank you  
Nicole

---

**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** September 25, 2025 11:51 AM  
**To:** Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Adam Engdahl <aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca>; Camm Willier <cammer7@shaw.ca>; Teddy Clark <clarkteddy007@gmail.com>; Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Luke Moger <lmoger@nxe-energy.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; ken rich <sagerich@hotmail.com>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CRDN-CNSC- NexGen Monthly Meeting - Rook I @ Thu, Sep 25, 2025 1:00pm – 2:00pm (GMT-04)

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good morning Nicole and CNSC colleagues.

Cam is having to juggle multiple priorities for the CRDN today and has asked if it might possible to shift today's planned meeting (11:00 AM MTN-NOON MTN) to an available time slot tomorrow? And if that does not work - to a more workable time and date next week.

Thanks so much,

Matt General  
for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** September 26, 2025 9:10 AM  
**To:** cammer7@shaw.ca; Matthew General; Levine, Adam; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; sagerich@hotmail.com; McKeown, Justin; Hunter, Hilary; Luke Moger; Adam Engdahl  
**Subject:** RE: CRDN-CNSC- NexGen Monthly Meeting - Rook I

No problem Camm – I've moved the meeting to 1 pm AB time – meeting invite has been rescheduled and resent!  
Nicole

---

**From:** cammer7@shaw.ca <cammer7@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** September 26, 2025 10:50 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; clarkteddy007@gmail.com; sagerich@hotmail.com; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Luke Moger <lmoger@nxe-energy.ca>; Adam Engdahl <aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: CRDN-CNSC- NexGen Monthly Meeting - Rook I

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Morning

Thanks for the suggested amended meeting time for today.

Can we do this pm any time after 1:00 pm Ab time

Camm

---

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Date:** Thu, Sep 25, 2025, 12:04 p.m.  
**Subject:** CRDN-CNSC- NexGen Monthly Meeting - Rook I  
**To:** Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>, Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>, [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com) <[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)>, [sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com) <[sagerich@hotmail.com](mailto:sagerich@hotmail.com)>, McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>, Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>, [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca) <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>, Luke Moger <[lmoger@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:lmoger@nxe-energy.ca)>, Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>

Monthly meeting for work related to the proposed Rook I project – I will set up more frequent meetings as required.

Please forward this meeting request to anyone I might have missed.

## Recurring Agenda:

CEAA EA Report

Rights Impact Assessment

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---

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For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

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Code secret : GW2dL2Qx



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ID de conférence téléphonique : 670 385 635#

Pour les organisateurs : [Options de réunion](#) | [Réinitialiser le code NIP d'appel](#)

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**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** October 4, 2025 6:06 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin  
**Cc:** Camm Willier; Teddy Clark; Adam Engdahl  
**Subject:** Fwd: Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation  
**Attachments:** CRDN Map Map Title and Map Notation for Inclusion into CNSC RIA.docx

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Good morning.

As per your request, the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) consents to the use of the proposed map (attached) to be inserted into the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Rook I Project impacts to rights assessment report, project report and other supporting documents deemed necessary to facilitate CNSC decision making in respect to the Project.

Please note the CRDN's request and requirement for the addition of the 'Map Title' and 'Map Notation' to provide some important context for the map.

With thanks,

Matt General  
for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew General** <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, Oct 2, 2025 at 12:23 PM  
Subject: Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation  
To: Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>

PRIORITY ACTION MESSAGE

Good morning Cam.

I have considered the CNSCN's request and recommend the following:

-that CRDN provide consent for the CNSC to feature the attached map in its Impact to Rights Report for the Rook I Project;

- however, this map needs to be accompanied with Map Title and Map Notation I have included to accompany the map

I should provide this to them by day's end.

Matt

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** October 27, 2025 9:49 AM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN); Boser, Sydney (CNSC/CCSN); Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN); Pandolfi, Dana (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** NexGen hearing documents & notice of public hearing information - Registry links included

Good morning,

Passing along the associated links to the hearing documents posted online for the upcoming NexGen hearings.

Please note, the notice of hearing which includes important dates and deadlines may be found here: [Revised notice of public hearing and participant funding - CMD 25-H12](#)

The Commission Member Document is found here: [object](#).

The Environmental Assessment report starts on page 133 of 628 of the CMD: [object](#).

The Consultation Report starts on page 418 of 628 the CMD: [object](#).

All related NexGen hearing documents may be found here, including the applicant submissions: [Download Hearing Documents](#)

We will continue to send out updates as they are posted by the Registry.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** November 5, 2025 7:11 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN); McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN); Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Camm Willier; Teddy Clark; Patrick Corrado; Navdeep Toor; Luke Moger; Adam Engdahl  
**Subject:** Fwd: CRDN Letter on CNSC Issues and Comments Tracking Document  
**Attachments:** FIN CRDN to CNSC Oct 26 2025.pdf; CRDN Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review (1) (1).docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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As instructed by Cam Willier, I provide Clearwater River Dene Nation's (CRDN) comments on the 'CRDN Issues and Concerns Table' for the Rook I Project prepared by CNSC staff.

Also, as communicated by Cam Willier in prior meetings, the CRDN is on standby to receive the CSNC impacts to rights assessment report and will review and provide comments during the allotted time provided in November and December.

With thanks,

Matthew General  
(for Cam Willier, CRDN Engagement Lead)

CC: Chief T. Clark and Council: Clearwater River Dene Nation  
C. Willier: Clearwater River Dene Nation Engagement Lead



October 28, 2025

Hilary Hunter  
 Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
 280 Slater St  
 PO Box 1046 Stn B  
 Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

VIA EMAIL: [hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

Dear Hilary and Reviewing CNSC Colleagues

**RE: Request Comments on CRDN Issues Tracking Table: Rook I Project**

The Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) provides the following response and clarification in respect to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (CNSC) request for comments on the CNSC document entitled, 'Issues Tracking Table for Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) with respect to the NexGen Rook I Project' (attached).

The CRDN has communicated its views in respect to this document on prior occasions, however does so again to address your request for specific written comments. In general terms, we agree with the proposed 'Crown response' set out in third column of the attached document.

Notwithstanding, the CRDN wishes to support this statement with the following overarching response in respect to 'Issue ID: CRDN01- CRDN09':

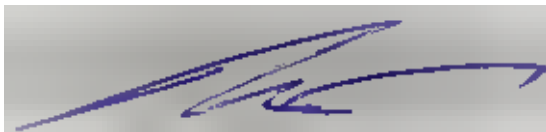
- The Project is located within the Traditional Territory and core lands of the CRDN;
- The CRDN has and continues to exercise its rights and practice its culture in the Project area and areas in the vicinity of the Project;
- The CRDN is the most proximate Indigenous community to the Project and has a deep and long term historical and cultural connection to the Project area and areas in the vicinity of the Project;
- From the outset, the CRDN opted to become actively engaged in the proponent's engagement process and the review and consultation process established by the CNSC;
- The CRDN and NexGen co-designed and implemented an engagement process which provided for a deep level of consultation and productive collaboration;
- Reasonable funding was provided by NexGen to the CRDN to plan and conduct its own Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey specific to the Project and participate in other studies led and facilitated by NexGen;

- The CRDN engaged in Project review activities facilitated by the CNSC, including the Federal-Indigenous Review Team;
- At the outset of the Project engagement and review process, the CRDN did raise the specific issues, concerns and interest as documented in the attached CNSC document;
- The CRDN and NexGen entered into a Project agreement which, in the CRDN's view, addressed its rights and interests in respect to the Project and satisfactorily addressed the issues and concerns raised by the CRDN. This comprehensive agreement contains provisions to address CRDN's environmental, cultural, social and socio-economic interests over the life cycle of the Project;
- The CRDN and NexGen agreement further contains provisions to secure and provide for ongoing CRDN community and governmental involvement in project mitigation planning and implementation and ongoing involvement in monitoring and follow up programs committed to by NexGen;
- The CRDN will participate in the upcoming CNSC Project hearings where it will provide further confirmation on these matters by way of written evidence and oral presentation to the Commission, and lastly
- The CRDN will work with NexGen and CNSC staff in the development and implementation of any additional Project conditions which may be attached to the Project's approval. The CRDN will work with all parties to maximize community involvement in the implementation of conditions relevant to its environmental, cultural and socio-economic interests

We ask that the CNSC consider, apply and reference this response in your impacts to rights assessment document as you deem appropriate.

The CRDN wishes to acknowledge and commend the CNSC's careful and respectful approach taken to incorporate our views in respect to this document. We look forward to obtaining a draft copy of the rights impact assessment document when it is prepared. As committed, we will review that document and provide the CNSC substantive comments at that time within the review timeline specified.

With thanks and kindest regards,




---

**(Matthew General for Cameron Willier)**  
**Clearwater River Dene Nation Engagement Lead**

CC: Chief Teddy Clark and the CRDN Council  
 Cameron Willier: CRDN Engagement Lead



---

**From:** [Matthew General](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [Camm Willier, Teddy Clark; Adam Engdahl](#);  
**Subject:** Fwd: Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation  
**Attachments:** [CRDN Map Map Title and Map Notation for Inclusion into CNSC RIA.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-10-04 6:06:50 AM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Good morning.

As per your request, the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) consents to the use of the proposed map (attached) to be inserted into the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Rook I Project impacts to rights assessment report, project report and other supporting documents deemed necessary to facilitate CNSC decision making in respect to the Project.

Please note the CRDN's request and requirement for the addition of the 'Map Title' and 'Map Notation' to provide some important context for the map.

With thanks,

Matt General  
for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew General** <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, Oct 2, 2025 at 12:23 PM  
Subject: Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation  
To: Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>

PRIORITY ACTION MESSAGE

Good morning Cam.

I have considered the CNSC's request and recommend the following:

-that CRDN provide consent for the CNSC to feature the attached map in its Impact to Rights Report for the Rook I Project;

- however, this map needs to be accompanied with Map Title and Map Notation I have included to accompany the map

I should provide this to them by day's end.

Matt

---

**From:** [Matthew General](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Camm Willier](#); [Teddy Clark](#); [Adam Engdahl](#);  
**Subject:** Re: Acknowledgement - Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation  
**Sent:** 2025-10-06 10:00:05 AM

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Thank you Hilary and team.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Cam on any other matters in the run up to the hearings and documentation for the hearing.

Matt General  
for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

On Mon, Oct 6, 2025 at 11:01 AM Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Good morning Matt,

Thank you for your message and for sharing the Clearwater River Dene Nation's (CRDN) consent regarding the use of the proposed map in the CNSC's Rook I Project documentation.

We acknowledge and appreciate CRDN's support in facilitating the inclusion of the map in the RIA, consultation report, and other supporting materials relevant to CNSC's decision-making process.

We also note and respect CRDN's request for the addition of the Map Title and Map Notation to provide important context. These elements will be incorporated to ensure the map accurately reflects CRDN's intent and provides clarity for all audiences.

Please don't hesitate to reach out should there be any further specifications or considerations.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** October 4, 2025 6:06 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Teddy Clark <[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Good morning.

As per your request, the Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) consents to the use of the proposed map (attached) to be inserted into the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Rook I Project impacts to rights assessment report, project report and other supporting documents deemed necessary to facilitate CNSC decision making in respect to the Project.

Please note the CRDN's request and requirement for the addition of the 'Map Title' and 'Map Notation' to provide some important context for the map.

With thanks,

Matt General

for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew General** <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Oct 2, 2025 at 12:23 PM

Subject: Recommended Map, Map Title and Map Notation

To: Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>

PRIORITY ACTION MESSAGE

Good morning Cam.

I have considered the CNSCN's request and recommend the following:

-that CRDN provide consent for the CNSC to feature the attached map in its Impact to Rights Report for the Rook I Project;

- however, this map needs to be accompanied with Map Title and Map Notation I have included to accompany the map

I should provide this to them by day's end.

Matt

**From:** [Matthew General](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Confirmation  
**Sent:** 2025-10-27 10:34:02 AM

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

That would be perfect! Matt

On Mon, Oct 27, 2025 at 11:51 AM Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Matt,

Thanks for the update. Yes, I'm available but hoping that we could meet sometime between 10 and 12 EST tomorrow? Let me know when you might be available and I can set up a call.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** October 27, 2025 9:45 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Confirmation

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Hi Hilary.

As you know, CRDN is working to cover for Cam W. as he's focused on some personal health matters right now.

I am going to be working with Patrick Corrado and Chief Teddy to get CRDN prepared for Part II of the hearings.

Would I be able to have a quick call with you tomorrow just to run over and confirm any required deliverables that the CNSC has requested from CRDN in the lead up to the hearings.

With thanks,

Matt General

for the Clearwater River Dene Nation

PS - If there has been any email forwarded to CRDN on this matter - please also resend that to me so it is at the top of my ever full email box. :-)

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Matthew General](#)  
**Cc:** [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC & CRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I  
**Attachments:** [CRDN Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review .docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-11-04 12:59:00 PM

---

Hi Matt,

Following up to see how things are going. If you have any follow-up questions after our discussion last week, please reach out!

Our deadline to post the issues and concerns table is in a couple days, so I will need any feedback before then, otherwise they will be posted as is. Just checking to see what CRDN's plan is with respect to the tables.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** October 21, 2025 8:04 AM  
**To:** Teddy Clark <[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC & CRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good morning Chief Clark,

I hope things are going well.

I wanted to let you know that the hearing documents were posted online by the Registry this past Friday. You can access them here: [Download Hearing Documents](#). The CMD is available at this link: [CMD NexGen Rook I](#), and the Consultation Report starting on page 418 of 628.

I'm also following up regarding the CRDN Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I. CNSC staff did not post the table yet, as we were hoping to receive your review beforehand. This table will be included as part of a supplemental filing ahead of the Part 1 hearing scheduled for November 19, 2025.

If you're able to provide your review at your earliest convenience, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:42 PM  
**To:** Chief Teddy Clark <[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Hertz, Sarah <[sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC & CRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good Afternoon Chief Clark,

Please see attached CRDN's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that CRDN has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from CRDN.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without CRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** [Matthew General](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [Camm Willier](#); [Teddy Clark](#); [Patrick Corrado](#); [Navdeep Toor](#); [Luke Moger](#); [Adam Engdahl](#);  
**Subject:** Fwd: CRDN Letter on CNSC Issues and Comments Tracking Document  
**Attachments:** [FIN CRDN to CNSC Oct 26 2025.pdf](#); [CRDN Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review \(1\) \(1\).docx](#);  
**Sent:** 2025-11-05 6:12:26 AM

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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As instructed by Cam Willier, I provide Clearwater River Dene Nation's (CRDN) comments on the 'CRDN Issues and Concerns Table' for the Rook I Project prepared by CNSC staff.

Also, as communicated by Cam Willier in prior meetings, the CRDN is on standby to receive the CSNC impacts to rights assessment report and will review and provide comments during the allotted time provided in November and December.

With thanks,

Matthew General  
(for Cam Willier, CRDN Engagement Lead)

CC: Chief T. Clark and Council: Clearwater River Dene Nation  
C. Willier: Clearwater River Dene Nation Engagement Lead

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Matthew General](#); [Teddy Clark](#);  
**Cc:** [Camm Willier](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Doyle, Shae \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** For Your Review - CRDN Rights Impact Assessment for NexGen  
**Attachments:** [CRDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-11-21 8:33:00 AM

---

Good morning,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of CRDN's Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to CRDN to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to CRDN land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to CRDN's rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** [Matthew General](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [ken rich](#); [Navdeep Toor](#); [Brad Novecosky](#);  
**Subject:** Requesting a Quick Call  
**Sent:** 2025-12-03 1:50:16 PM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon Hilary and Justin.

I was wondering if I could have a very quick call with you both re:

- a) In your recent work - have you seen a good model for a written intervention / written submission from a First Nation that you found to be tightly focused, well written and helpful to the Commission. Ideally it would be from an FN who was in support of a project by virtue of an IBA or similar sort of agreement negotiated by the FN and the proponent. And if not entirely in support of - one that is generally helpful as a model or template for CRDN to consider.
- b) Can you confirm when CRDN will be informed of whether its funding submission for Rook I Hearing preparation/participation was accepted. For CRDN to plan and allocate tasks and costs, it would be ideal for CRDN, its legal counsel and Axiom to know what costs have been approved / allocated to CRDN to support their participation.
- d) Can someone find out when CNSC will make a decision on the CRDN land use planning proposal submitted under the CNSC's capacity building envelope? If memory serves - the decision was to be announced in the fall of 2025. This is an important piece of work the community would like to advance in tandem with the Rook I Project - if approved.

I'm pretty open tomorrow and Friday if you have a few available minutes. The call is informal and doesn't need a cast of 1000's/ :-)

Thanks so much,

Matt General  
for Cam Willier: CRDN

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Matthew General](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** RE: Participant Funding Program decision – NexGen’s Rook 1 Project  
**Attachments:** [RE: Signed CRDN PFP Contribution Agreement](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-12-03 2:03:00 PM

---

Hi Matt,

Yes, that is correct. I’ve attached the email confirmation from our funding team as well.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** December 3, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Participant Funding Program decision – NexGen’s Rook 1 Project

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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I missed this...does this answer my one question....the allocation of funding for CRDN to participate in the hearings? Matt

<https://www.cnscccsn.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/2025-03-nexgen-dec/>

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Matthew General](#); [Teddy Clark](#);  
**Cc:** [Camm Willier](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** FW: For Your Review - CRDN Rights Impact Assessment for NexGen  
**Attachments:** [CRDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-12-09 12:12:00 PM

---

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well. We chatted about this last Friday Matt, however, it slipped my mind to send this out.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome by December 19<sup>th</sup> on the attached Rights Impact Assessment.

Take care and stay warm.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** November 21, 2025 9:34 AM  
**To:** Matthew General <mattgrandriver@gmail.com>; Teddy Clark <clarkteddy007@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Camm Willier <cammer7@shaw.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Doyle, Shae (CNSC/CCSN) <shae.doyle@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN) <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** For Your Review - CRDN Rights Impact Assessment for NexGen

Good morning,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of CRDN's Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to CRDN to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to CRDN land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to CRDN's rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

**From:** [Matthew General](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Teddy Clark](#); [Camm Willier](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** Re: FW: For Your Review - CRDN Rights Impact Assessment for NexGen  
**Sent:** 2025-12-09 12:27:15 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

We are working through the review of it this week. Will provide an update on an ETA of the response. Thanks for checking in.

Matt

On Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 2:13 p.m. Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well. We chatted about this last Friday Matt, however, it slipped my mind to send this out.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome by December 19<sup>th</sup> on the attached Rights Impact Assessment.

Take care and stay warm.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** November 21, 2025 9:34 AM  
**To:** Matthew General <[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)>; Teddy Clark <[clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Camm Willier <[cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Doyle, Shae (CNSC/CCSN) <[shae.doyle@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shae.doyle@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN) <[sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** For Your Review - CRDN Rights Impact Assessment for NexGen

Good morning,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of CRDN's Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to CRDN to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional

information that you feel may be missing with regards to CRDN land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to CRDN's rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*



---

**From:** [Snodgrass, Kelsey](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Barretto, Jeremy](#); [Poscente, Dana](#); '[mattgrandriver@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrandriver@gmail.com)'; [clarkteddy007@gmail.com](mailto:clarkteddy007@gmail.com); [cammer7@shaw.ca](mailto:cammer7@shaw.ca); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Doyle, Shae \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Hoche, Josef W.](#); '[patrick.corrado@pgservices.ca](mailto:patrick.corrado@pgservices.ca)';  
**Subject:** File No. 2025-H-12 - Clearwater River Dene Nation re: Review of Rights Impact Assessment for NexGen Rook 1 Project  
**Attachments:** [2025-12-19 - CRDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook 1 Project - CRDN Comments for CNSC.docx](#); [2025-12-19 - LT CNSC re CRDN Comments on NexGen Rook 1 Rights Impact Assessment.pdf](#);  
**Sent:** 2025-12-19 1:57:19 PM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon,

Please find enclosed correspondence sent on behalf of Clearwater River Dene Nation.

Kind regards,

**Cassels**

**KELSEY SNODGRASS**

Legal Assistant

t: +1 403 351 3023

e: [ksnodgrass@cassels.com](mailto:ksnodgrass@cassels.com)

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP | [cassels.com](https://cassels.com)  
Suite 3700, Bankers Hall West, 888 3rd Street SW  
Calgary, AB T2P 5C5 Canada

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# Cassels

December 19, 2025

Via E-Mail – [hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

jbarretto@cassels.com

tel: +1 403 351 3825

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St  
PO Box 1046 Stn B  
Ottawa ON K1P 5S9

**Attention: Hilary Hunter, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division**

Dear Hilary:

**Re: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (“CNSC”) File No. 2025-H-12  
Clearwater River Dene Nation (“CRDN”) Review of Rights Impact Assessment for  
NexGen Rook 1 Project (“Project”)**

We are counsel to CRDN in relation to the above-noted matter.

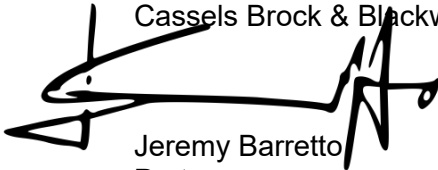
Please find enclosed CRDN’s comments to the CNSC regarding the Rights Impact Assessment for the Project.

CRDN intends to request to intervene in the Part 2 public hearing of this matter by the January 9, 2026 deadline. CRDN intends to provide further information regarding the impacts of the proposed Project on CRDN’s rights in the course of CRDN’s intervention.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP



Jeremy Barretto  
Partner  
Encl.

cc: Matthew General (mattgrandriver@gmail.com); Teddy Clark (clarkteddy007@gmail.com); Camm Willier (cammer7@shaw.ca); Justin McKeown (justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca); Shae Doyle (shae.doyle@cnscccsn.gc.ca); Sarah Hertz (sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca); Nicole Frigault (nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

### **C.3 Key Correspondence with Métis Nation of Saskatchewan**



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865685

Mr. Glenn McCallum, President  
Métis Nation – Saskatchewan  
Northern Region II  
Suite 201, 208-19th St W,  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 5X8

[glenmccallum@mns.work](mailto:glenmccallum@mns.work)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear President McCallum:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
- an on-site mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.

## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

## **Participant Funding Program**

The CNSC has established a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to enhance participation in the CNSC’s regulatory processes. Funding for this project will be offered for participation in both the EA/licensing and Commission hearing processes. The availability of PFP will be announced within the next few months (around the same time as the official posting of the Notice of Commencement for the project). Once the availability of funding is announced we will provide you with further details on the application process, scope of funding and amounts available.

Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnsf.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnsf.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca).

## **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project and encourages you, during the review process, to:

- advise the CNSC of any adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights; and if so
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on the right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated as well as any evidence that will help in understanding these concerns
- provide local and traditional knowledge to support determination of potential impacts and potential mitigation measures
- advise the CNSC of how you and your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown as part of the regulatory review process for this project

## **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,

Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC

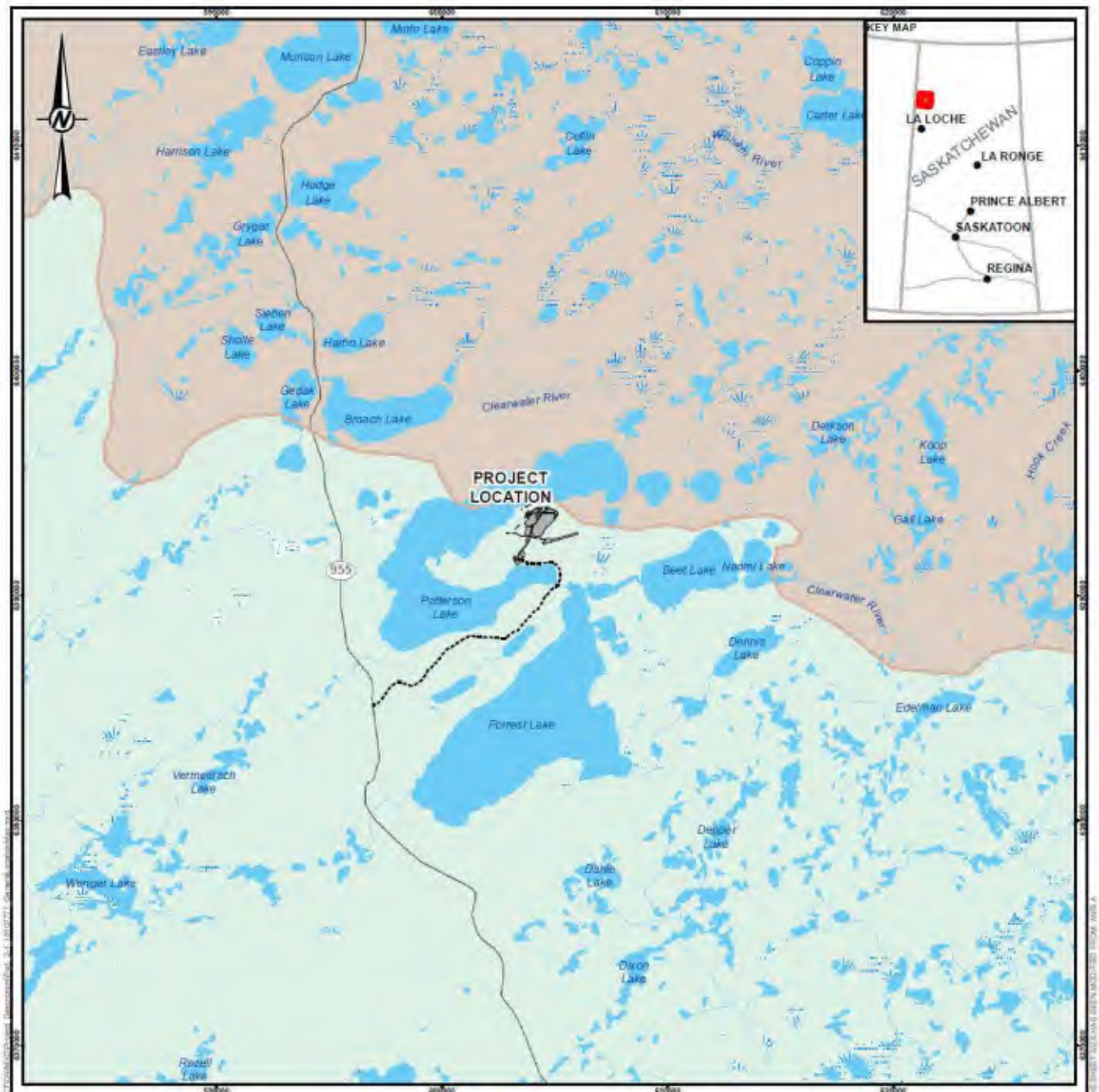
c.c.: [nvp.glen@sasktel.net](mailto:nvp.glen@sasktel.net), [leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca](mailto:leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca), [mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)  
P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council



## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project



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**From:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** June 19, 2019 8:15 AM  
**To:** 'Hoekstra, Arend J.A.'  
**Cc:** Lahaie, Emilie  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description [IWOV-LEGAL.FID3038827]  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#5865685-v1-Letter\_of\_Notification\_Metis\_Nation\_Sask\_NR2\_NexGen\_Rook\_I.pdf

Good Morning Arend,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the proposed NexGen Rook I Project.

As requested, I have attached the correspondence that was sent to Métis Nation Saskatchewan from the CNSC for your records. I hope that this letter helps to answer some of your questions regarding opportunities to participate, CNSCs path forward and how we plan to keep MN-S informed at all of the project steps, and how we welcome and encourage your feedback at all stages of the EA process.

With regards to funding, typically CNSC Participant Funding Program (PFP) funding is not available at the Project Description phase of the EA review process, however it is made available for all subsequent steps in the process moving forward. Should MN-S have specific funding needs at this stage in the process, CNSC staff would be happy to discuss potential options.

Would you be available for a conference call some time next week to discuss the project? Please let me know what day would work best for you and I will set something up.

We look forward to discussing the project with you further.

Kind Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948



---

**From:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <ahoekstra@casselsbrock.com>  
**Sent:** June 7, 2019 7:29 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca>  
**Cc:** Lahaie, Emilie <elahaie@casselsbrock.com>  
**Subject:** REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description [IWOV-LEGAL.FID3038827]

Good afternoon Nicole,

Please find attached a letter in response to your earlier request for comments, for your review and consideration.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Yours truly,

Arend



---

**Arend J.A. Hoekstra CPA, CA, JD**

Direct: +1 604 283 1481 • Fax: +1 604 691 6120 • [ahoekstra@casselsbrock.com](mailto:ahoekstra@casselsbrock.com)  
2200 HSBC Building, 885 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3E8  
[www.casselsbrock.com](http://www.casselsbrock.com)

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**From:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <ahoekstra@casselsbrock.com>  
**Sent:** June 20, 2019 3:14 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Lahaie, Emilie  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description [IWOV-LEGAL.FID3040988]  
**Attachments:** NexGen Project Description Response June 20, 2019.pdf

Hi Nicole,

Thank you for your email and voice message. Please find attached a response to the current Project Description. Our response includes, at the back, an updated version of a response which was provided earlier for MNS.

We can be available for a conference call anytime Wednesday. Please send a calendar invite for your preferred time.

Best regards,

Arend



**Arend J.A. Hoekstra CPA, CA, JD**

Direct: +1 604 283 1481 • Fax: +1 604 691 6120 • ahoekstra@casselsbrock.com  
2200 HSBC Building, 885 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3E8  
[www.casselsbrock.com](http://www.casselsbrock.com)

---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) [mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 19, 2019 7:15 AM  
**To:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A.  
**Cc:** Lahaie, Emilie  
**Subject:** RE: REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description [IWOV-LEGAL.FID3038827]

Good Morning Arend,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the proposed NexGen Rook I Project.

As requested, I have attached the correspondence that was sent to Métis Nation Saskatchewan from the CNSC for your records. I hope that this letter helps to answer some of your questions regarding opportunities to participate, CNSCs path forward and how we plan to keep MN-S informed at all of the project steps, and how we welcome and encourage your feedback at all stages of the EA process.

With regards to funding, typically CNSC Participant Funding Program (PFP) funding is not available at the Project Description phase of the EA review process, however it is made available for all subsequent steps in the process moving forward. Should MN-S have specific funding needs at this stage in the process, CNSC staff would be happy to discuss potential options.

Would you be available for a conference call some time next week to discuss the project? Please let me know what day would work best for you and I will set something up.

We look forward to discussing the project with you further.

Kind Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tel. : 613-995-7948

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@canada.ca) / Tél. : 613-995-7948



---

**From:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <ahhoekstra@casselsbrock.com>  
**Sent:** June 7, 2019 7:29 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <nicole.frigault@canada.ca>  
**Cc:** Lahaie, Emilie <elahaie@casselsbrock.com>  
**Subject:** REMINDER: Comments invited on NexGen Energy Ltd. Project Description [IWOV-LEGAL.FID3038827]

Good afternoon Nicole,

Please find attached a letter in response to your earlier request for comments, for your review and consideration.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Yours truly,

Arend



**Arend J.A. Hoekstra CPA, CA, JD**

Direct: +1 604 283 1481 • Fax: +1 604 691 6120 • [ahhoekstra@casselsbrock.com](mailto:ahhoekstra@casselsbrock.com)  
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[www.casselsbrock.com](http://www.casselsbrock.com)

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**From:** Lahaie, Emilie <elahaie@cassels.com>  
**Sent:** August 28, 2020 3:21 PM  
**To:** Participant Funding Program - Programme de financement des participants (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A.; Mark Calette; Shannon Landrie-Crossland  
**Subject:** PFP applications to the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project  
**Attachments:** pfp-nexgenr1-mental health.PDF; pfp-nexgenr1-human health.PDF; pfp-nexgenr1-land and arch.PDF; pfp-nexgenr1-community and sociological.PDF; pfp-nexgenr1-gbs-lbgtq.PDF; wlewiscv2020.DOCX; mina patel cv (august 2020).DOCX; rob wondrasek cv.DOC; amanda harvey - cv - 2020-08-25-01-ah.DOCX

Dear Mr. Zenobi,

Please find attached some of Metis Nation – Saskatchewan's PFP applications to review the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project and accompanying CVs.

Thank you for the September 18, 2020 extension, we will send our final applications in the coming weeks, prior to the deadline

Best Wishes,

Emilie

**Cassels** | **EMILIE LAHAIE**  
t: +1 778 372 7651  
e: elahaie@cassels.com  
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP | [cassels.com](http://cassels.com)  
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Vancouver, BC V6C 3E8 Canada

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**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <adam.levine@canada.ca>  
**Sent:** September 2, 2020 7:49 PM  
**To:** Lahaie, Emilie; Participant Funding Program / Programme de financement des participants (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A.; Mark Calette; Shannon Landrie-Crossland; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN); Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** RE: PFP applications to the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project

Great thanks Emilie! We will take a look and let you know when would be a good time later next week to chat about all of this. We will definitely need some guidance on how all of these applications fit together and how they all fall within the scope of the funding opportunity which is to review and comment on the draft EIS being drafted by NexGen and also within the funding envelope, which is approximately \$150K in total for all eligible funding applicants. Note that this is the first phase of funding and there will be other opportunities later in the process as well.

Adam

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

----- Original message -----

From: "Lahaie, Emilie" <elahaie@cassels.com>  
Date: 2020-09-02 9:27 PM (GMT-05:00)  
To: "Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)" <adam.levine@canada.ca>, "Participant Funding Program / Programme de financement des participants (CNSC/CCSN)" <cnscc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca>  
Cc: "Hoekstra, Arend J.A." <ahoekstra@cassels.com>, Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>, Shannon Landrie-Crossland <slandriecrossland@mns.work>, "Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)" <adam.zenobi@canada.ca>, "Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN)" <cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca>  
Subject: RE: PFP applications to the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project

Hi Adam,

Thank you for your email. Please find our remaining project proposals and the corresponding CV's attached. Note, the Hazardous Materials Project CV's are within the proposal letter from Newfields, also attached. We appreciate the additional time that has been given (as I hope you will appreciate, preparing these proposals was a significant, unfunded exercise for MN-S). In preparing our application, we did not see a constraint to suggest that only one application could be made. We note that MN-S represents a number of potentially-impacted communities and that Métis people make up over half of the population in Northern Region 2.

We would be pleased to line up a call with you next week, once you have all of our materials, to walk through the submitted materials.

Kind regards,

Emilie



Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP | [cassels.com](http://cassels.com)  
Suite 2200, HSBC Building, 885 West Georgia St.  
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E8 Canada

---

**From:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.levine@canada.ca](mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2020 6:20 AM  
**To:** Lahaie, Emilie <[elahaie@cassels.com](mailto:elahaie@cassels.com)>; Participant Funding Program / Programme de financement des participants (CNSC/CCSN) <[cnscc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnscc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca)>  
**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>; Shannon Landrie-Crossland <[slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)>; Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <[cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: PFP applications to the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project

Hi Emilie, thank you for submitting the funding application on behalf of the Metis Nation Saskatchewan. Can you please clarify, what the intent of the MN-S is in terms of the funding applications for this funding opportunity? How many different funding applications are to be submitted in total for the MN-S? Normally we would expect to see one funding application from the MN-S, that includes all elements of the proposal. Is this to be considered one application, but with multiple additional pages as there was not enough room in the application form?

Also, when should we expect the additional applications by, is Sept. 18 feasible as per Adam Z.'s email (attached). We will review the applications submitted to date and let you know if we have any questions prior to providing it to our Funding Review Committee for recommendations. We should have a decision on the funding applications by early to mid-October.

Please let me know if you would like to talk about all of this over the phone, thanks!

Adam  
613-462-5159

---

**From:** Lahaie, Emilie <[elahaie@cassels.com](mailto:elahaie@cassels.com)>  
**Sent:** August 28, 2020 5:21 PM  
**To:** Participant Funding Program / Programme de financement des participants (CNSC/CCSN) <[cnscc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca](mailto:cnscc.pfp.ccsn@canada.ca)>  
**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>; Shannon Landrie-Crossland <[slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)>  
**Subject:** PFP applications to the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook I project

Dear Mr. Zenobi,

Please find attached some of Metis Nation – Saskatchewan’s PFP applications to review the draft Environmental Impact Statement for NexGen Energy Ltd.’s Rook I project and accompanying CVs.

Thank you for the September 18, 2020 extension, we will send our final applications in the coming weeks, prior to the deadline

Best Wishes,

Emilie

**Cassels** | **EMILIE LAHAIE**  
t: +1 778 372 7651  
e: [elahaie@cassels.com](mailto:elahaie@cassels.com)

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP | [cassels.com](http://cassels.com)  
Suite 2200, HSBC Building, 885 West Georgia St.  
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E8 Canada

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**From:** Sydney Nickolet <s.nickolet@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 6, 2022 11:00 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Mark Calette  
**Subject:** Update on TOR and NR2 TLU study  
**Attachments:** MNS\_tlurep\_nex\_26-Feb-2020wl.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Ryan,

Hope you are enjoying your week off and avoiding the rain!

I just wanted to send you a quick update about the outstanding action items from our last call. I was able to receive an answer about the Terms of Reference and it looks like our CEO Richard Quintal will be the signer for that document. So, it should be good to go for signature. As for sharing the PDF version of the NR2 study that Wanda Lewis completed, I have attached that study above for CNSC's reference. Once our digitization is complete, we will look to also sharing that with the CNSC but for now the PDF version is all we have available.

Best,

**Sydney Nickolet** (she/her/hers)  
Jr. Lands and Consultation Liaison Officer

306-381-5286

310 - 20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** July 11, 2022 5:07 PM  
**To:** Sydney Nickolet  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Mark Calette; Wylie, Doug; DeCoste, Laura; O'Neill, Shannon  
**Subject:** RE: Update on TOR and NR2 TLU study  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6832914-v1-Terms\_of\_Reference\_between\_MN-S\_and\_CNCS\_for\_Rook\_1  
-\_MN-S-CNCS\_FINAL.DOCX

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Sydney,

Please see attached the Final TOR between CNCS and MN-S for signature. I have removed the comments we already discussed as a group that have been addressed and removed the DRAFT watermark and inserted signature lines.

Please feel free to pass this to CEO Richard for his signature and then I can get Director General Haidy Tadros to sign. I will return a PDF signed copy for your records with both signatures. Let me know if that works.

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Sydney Nickolet <s.nicolet@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 11, 2022 11:02 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cncs-ccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cncs-ccsn.gc.ca>; Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cncs-ccsn.gc.ca>; DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cncs-ccsn.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cncs-ccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on TOR and NR2 TLU study

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Ryan,

This all sounds great. I have attached the final copy of the TOR above, but it does not have a signature page and also has the draft watermark. Would you be able to add a signature page with the signer from our side as MN-S CEO Richard Quintal and finalize the document then I can pass it along to him for signature?

Thanks,

**Sydney Nickolet** (she/her/hers)  
Jr. Lands and Consultation Liaison Officer

306-381-5286

310 - 20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7



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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 8, 2022 4:15 PM  
**To:** Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Update on TOR and NR2 TLU study

Hi Sydney,

Sorry just back in the office today and playing catch-up on emails.

Thanks for following up on these actions items and great to hear that MN-S is ready to sign the TOR with the CNSC. Once Richard Quintal signs the document we can get the Director General from CNSC to sign and I can send back a final signed document for both parties to have a copy.

As for the PDF version of the NR2 TLU study thanks for sharing this with CNSC staff. We will save this document accordingly will be reviewing and completing a "What we Heard Report" and once completed will share it with MN-S and NR2 to ensure we have documented their issues and concerns within the TLU study accurately. We can discuss next steps when meet on next week if that works?

Have a good weekend,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>  
**Sent:** July 6, 2022 11:00 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>  
**Subject:** Update on TOR and NR2 TLU study

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hi Ryan,

Hope you are enjoying your week off and avoiding the rain!

I just wanted to send you a quick update about the outstanding action items from our last call. I was able to receive an answer about the Terms of Reference and it looks like our CEO Richard Quintal will be the signer for that document. So, it should be good to go for signature. As for sharing the PDF version of the NR2 study that Wanda Lewis completed, I have attached that study above for CNSC's reference. Once our digitization is complete, we will look to also sharing that with the CNSC but for now the PDF version is all we have available.

Best,

**Sydney Nickolet** (she/her/hers)  
Jr. Lands and Consultation Liaison Officer

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**From:** Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 12, 2022 3:06 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole  
**Cc:** Sydney Nickolet  
**Subject:** NexGen 2022 Site Program Application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Ryan and Nicole.

Our team was wondering if we could have a quick chat about the NexGen 2022 site permit application. From our understanding the CNSC has addressed the airstrip but not the other issues MN-S has. Let us know when we can have that discussion.

Thanks

***Mark Calette***

Senior Director Lands and Consultation  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7  
Tel: 306-361-1860  
Email: [mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)

---

**From:** Sukkau, Lori  
**Sent:** July 18, 2022 3:23 PM  
**To:** Sydney Nickolet; Mark Calette  
**Cc:** ahoekstra@cassels.com; Burton, Patrick; Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

Hi Sydney,

Thank you for your note. It is a busy time! Unfortunately after reviewing schedules, the next available days and times would be as follows:

- Tuesday, August 16, 2022 – 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm CST
- Wednesday, August 17, 2022 – 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm CST or
- Thursday, August 18, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon CST.

Hopefully one of these dates will work for most to get together and meet.

Thank you,

Take care  
Kind regards,

*Lori Sukkau*

*Lori Sukkau*

*Administrative Assistant | Adjointe administrative*

*Uranium Mines and Mills Division | Division des mines et des usines de concentration d'uranium*

*Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation | Direction de la Règlementation du Cycle et des Installations Nucléaires*

*Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire*

*[lori.sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:lori.sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca) | Mobile: 306-914-2451*

---

**From:** Sydney Nickolet <s.nickolet@mns.work>

**Sent:** July 18, 2022 11:48 AM

**To:** Sukkau, Lori <Lori.Sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca>; Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>

**Cc:** ahoekstra@cassels.com; Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Lori,

Thank you for proposing some dates to meet regarding the NexGen 2022 Site Activities. Unfortunately, due to our team preparing for Back to Batoche this week, those proposed dates won't work for us. Would you be able to provide some dates/times for next week that would work for the CNSC?

Please note that I am away on holidays next week, but the rest of my team will be available to meet.

Best,

**Sydney Nickolet** (she/her/hers)  
Jr. Lands and Consultation Liaison Officer

306-381-5286

310 - 20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

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**From:** Sukkau, Lori <[Lori.Sukkau@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Lori.Sukkau@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** [ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com); Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>; Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

Good morning,

In follow-up to the message below, it would be appreciated if you could please advise if one of the following dates and times proposed would be acceptable for a meeting regarding the NexGen 2022 Site Activities:

- Tuesday, July 19 at 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm CST or
- Friday, July 22 at 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm CST.

Thank you,

Take care  
Kind regards,

*Lori Sukkau*

*Lori Sukkau*

*Administrative Assistant | Adjointe administrative*

*Uranium Mines and Mills Division | Division des mines et des usines de concentration d'uranium*

*Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation | Direction de la Règlementation du Cycle et des Installations Nucléaires*

*Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire*

*[lori.sukkau@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:lori.sukkau@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Mobile: 306-914-2451*

---

**From:** Burton, Patrick

**Sent:** July 15, 2022 4:21 PM

**To:** Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>

**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com)>; Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[nana-owusua.kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nana-owusua.kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities

Mark I'm always open to talk re: areas where MN-S has questions. I will say that my division's role in the airstrip discussion has been peripheral to this point, it's I think more relevant to the Environmental Assessment side of this project (Nicole's group).

I will propose some times dates early next week for everyone's consideration – wishing you all a Happy rest of your Friday and a great weekend!

PB

---

**From:** Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>

**Sent:** July 15, 2022 4:02 PM

**To:** Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com)>; Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** NexGen 2022 Site Activities

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Patrick.

I just wanted to reach out to you about the NexGen 2022 Site Activities. Our team had a call with Ryan and Nicole yesterday to get some clarification on the airstrip as well as other activities that NexGen is proposing in their 2022 Site Activities application. We were able to get some clarification from that meeting, but upon further reflection, our team still has some questions and confusion about the proposed activities as well as possible future activities that may take place at or around the Rook I property. Would we be able to jump on a call with yourself as well as Ryan and Nicole to discuss some of these concerns in the coming weeks? If you could provide some dates/times that work for the three of

you, our team can get something set up. Please note that our lawyer Arend Hoekstra will be in attendance for this meeting.

Thanks and have a great weekend!

***Mark Calette***

Senior Director Lands and Consultation

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan

310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East

Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7

Tel: 306-361-1860

Email: [mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)

---

**From:** Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 28, 2022 8:59 AM  
**Subject:** Leaving MN-S

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Greetings.

I wanted to advise you that I am no longer with MN-S as of tomorrow. Please send any project or other MN-S business correspondence to Sydney Nickolet at [s.nickolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nickolet@mns.work) or the general DTC email at [dtc@mns.work](mailto:dtc@mns.work). I look forward to working with you in other capacities as my post MN-S career gets started.

Sincerely,

***Mark Calette***

Senior Director Lands and Consultation  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7  
Tel: 306-361-1860  
Email: [mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)

---

**From:** Sydney Nickolet <s.nickolet@mns.work>  
**Sent:** August 9, 2022 9:56 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica; Wylie, Doug  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque; Shannon Landrie-Crossland  
**Subject:** MN-S Farewell Email  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6832914-v1-Terms\_of\_Reference\_between\_MN-S\_and\_CNCS\_for\_Rook\_1  
-\_MN-S-CNCS\_FINAL (003).pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello CNCS Team,

I wanted to send you all a quick email as this is my last week with MN-S. As I am sure most of you have heard, I have accepted a position with the CNCS on the ISRD team and am incredibly grateful for this opportunity to continue to work with you all!

This week I have been wrapping up a few files including the projects we were working on together and wanted to give you all a heads up who will be taking over. Brent Laroque, MN-S Director of Environment and Shannon Landrie-Crossland, MN-S Senior Engagement Advisor, will be overseeing the department for the time being. Please see the following transition changes-

- I have attached the signed TOR above. Apologies on the delay in getting it back to you, we recently had a shift in upper management.
- As for the FIRT team, Shannon (copied above) will sit in these meetings in Mark's place alongside Marlene Hansen.
- For both monthly meetings (Denison & NexGen), Brent and Shannon will be attending these in me and Mark's place. I have forwarded them the August meetings for both Denison and NexGen.
- MN-S is still completing the public technical review for the NexGen draft EIS.

Nicole, would you be able to reach out to Shannon directly and share a little bit about the FIRT with her as well as share with her when the next meeting is scheduled for. Looks like I don't have anything in my calendar for the next meeting to share with her.

I will be attending our Denison monthly meeting tomorrow and I have sent the invite to both Brent and Shannon so that way I can introduce you to them in our last meeting together. If you require anything from the MN-S Lands and Consultation team going forward, please reach out to either Brent or Shannon. I have copied them both above so that you have their contact information.

I just wanted to say thank you all for your support, not only during this transition period, but also throughout my time at MN-S. It has truly been a pleasure getting to work with all of you and I cannot wait to continue working together starting next week! 😊

Sydney



---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** August 11, 2022 3:21 PM  
**To:** Sydney Nickolet; Brent Laroque; Shannon Landrie-Crossland; ahoekstra@cassels.com  
**Cc:** Burton, Patrick; Frigault, Nicole; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua; Levine, Adam; Wylie, Doug; Sukkau, Lori  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Sydney ,

As discussed this afternoon I am just following up to determine if MN-S wants to still have the meeting with CNSC staff on August 18 at 11 am CST to 12 pm CST? I just wanted to follow-up and include both Brent and Shannon on this correspondence as well as Arend to see if MN-S wanted to hold this date and time?

Unfortunately due to other commitments Nicole and I cannot make it now but I have included some of our CNSC colleagues including Patrick and Nana who are available to meet. Alternatively we can find another time if preferred when Nicole and I are available? Let us know what works best and we would be happy to accommodate!

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Sukkau, Lori <Lori.Sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** July 21, 2022 4:08 PM  
**To:** Sydney Nickolet <s.nicolet@mns.work>; Mark Calette <mcalette@mns.work>  
**Cc:** ahoekstra@cassels.com; Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

Hi Sydney,

Thank you for your response. Please note a meeting invitation for Thursday, August 18 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm CST will follow shortly.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you.

Take care  
Kind regards,

*Lori Sukkau*

*Lori Sukkau*

*Administrative Assistant | Adjointe administrative*

*Uranium Mines and Mills Division | Division des mines et des usines de concentration d'uranium*

*Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation | Direction de la Règlementation du Cycle et des Installations Nucléaires*

*Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire*

*[lori.sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:lori.sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca) | Mobile: 306-914-2451*

---

**From:** Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>

**Sent:** July 20, 2022 1:21 PM

**To:** Sukkau, Lori <[Lori.Sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Lori.Sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>

**Cc:** [ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com); Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Lori,

I was able to reach out to our team and looks like Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup> 11:00am-12:00pm CST works best for us. If you would like to send out the invite, that would be great. You can include Mark, Arend and myself from our end and if needed, I can forward it on to anyone else who may be joining.

Thank you,

**Sydney Nickolet** (she/her/hers)

Jr. Lands and Consultation Liaison Officer

306-381-5286

310 - 20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory



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**From:** Sukkau, Lori <[Lori.Sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Lori.Sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 3:23 PM  
**To:** Sydney Nickolet <[s.nickolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nickolet@mns.work)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** [ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com); Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

Hi Sydney,

Thank you for your note. It is a busy time! Unfortunately after reviewing schedules, the next available days and times would be as follows:

- Tuesday, August 16, 2022 – 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm CST
- Wednesday, August 17, 2022 – 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm CST or
- Thursday, August 18, 2022 – 11:00 am – 12:00 noon CST.

Hopefully one of these dates will work for most to get together and meet.

Thank you,

Take care  
Kind regards,

*Lori Sukkau*

*Lori Sukkau*

*Administrative Assistant | Adjointe administrative*

*Uranium Mines and Mills Division | Division des mines et des usines de concentration d'uranium*

*Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation | Direction de la Règlementation du Cycle et des Installations Nucléaires*

*Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire*

*[lori.sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:lori.sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Mobile: 306-914-2451*

---

**From:** Sydney Nickolet <[s.nickolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nickolet@mns.work)>  
**Sent:** July 18, 2022 11:48 AM  
**To:** Sukkau, Lori <[Lori.Sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Lori.Sukkau@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** [ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com); Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Lori,

Thank you for proposing some dates to meet regarding the NexGen 2022 Site Activities. Unfortunately, due to our team preparing for Back to Batoche this week, those proposed dates won't work for us. Would you be able to provide some dates/times for next week that would work for the CNSC?

Please note that I am away on holidays next week, but the rest of my team will be available to meet.

Best,

**Sydney Nickolet** (she/her/hers)  
Jr. Lands and Consultation Liaison Officer

306-381-5286

310 - 20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory



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**From:** Sukkau, Lori <[Lori.Sukkau@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Lori.Sukkau@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** [ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com); Sydney Nickolet <[s.nickolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nickolet@mns.work)>; Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** NexGen 2022 Site Activities - Proposed Meeting Dates/Times

Good morning,

In follow-up to the message below, it would be appreciated if you could please advise if one of the following dates and times proposed would be acceptable for a meeting regarding the NexGen 2022 Site Activities:

- Tuesday, July 19 at 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm CST or
- Friday, July 22 at 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm CST.

Thank you,

Take care  
Kind regards,

*Lori Sukkau*

*Lori Sukkau*

*Administrative Assistant | Adjointe administrative*

*Uranium Mines and Mills Division | Division des mines et des usines de concentration d'uranium*

*Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation | Direction de la Réglementation du Cycle et des Installations Nucléaires*

*Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire*

*[lori.sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:lori.sukkau@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca) | Mobile: 306-914-2451*

---

**From:** Burton, Patrick

**Sent:** July 15, 2022 4:21 PM

**To:** Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>

**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com)>; Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <[nana-owusua.kwamena@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nana-owusua.kwamena@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: NexGen 2022 Site Activities

Mark I'm always open to talk re: areas where MN-S has questions. I will say that my division's role in the airstrip discussion has been peripheral to this point, it's I think more relevant to the Environmental Assessment side of this project (Nicole's group).

I will propose some times dates early next week for everyone's consideration – wishing you all a Happy rest of your Friday and a great weekend!

PB

---

**From:** Mark Calette <[mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)>

**Sent:** July 15, 2022 4:02 PM

**To:** Burton, Patrick <[Patrick.Burton@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Burton@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahoekstra@cassels.com)>; Sydney Nickolet <[s.nicolet@mns.work](mailto:s.nicolet@mns.work)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** NexGen 2022 Site Activities

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Patrick.

I just wanted to reach out to you about the NexGen 2022 Site Activities. Our team had a call with Ryan and Nicole yesterday to get some clarification on the airstrip as well as other activities that NexGen is proposing in their 2022 Site Activities application. We were able to get some clarification from that meeting, but upon further reflection, our team still has some questions and confusion about the proposed activities as well as possible future activities that may take place at or around the Rook I property. Would we be able to jump on a call with yourself as well as Ryan and Nicole to discuss some of these concerns in the coming weeks? If you could provide some dates/times that work for the three of you, our team can get something set up. Please note that our lawyer Arend Hoekstra will be in attendance for this meeting.

Thanks and have a great weekend!

***Mark Calette***

Senior Director Lands and Consultation

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan

310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East

Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7

Tel: 306-361-1860

Email: [mcalette@mns.work](mailto:mcalette@mns.work)

---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** August 25, 2022 9:24 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; Shannon Landrie-Crossland; m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** In-person meeting in SK - Oct 18 pm or Oct 19 am- availability

**Importance:** High

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good morning!

I am just looking into getting a date and time into all of our calendars for an in-person meeting – at the CNSC Saskatoon office – to discuss the Federal Indigenous Review Team comments on the NexGen draft EIS prior to CNSC sending comments back to NexGen – as well as to share CNSC’s findings and ensure we’ve captured things correctly.

Does one/both of the following work for everyone?

**Tuesday October 18, 2022 , 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

**Or**

**Wednesday, October 19, 9am – 12 noon**

Please let me know what works best for you asap and I will send out a meeting invite !

Thank you

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada

Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada

[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657



---

**From:** O'Neill, Shannon  
**Sent:** August 29, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** blaroque@mns.work; slandriecrossland@mns.work; m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net; mcaron@mns.work  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Wylie, Doug; Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** CNSC/MN-S – NexGen EA – August Meeting - Meeting Minutes  
**Categories:** For IM, Rook 1

Good afternoon everyone,

Please see below for the meeting notes and action items from our August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you,

Shannon O'Neill  
(She/Her/Elle)

Environmental Assessment Officer / Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
[Shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

Agente en évaluation environnementale | Division de l'évaluation environnementale  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

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### **CNSC/MN-S – NexGen EA – August Meeting - Meeting Minutes**

**Date** - Monday August 22, 2022 (3-4 pm EST)

**Attendees** - Brent Laroque, Shannon Landrie-Crossland, Matthew Caron, Marlene Hansen, Nicole Frigault, Ryan Froess, Doug Wylie, Shannon O'Neill

#### **Discussion:**

- CNSC provided an overview of where we are in the NexGen Rook I regulatory process
  - o NexGen submitted draft EIS in July
    - The Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) is currently performing a 90 day technical review
    - Concurrent public review of the draft EIS
- Discussion on the terms of reference (ToR)
  - o The ToR is signed and MN-S will circulate the signed copy internally
  - o The purpose of the ToR is to formalize the relationship between CNSC and MN-S on how we want to work on the NexGen file together
  - o Outlines opportunities for participation in the FIRT and developing a Rights Impact Assessment (RIA)
- Discussion on the RIA
  - o An RIA assess how the project may impact rights in the region, and will be included in the EA report that is sent to the Commission
  - o Agreed to start working on RIA after the technical and public review of the draft EIS is complete (late October)

- CNSC to book a meeting in late October to begin RIA work and go through comments on the draft EIS **(ACTION - Complete)**.
- Discussion on the FIRT kickoff in July
  - Marlene noted she felt unprepared at the FIRT Kickoff
    - Nicole noted that this was an introductory session to get everyone familiar with the EIS and there won't be any similar presentations by NexGen unless specifically requested.
  - CNSC to schedule monthly meetings with the focus on the review of the EIS **(ACTION - Complete)**
- Discussion on future meetings
  - During the period of transition for MN-S, requested to combine the NexGen and Denison meetings
  - Plan to include discussion of NexGen for the next Denison meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> **(ACTION - Complete)**
- MN-S noted that they have weekly meetings with Two Worlds Consulting, who has funding to perform the public review of the draft EIS
- Discussion on other potential meetings
  - NexGen results workshop focused on the Metis Nation
  - Option for the CNSC to meet leadership
- CNSC noted that there will be a webinar on the NexGen and Denison projects on September 13<sup>th</sup> and will send over details **(ACTION – Complete)**
- MN-S noted that they haven't met with NexGen since July 19<sup>th</sup> and will have an update meeting soon
- MN-S noted that the funding to digitize the TLU is approved and MN-S is waiting to hear back about the budget for the food study

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** September 12, 2022 3:52 PM  
**To:** Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** Zenobi, Adam; slandriecrossland@mns.work  
**Subject:** CNSC Participant Funding Program - Contribution Agreement - NexGen's Rook 1 Project - MN-S  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6487614-v1-PFP\_2020\_NGEN-02\_CA\_MN-S\_FINAL.PDF  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good afternoon Brent ,

Please find attached details with regard to the funding that MN-S received for review of the Draft EIS for NexGen's Rook 1 Project.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Adam Zenobi or I if you have any further questions?

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** Way, Jessica  
**Sent:** September 16, 2022 11:49 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; Shannon Landrie-Crossland  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; DeCoste, Laura; Gorzkowski, Konrad; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica; O'Neill, Shannon; Yen, Wish; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** MNS-CNSC Meeting Minutes - Rook I and Wheeler River EAs - September 12th, 2022  
**Categories:** Rook 1

Hi Brent, Shannon,

Thank you for making time to meet with us earlier this week. Below are the meeting minutes from that call.

If you have any questions, concerns or edits, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Have a great weekend!

Jes

**Jes Way, MEnv, PMP**

(she / her / elle)

Environmental Assessment Officer | Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Government of Canada  
[Jessica.Way@cnsc-ccsn.cg.ca](mailto:Jessica.Way@cnsc-ccsn.cg.ca) | Tel: 343-540-6213

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#### Métis Nation of Saskatchewan-CNSC Meeting Minutes – Monthly Project Updates

September 12, 2022 1-2:30PM CST

Attendees: Brent Laroque, Shannon Landrie-Crossland, Ryan Froess, Laura DeCoste, Konrad Gorzkowski, Nicole Frigault, Jessica Way, Shannon O'Neill, Wish Yen

#### NexGen

- Project is currently in the technical review phase
- Public and technical comments are due October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Participant funding program
  - MN-S applied in 2019, with approximately 90 thousand dollars awarded for the public comments period
    - MN-S confirmed that 45 thousand dollars was advanced by the CNSC
  - Funding will be available for the Commission hearing phase/EA report at a later date
- MN-S has met with NexGen on the joint working group and on prioritizing reviews of documents
  - Internal MN-S engagement session preparation September 30<sup>th</sup>
    - Preparation for leadership (President and council) for the upcoming Metis specific community meeting
  - Community meeting with all citizens for engagement in NR2
  - MN-S will send out invitation for CNSC and the provincial government to participate (if they are available)
- MN-S is currently waiting on the draft from Two-Worlds to begin their review, Two-Worlds will also be preparing a walkthrough presentation on September 30

### CNSC Webinar on NexGen and Wheeler River EAs

- [NexGen Rook I and Denison Wheeler River Projects Webinar](#) on September 13, 2022 from 12-1PM EST (CNSC staff can make this available as a recording, if MN-S staff missed it)

### Wheeler River

- Denison has indicated they will be submitting the EIS likely first week of Oct and if the EIS passes the 30-day conformity review, the 90-day comment period will kick off
- Participant funding program
  - MN-S was awarded funding to participate in the 90-day comment period
- Shannon will be in Pinehouse participating at the culture camp when CNSC travel to Northern Saskatchewan later this month; Brett is unavailable to meet with CNSC staff that week
- Denison has not yet submitted a licence application, so the process is slightly different than NexGen which is undergoing both the licencing process and environmental assessment process

### UMMD ROR

- Thursday in-person UMM ROR engagement session in Saskatoon
- December 15 and 16, 2022 – Commission hearing for the Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium and Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities in Canada: 2021

### Action Items

- CNSC to share PFP information for the NexGen and Wheeler River projects, including specifically funded activities and award amounts – COMPLETE
- CNCS to update consultation meeting on NexGen to October 27<sup>th</sup>, in person at CNSC's Saskatoon office - COMPLETE
- MN-S to share invite for the MN-S community engagement meeting on NexGen

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** September 29, 2022 10:52 AM  
**To:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen NR2 Community Meetings

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Shannon  
Unfortunately cnscc won't be able to attend these sessions in person however if we can attend virtually that would be appreciated!  
Thanks again ,  
Nicole

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**From:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <[slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen NR2 Community Meetings

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good morning Nicole,

Dates might be good , hey? 😊 sorry about that I drove in from Ile-a-la-Crosse last night. The dates are October 5<sup>th</sup> in La Loche and October 6<sup>th</sup> in Buffalo.

Cheers,  
Shannon

*Shannon Landrie-Crossland*

Senior Engagement Advisor  
Citizen Engagement and Events Unit  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7  
Tel: 306-361-9521  
Email: [slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2022 6:48 AM  
**To:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <[slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen NR2 Community Meetings

Good morning Shannon!

Thank you so much for the invite! What are the dates of the meetings? We will see if we can make it work in person but either way we would like to attend virtually if that can work.

Thanks!

Nicole

---

**From:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <[slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)>  
**Sent:** September 26, 2022 10:45 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen NR2 Community Meetings

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good evening Nicole,

We have confirmed the community meetings and would like to invite a representative from CNSC to attend in-person. We also understand with the short notice it might not be possible and can accommodate a virtual attendance.

1<sup>st</sup> Session – La Loche  
Location: Friendship Centre  
Time: 5 pm – 8 pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Session – Buffalo Narrows  
Location: Lakeview Complex  
Time: 5 pm – 8 pm

Best,  
Shannon

*Shannon Landrie-Crossland*

Senior Engagement Advisor  
Citizen Engagement and Events Unit  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7  
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**NR2 MÉTIS CITIZENS LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD**



# **NexGen Rook 1 Project Community Engagement Sessions**

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Northern  
Region 2 Clearwater-Clearlake invites  
all MN-S NR 2 Métis Citizens to join us  
for discussions with NexGen on the  
Rook 1 Project Environmental Impact  
Statement (EIS).

**COMMUNITY SESSION 1**

**OCT 5 /2022**  
**5:00PM - 8:00PM**  
**LA LOCHE, SK**  
**AT THE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE**

**COMMUNITY SESSION 2**

**OCT 6 /2022**  
**5:00PM - 8:00PM**  
**BUFFALO NARROWS, SK**  
**AT THE LAKEVIEW COMPLEX**

**SUPPER PROVIDED**



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**Subject:** RE: NexGen Rook 1 Project - La Loche Engagement Session  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting  
  
**Start:** Wed 2022-10-05 5:00 PM  
**End:** Wed 2022-10-05 8:30 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative  
  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
  
**Organizer:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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## Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

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Passcode: hZpzZo

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[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** October 24, 2022 1:18 PM  
**To:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Zenobi, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: October 27th, 2022 CNSC Meeting

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Shannon – are you referring to our meeting this week in SK?  
If yes – then I think the best way is to use the existing PFP that is in place for EIS review etc. If you require additional funds please reply back to this message to Adam Zenobi directly to get the paperwork in order!  
Thanks and I look forward to meeting with you this week!  
Nicole

---

**From:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <[slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)>  
**Sent:** October 24, 2022 2:35 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: October 27th, 2022 CNSC Meeting

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon, Nicole

Quick question, is travel for NR 2 Leadership going to be covered by CNSC?

Cheers,  
Shannon

*Shannon Landrie-Crossland*

Senior Engagement Advisor  
Citizen Engagement and Events Unit  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7  
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Email: [slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)

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# CNSC/MN-S Meeting

## Room I – EIS Submission and Next Steps



October 26/27, 2022



## OUTLINE

- ✓ Overview of Rook I project
- ✓ EIS timeline
- ✓ Issues and concerns identified in EIS
- ✓ Next Steps



## Rook I Overview

- NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen) is proposing to develop an underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan
- The proposed Rook I mine would produce up to 14 million kg of  $U_3O_8$  annually for twenty-four years.
- Under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act, NexGen's proposal requires approval and licensing by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
- An environmental assessment (EA) conducted under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012

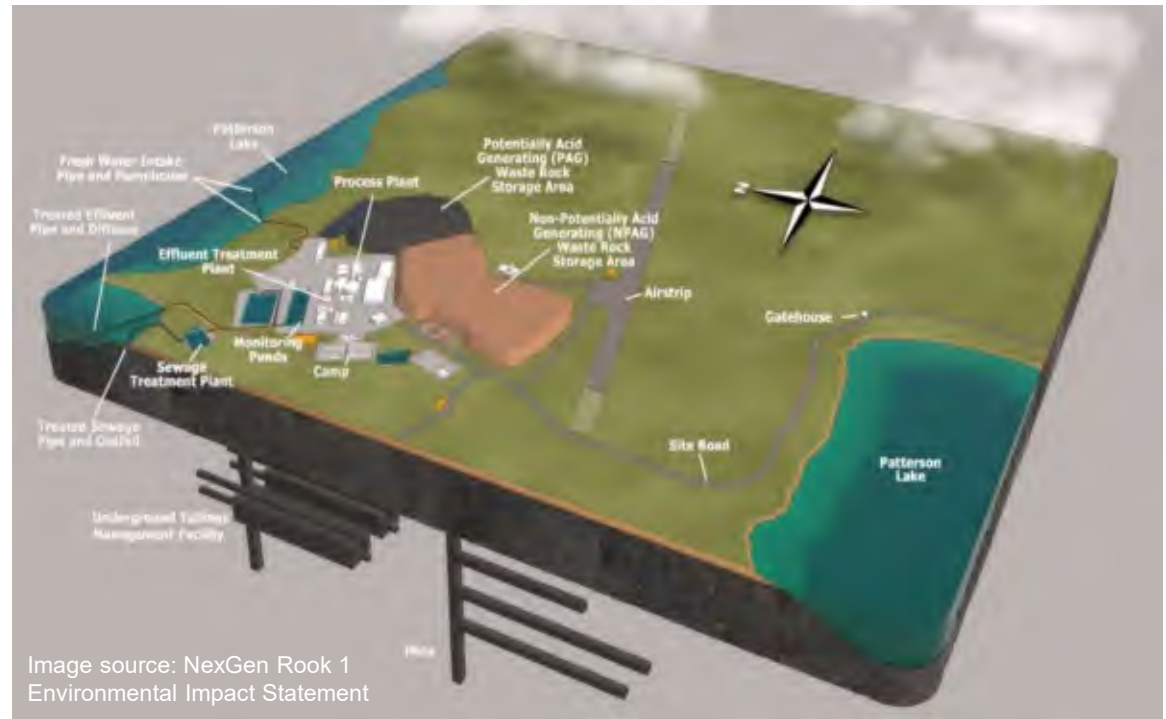
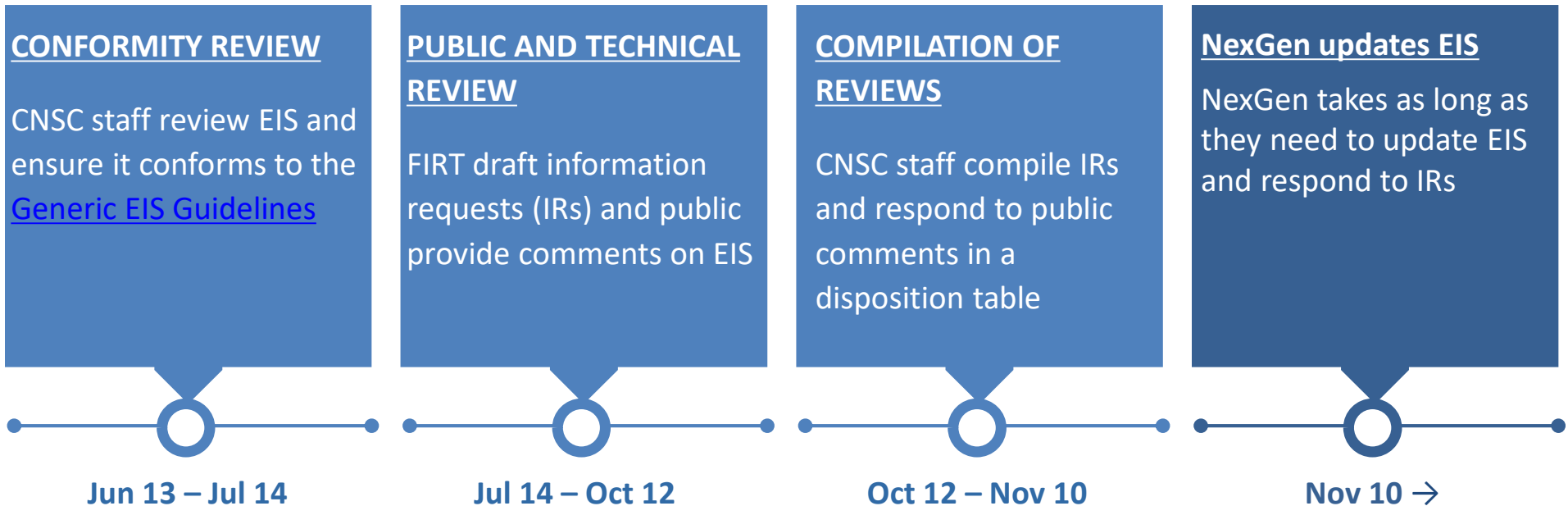


Image source: NexGen Rook 1  
Environmental Impact Statement





## EIS Process





## Issues and Concerns

- NexGen's EIS included the following issues and concerns expressed by MN-S:
  - Access to land, use of land
  - Transmission of traditional knowledge
  - Cumulative effects (Fort McMurry)
  - Lack of and quality of engagement
  - Community well-being (family dynamics, mental health etc)
  - Socio-economic environment



## Issues and Concerns cont..

- Accidents and spills
- Lack of confidence in environmental monitoring data
- Safety of consuming fish from Patterson Lake
- Ability to harvest country foods
- Dust on vegetation and wildlife
- Decrease in water quality
- Pollution generated by Project
- Radiation exposure
- Safety of tailings stored underground



## Discussion

- Has NexGen adequately addressed these issues in the EIS?
- Is there any additional information you need from NexGen regarding these concerns?
- Are there any mitigation measures that you would recommend to address these concerns?
- How has this information been shared with the community?
- Are there any concerns not identified in the list above?



## Next Steps

- CNSC staff will compile the Information Requests (IRs) drafted by the federal and Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) and send them to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
- CNSC will post the public comment table as well as the FIRT comment table to the Registry on or shortly after submission to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Only the comments are posted to the Registry for now. NexGen responses are only posted once the EIS is deemed acceptable.
- NexGen will be required to update the EIS and respond to the IRs. This will take as long as needed.



# Connect With Us

Thank You! Questions?



[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



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**From:** Brent Laroque  
**Sent:** October 31, 2022 4:12 PM  
**To:** Zenobi, Adam  
**Cc:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland; Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC - Participant Funding Program - NexGen Rook I EIS - Final Financial Report - MN-S

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Sounds good Adam, I'm working with Two Worlds to confirm their invoices will be completed ASAP.

---

**From:** Zenobi, Adam <adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 31, 2022 2:47 PM  
**To:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>  
**Cc:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <slandriecrossland@mns.work>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC - Participant Funding Program - NexGen Rook I EIS - Final Financial Report - MN-S

Hello Brent,

Now that Metis Nation-Saskatchewan has submitted comments on NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Rook I Project, please find attached a Final Financial Report (FFR) to be completed and returned to me in order to receive payment. We would like to receive the FFR by November 25, 2022, if possible. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Adam Zenobi

Senior Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Cell: 613-415-2814

Agent principal en politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell. : 613-415-2814



---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** November 3, 2022 10:54 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; m.sunshine.hansen@sasktel.net; slandriecrossland@mns.work  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Wylie, Doug; O'Neill, Shannon; DeCoste, Laura; Nickolet, Sydney  
**Subject:** CNSC - Metis Nation Saskatchewan - meeting mins - October 27, 2022

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning,

Please find attached meeting mins from our meeting with MN-S and NR2 in Saskatoon last week. Please let us know if we missed anything or any edits. We would like to thank both Marlene and Shannon for taking the time to meet with CNSC staff and we look forward to our next meeting and continuing to build our relationship.

I believe we will have a decision from the FRC on funding decision for Cluff Lake later next week and as proposed we would like to suggest a meeting with MN-S in the coming month on this file. I will be in touch with Brent and Shannon to set something up in the week ahead.

As always do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything in the short-term and we will see you at next monthly meeting planned for November 7, 2022.

Thanks,  
Ryan

**Summary of October 27, 2022 meeting between MN-S and CNSC staff on NexGen Draft EIS**

Attendees:

**MN-S** Marlene Hansen - Buffalo Narrows Local President , Shannon Landrie-Crossland – MN-S Senior Engagement Lead  
**CNSC** : Ryan Froess (ISRD), Nicole Frigault (EAD), Shannon O'Neil (virtual – EAD), Laura DeCoste (virtual- ISRD), Doug Wylie (virtual – EAD)

**Location:** Saskatoon CNSC office

**Update on the NexGen EIS review process:**

- CNSC staff provided an overview of the EA process and current status and next steps.
- CNSC staff are currently going through the comments MN-S providing and confirming which will be included as part of the FIRT comments and which will be included as public comments.
- Once NexGen receives the comments, they can take as much time as needed to provide responses to the Information Requests (IRs). Once NexGen resubmits, the CNSC and FIRT will review again. This process can occur multiple times until the CNSC accepts all comments. At that point, all the comments and the final EIS will be publicly posted.

**NexGen EIS Discussion:**

- CNSC staff confirmed that NexGen is required to reach out to MN-S to discuss their comments and provide responses. The CNSC expects NexGen to work through the issues and concerns, show how they have been addressed and validate it with MN-S and to include all of this information in their revised EIS submission.
- CNSC staff confirmed that the Duty to Consult lies with the CNSC and the Province. The Province delegates the DtC but the CNSC does not. The CNSC also has requirements for engagement that NexGen has to follow, outline in Reg-Doc 3.2.2 (found here <https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-documents/published/html/regdoc3-2-2-v1-2/index.cfm>)

- MN-S noted that they appreciate the work the CNSC does to meet with them and raised concerns related to provincial engagement and the province trying to move away from federal regulation. CNSC staff confirmed that the CNSC will continue to be involved for all nuclear related activities for the entire lifecycle of all nuclear projects and is open to meeting with MN-S as requested.
- MN-S raised concerns about the EIS, including that they feel like all Indigenous Nations and communities are being grouped in together with the public and concerns with the way Indigenous Knowledge has been incorporated into the EIS.
- MN-S raised concerns related to how NexGen engages with the communities, noting that sometimes they do not go through leadership and there is a lot of information sharing but it doesn't go beyond that. A lot of community members have heard about the project but don't know the details.
- MN-S expressed interest in involving all of the NR2 local presidents more in the Project. CNSC staff have offered to do a presentation to all of the presidents to introduce the CNSC and provide information on the regulatory process and next steps.
- MN-S raised concerns regarding the potential impacts from increase in traffic on the main roads that pass right through their communities
- MN-S raised concerns about the current structure of the Joint Working Groups. CNSC staff noted that MN-S should raise this concern with NexGen.
- MN-S highlighted the importance of the CNSC sharing information about the timelines of the project / regulatory process with the community members as NexGen often gives the impression that the project is further along than it actually is.
- MN-S expressed an interest in having the CNSC meet with the communities in January and highlighted the importance of in-person meetings. MN-S suggested that the CNSC meet with the communities separate from NexGen to ensure there is a distinction between the proponent and the regulator. MN-S wants to involve the communities more moving forward in the process. CNSC has asked that the dates for such events be given in advance when known to ensure CNSC staff can plan and participate.
- CNSC staff noted that they will be looking to start the Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) Process with MN-S soon and that there will be additional PFP available for this. There will also be PFP to participate in the EA report phase and the Commission hearing.

#### **Fission:**

- MN-S asked for an update on the Fission Project. CNSC staff indicated that right now Fission is only going through the Provincial Environmental Assessment process. Unlike Nexgen, it has not triggered a Federal EA because the tonnage of ore is below the threshold required for a federal EA under the Impact Assessment Act that was introduced in 2019.
- The Province asked CNSC to be involved as a federal expert. CNSC staff have reviewed and provided comments on Fissions Terms of Reference (similar to a Project Description) on areas of expertise such as environmental protection, waste, decommissioning, mining and milling and Indigenous consultation and engagement.
- Fission has not yet submitted an application for a licence from the CNSC, but they will be required to do so before they can start the project. The CNSC's formal licensing process and review will start when they submit an application. This will also trigger the CNSC's Duty to Consult and Fission will have to follow the CNSC's requirements for Indigenous engagement, outlined in RegDoc 3.2.2.

#### **Updates on other projects:**

- Denison has submitted their EIS and the CNSC is currently doing their 30 day conformity review.
- Cluff Lake hearing will be in March and decision on funding that MN-S NR2 applied for should be communicated soon.
- MN-S noted that it would be helpful to have monthly meetings on all the files, not just Denison / NexGen. CNSC staff are opening to restructuring the monthly meetings in a way that works best for MN-S.

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Way, Jessica  
**Sent:** November 10, 2022 12:06 PM  
**To:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland; Brent Laroque; Jena Nicholls  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Nickolet, Sydney; DeCoste, Laura; Yen, Wish; Wylie, Doug; Frigault, Nicole; O'Neill, Shannon  
**Subject:** MNS-CNSC Meeting Minutes from November 7, 2022  
**Attachments:** CNSC-MNS Meeting on Proposed Wheeler River Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi All,

Below are the meeting minutes from our meeting earlier this week.

@Shannon, I just wanted to highlight that I did propose some dates to meet on Wheeler for the week of Nov 21<sup>st</sup> – as attached. Please let me know if any of these time slots will work for MN-S.

Thanks,  
Jes

-----  
Métis Nation of Saskatchewan/ MNS-CNSC Meeting Minutes – Monthly Project Updates

Date/time: November 7, 2022 3-4:30PM EST

Attendees: Brent Laroque, Shannon Landrie-Crossland, Jena Nicholls, Konrad Gorzkowski, Doug Wylie, Jessica Way, Shannon O'Neill, Wish Yen, Ryan Froess

**NexGen and Rook I:**

- MN-S introduction of new community coordinator for Northern Region 2: Jenna Nicholls (in orientation for the next two weeks)
- EIS engagement activities – reviews and comments were submitted
- Update on community meetings by MNS:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting (Oct) – high level, traditional knowledge, how to participate in the process
    - 60+ participants enjoyed the presentation, but wanted more detailed information on environmental impacts from the project
    - MNS still feels that there is work to be done in informing the community regarding the project
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting (Jan 14/15) – Buffalo Narrows/Laloche – to be hosted by Two-Worlds
    - Providing deeper overview of environmental impacts, as community members indicated wanting to hear more from consultants
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting (anticipated for February, in Buffalo Narrows and La Loche)
    1. Separate meeting between CNSC, MN-S project team and Two-Worlds
    2. MN-S has requested community events with regulator/proponent which would have CNSC, Province of Saskatchewan, NexGen and Two-Worlds provide presentations. CNSC proposed the possibility of having NexGen present for the first half, then step out for the final portion of the meeting so that the MNS and community can speak directly with the regulators without the proponent present.
- Community relationship building has been encountering difficulties
  - NexGen identified IBA as part of the mitigation processes which is raising concerns with MN-S leadership

- EIS process and IBA negotiations are being confused by leadership
  - MN-S project team working internally to clarify the IBA and EIS are separate processes
- Exploration agreement – MN-S recently met with NexGen
  - Meeting to be scheduled with Adam Zenobi to discuss PFP to support permits
  - GOS application or community engagement funding part of it
- Traditional land use currently being digitized by Exterra

#### Round table with CNSC President:

- Currently not feasible due to ongoing licensing and environmental assessment

#### Cluff Lake:

- MN-S engagement and outreach for Cluff Lake has to be postponed to next year
- Notice on results of PFP will be shared November 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup>
- November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Commission Member Documents published for review
  - CNSC recommends reviewing the environmental protection review report which will provide a summary of the environmental protection and human health
- January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – interventions are due
- March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 – hearings in Ottawa
- Orano's long term monitoring program
  - CNSC would like to establish meetings with MN-S to understand concerns around Cluff
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting – CNSC and MN-S project team and consultant
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting – CNSC and MN-S community members
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting – CNSC, Province of SK and Orano presenting to community together

#### Wheeler River Project:

- Denison submitted the EIS on October 21<sup>st</sup>
- Conformity review is currently underway and results will be published on November 21<sup>st</sup>
- November 21<sup>st</sup> – Project activities to kick off if conformity review is passed
  - Public comment period runs from November 21<sup>st</sup> through to mid-February (90 days)
  - CNSC proposed meeting with MN-S to discuss comment period and how this will differ for the Wheeler River Project (MNS has PFP to participate in the comment period, but is not participating in the FIRT). Also to discuss, additional engagement with NR1 and path forward **(Action)**
  - CNSC also noted hoping to travel to SK in early March (Week of March 6<sup>th</sup>) to discuss comments on EIS, at which time would also like to meet with MN-S to discuss EIS activities, including RIA and other steps of the process
- MN-S is excited to work on the EIS
  - Collaboration with Walter (KML) has been developing
  - Brent and Shannon to meet with Carolanne week of November 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the workplan
    - Building relationship with Denison
    - MN-S wants to grow to a joint working group to focus on high priority concerns of the community
  - TLU meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> – to garner interest for a committee formed by interested elders or community members
    - Walter (KML) presenting on TK study and VC's to Northern Region #1
    - Story mapping, interviews to be discussed, workplan underway
- MN-S working with Parks Canada to run TLU studies with more consistent methodologies
- Outreach and engagement meetings requested by MN-S (NR1 and NR3 – Uranium City/Stony Rapids/Athabasca region)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with MN-S board members to disseminate EIS information
  - Additional outreach and engagement meetings with the members of the community and CNSC staff would be desired from MN-S – for further discussion with CNSC

#### Other Updates:

- Planning lots of staffing at MNS. Have a new project Manager starting next Monday, and a Program Coordinator Rosaline Smith. Looking to increase the team by approx. 12 people.

#### Action Items

- Rook I: CNSC to reach out to NexGen and Province of SK to plan a tripartite community outreach event for Metis communities, Buffalo Narrows and La Loche, sometime in early February
- Rook I: Next monthly meeting – CNSC and MNS to discuss February outreach events and possible timing.
- Cluff: MN-S to review activities timelines to determine Cluff Lake engagement sessions
- Wheeler: CNSC to propose meeting times prior to next monthly meeting, to discuss comment period / difference in process compared to Rook I. **Completed** - Proposed for week the review will potentially begin.
- Wheeler: Next monthly meeting – CNSC and MNS to discuss additional outreach and engagement meetings with NR1

#### Jes Way, MEnv, PMP

(she / her / elle)

Environmental Assessment Officer | Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Government of Canada  
[Jessica.Way@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Way@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca) | Tel: 343-540-6213

---

**From:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <slandriecrossland@mns.work>  
**Sent:** December 20, 2022 7:43 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Brent Laroque; Roslyn Smith  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam; Wylie, Doug; Burton, Patrick; Stenson, Ron; Duhaime, Brenda; Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC-MNS - Presentations December 19th meeting

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good evening, Ryan

Thank you for following up on the action items, I really appreciate it! I feel yesterday was a good reset for some of the leadership on projects/activities taking place within NR 2. Yesterday's presentations and discussions were well received, thank you all for a meaningful and productive meeting.

Kind Regards,  
Shannon

*Shannon Landrie-Crossland*

Senior Engagement Advisor  
Citizen Engagement and Events Unit  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
310 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0A7  
Tel: 306-361-9521  
Email: [slandriecrossland@mns.work](mailto:slandriecrossland@mns.work)

*Homeland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory*



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---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 12:31 PM  
**To:** Shannon Landrie-Crossland <slandriecrossland@mns.work>; Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>; Roslyn Smith <rsmith@mns.work>  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Stenson, Ron <Ron.Stenson@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Duhaime, Brenda <brenda.duhaime@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC-MNS - Presentations December 19th meeting

Hi Shannon, Brent and Roslyn,



Thank you for taking the time to meet with CNSC staff yesterday. It was great to share about how we regulate uranium mines and mills and answer questions and discuss upcoming projects and hearings in 2023. I have attached the two CNSC presentations that staff delivered yesterday for you to have a copy. I noted a couple of Actions items I had planned to follow-up with Métis Nation Saskatchewan (MNS) in the new year below. Please let me know if I missed anything and happy to meet as always when there is interest on any of the projects we regulate.

Action 1 - CNSC staff work to set up meeting with Province of Sk and Orano to discuss Cluff Lake file in January – Cluff Lake hearing March 1-2, 2023, PFP was awarded to the MNS to participate and intervene in the hearing.

Action 2 – NexGen - MNS to follow-up with CNSC in the New Year if any interest in CNSC staff visiting NR2 to present at community level to MNS citizens in the region. We will need a month to plan for this trip if interest.

Action 3 – CNSC/MNS staff set up meeting in 2023 to discuss Key/MacArthur/Rabbit license renewals (June 2023) – PFP was awarded to the MNS and will be communicated to MNS staff in the coming weeks.

If you could please thank Leonard, Keith, and Marlene for taking the time to travel down to Saskatoon and we look forward to working with you all in 2023. Let me know if you need anything else or if I missed anything.

Happy holidays and enjoy your time off with your family and friends and see you in 2023 at our next monthly meeting!

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Yen, Wish  
**Sent:** February 13, 2023 3:58 PM  
**To:** Way, Jessica; Froess, Ryan; Shannon Landrie-Crossland; Brent Laroque; Frigault, Nicole; Nickolet, Sydney  
**Cc:** Jena Nicholls; Roslyn Smith  
**Subject:** RE: MN-S/CNSC Monthly Meeting - Rook I / Wheeler River EAs

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon everyone,

Please find the meeting minutes from last week below for your consideration.

Thank you and have a great week,

**Wish Yen** (she, her, elle)

Environmental Assessment Officer | Agente en évaluation environnementale

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[wish.yen@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:wish.yen@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | 343.553.2233



#### Métis Nation of Saskatchewan/ MNS-CNSC Meeting Minutes – Monthly Project Updates

February 6, 2023 3-4:30PM EST

Brent Laroque, Andrew Spriggs, Jena Nicholls, Roslyn Smith, Nicole Frigault, Jessica Way, Wish Yen, Ryan Froess, Sydney Nickolet

- Welcome
  - Andrew Spriggs (Christopher Lake) – Lands and consultation officer

#### **NexGen Project**

- No new updates for the NexGen project from CNSC
- Information requests were shared back to NexGen in November and CNSC is currently waiting for responses to IRs from NexGen
  - No technical meeting requests from NexGen on the IRs yet
- Presentation on post-EIS meetings were done in late December
  - Shannon and Marlene have not yet reached out on the presentation or if additional information is requested by the local board
- MNS currently has direct agreements with NexGen on food studies
  - NexGen and CanNorth visited MNS on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to present on food studies
  - Shannon is waiting until after the 18<sup>th</sup> prior to following up with NexGen

#### **Denison Wheeler River Project**

- February 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>: presentations for NR-1 and NR-3 on CNSC as a regulator and our roles
- February 18<sup>th</sup>: deadline for Public comment period
- March 8<sup>th</sup>: in-person meeting at CNSC's Saskatoon office
- March 20<sup>th</sup>: Information requests from technical review by the FIRT will be shared back with Denison for their response

## Cluff Lake Operations

- February 16<sup>th</sup>: meeting in Buffalo Narrows with CNSC, Two-Worlds and Orano
  - CNSC will be present from 5:30-7PM CST
- March 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>: [Agenda for the Hearing on Cluff Lake Operations](#)
  - Interventions have been received
  - Intervenors and public viewers have separate Zoom links – Louise (CNSC) will assist with IT checks in advance for oral interventions
    - It is recommended that a headset with a boom microphone be used for the intervenors
  - Dene translations will be available during the hearing

## Key, McArthur and Rabbit Operations

- January 30<sup>th</sup>: Environmental Protection Review Reports were published for [Rabbit Lake Operation](#), [Key Lake Operation](#) and [McArthur River Operation](#)
  - CNSC is currently working on summary pamphlets and will share once available
- February 22<sup>nd</sup>: CMDs will be published (1 for Rabbit Lake Operation and 1 for Key Lake and McArthur River Operations combined)
- June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>: Hearings for [Rabbit Lake](#) and [Key/McArthur River](#) Operations

## Action Items

- Brent to forward meeting link and agenda for February 16<sup>th</sup> Cluff Lake meeting to Sydney and Adam
- Ryan will forward Brent the agenda for the Cluff Lake hearing day (linked above)
- Ryan will forward CMD for Cameco license renewal once it is made public on Feb 22nd

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Way, Jessica <jessica.way@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

**Sent:** April 22, 2022 3:09 PM

**To:** Way, Jessica; Froess, Ryan; Yen, Wish; Shannon Landrie-Crossland; Brent Laroque; Frigault, Nicole; Nickolet, Sydney

**Cc:** Jena Nicholls; Roslyn Smith

**Subject:** MN-S/CNSC Monthly Meeting - Rook I / Wheeler River EAs

**When:** February 6, 2023 3:00 PM-4:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** MS Teams

Updated so that we can use this meeting to talk about both Rook I and Wheeler on one call.

Thanks,  
Jes

---

## Microsoft Teams meeting

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[Click here to join the meeting](#)

### Or call in (audio only)

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[\(844\) 632-5179,,978599491#](#) Canada (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 978 599 491#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

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**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** April 16, 2024 3:34 PM  
**To:** Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** Andrew Spriggs; hhill@mns.work; Froess, Ryan; Yen, Wish; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica  
**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S Summary of Meeting - April 8th

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi Brent,

See below the notes from our monthly meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you have any comments or edits to the notes and I can make those changes. Have a great evening!

**CNSC & MN-S Monthly Meeting – April 8<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2pm CST**

Participants: Sydney Nickolet, Ryan Froess, Wish Yen, Nicole Frigault, Hughie Hill, Andrew Spriggs, and Brent Laroque

**NexGen Update:**

- NexGen is preparing to resubmit their EIS package and response to IR's
  - NexGen may possibly submit within the next month
- CNSC has been having side meetings with NexGen and subject matter experts to confirm outstanding IR's and responses
- CNSC may be reaching out to MN-S in the near future regarding closing off summary of issues and concerns tables and rights impact assessments that CNSC will be writing in the coming months
  - CNSC will be writing the EA report which includes the rights impact assessment that MN-S and NR-2 will review
- CNSC addressed the article regarding NexGen and the licensing process
  - Article addresses the 24-month clock on the licensing process as NexGen still has a few outstanding items including the EIS. CNSC has paused that clock until outstanding items are addressed.
- CNSC may be attending the NexGen tour planned for either end of May or last two weeks of June - CNSC will probably send 3 staff to attend
- CNSC may be also be planning a CNSC led tour in the fall of 2024 which would include information on NexGen and Fission projects - more to come on this
- MN-S MNLA is taking place May 24-26 and the regional directors and local presidents will be in Saskatoon for that event
- When there is a final EIS on NexGen there will be another round of participant funding to review the EA report and to attend the commission hearing

**Denison Update:**

- Denison submitted their round 3 of responding to IR's with a revised final EIS in February and CNSC is wrapping up our review now and will be sending it back to Denison in May
- CNSC is planning to hold technical meetings with Denison on any outstanding IR's following this review to hopefully eliminate any outstanding IR's for the next round so that Denison can move forward with their final EIS
- All the same processes for NexGen will also take place for Denison including working with MN-S on summary of issues and concerns tables and right impacts assessment for MN-S to review
- There is a possibility that both hearings for Denison and NexGen may both take place next year in 2025

**Fission Update:**

- MN-S has submitted Type 1 comments to the Province on the EIS due to the lack of information from MN-S incorporated into the EIS including access trails, economics and others
  - The Province's response seemed very passive and did not indicate how those comments would be addressed

- CNSC can raise this at our next meeting with the Province and Fission to understand how they will be addressing these concerns going forward
- The Fission EIS has been submitted to the Province for review in early March and CNSC is wrapping up our review on the document and will be sending our comments back to the Province shortly
- The Province will do a 30-day public consultation review once their comments have been wrapped up by Fission

#### **Beaverlodge:**

- Participant funding for Beaverlodge has been released and the deadline for applications is June 21st, 2024
- Beaverlodge tour is planned for the first week of May and an invite has been extended to MN-S with a couple seats available on the plane
- Hearing will take place in January 2025 and location is still being determined

#### **MN-S Updates:**

- MN-S is planning a conference on climate change and Metis guardians program on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>
- Wanting to see if CNSC would have someone attend the conference and have someone from CNSC speak at the conference on the work that we do and the work we do together
  - Ryan would be interested in speaking at the conference on the IEMP program and other monitoring opportunities

#### **Funding:**

- Stream 1 of the Indigenous Stakeholder and Capacity Fund (ISCF) has just been announced and is open until June 15th, 2024
  - Stream 1 includes applications on capacity for Nations for resource hires, land use information, studies, etc.
- Stream 3 of the funding is open at all times and is used for things like conferences, workshops, meetings, travel, etc. that are not specific to a project
  - Brent mentioned that MN-S would be interested in this funding to host meetings with ER3 for the SaskPower project once SaskPower narrows down their locations

#### **ACTIONS:**

- CNSC to send over the confidentiality form for MN-S to review before sharing the Fission TLU study with CNSC (complete)
- MN-S to send CNSC more information on the June conference and invitation for Ryan to present (complete)

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

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Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

---

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** July 25, 2023 10:49 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; Andrew Spriggs  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; DeCoste, Laura; O'Neill, Shannon; Shalyn Fladager  
**Subject:** MN-S WWH Report - for feedback  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6992650-v6-What\_We\_Heard\_Report\_-\_Rook\_I\_-\_MN-S.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good morning Brent and Andrew,

Over the recent months, CNSC staff have been implementing a new practice of developing “What We Heard” reports, in response to Indigenous Knowledge studies. The purpose of this document is to summarize what CNSC staff understood from MN-S NR2’s Traditional Land Use & Diet Study, for discussion purposes. We welcome comments from MN-S on how we have captured this information and would be happy to meet and discuss further if needed. Once finalized, CNSC would work with MN-S to ensure that the information captured is accurate for sharing with CNSC subject matter experts to ensure a fulsome review of future iterations of the Rook I draft EIS.

We are seeking feedback on the report by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Thank you,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

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---

**From:** Office CEO <office.ceo@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 25, 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Levine, Adam; Frigault, Nicole  
**Cc:** Matthew Vermette; richardoquintal@gmail.com; leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca; Brennan Merasty; Hoekstra, Arend J.A.; Glen McCallum  
**Subject:** IBA Schedule "E" Support Letter  
**Attachments:** IBA Letter[31].pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached letter from President Glen McCallum.

Best regards,

**Chief Executive Office**

Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory



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July 4, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Rook I Project (the "Project")

We are writing with respect to the Project, which is being advanced by NexGen Energy Ltd. ("NexGen").

Please accept this letter as confirmation that the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) has entered into an agreement with NexGen pursuant to which the MN-S as represented by the Métis Locals of Northern Region II have agreed to provide their consent and support for the Project subject to the terms of their agreement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan expressly reserves its rights to continue to be consulted and otherwise participate in any regulatory or administrative processes in connection with permits, approvals or other authorizations for the Project, including raising issues or concerns for the purpose of identifying and eliminating, managing or mitigating impacts of the Project on the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen McCallum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Glen" and last name "McCallum" clearly distinguishable.

Glen McCallum  
President of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan



---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** July 26, 2023 6:36 AM  
**To:** Office CEO; Froess, Ryan; Levine, Adam  
**Cc:** Matthew Vermette; richardoquintal@gmail.com; leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca; Brennan Merasty; Hoekstra, Arend J.A.; Glen McCallum  
**Subject:** RE: IBA Schedule "E" Support Letter

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning,

This is to confirm receipt of your letter regarding the proposed NexGen Rook I project.

Best Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657

---

**From:** Office CEO <office.ceo@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 25, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Matthew Vermette <mvermette@mns.work>; richardoquintal@gmail.com; leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca; Brennan Merasty <bmerasty@mns.work>; Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <ahoekstra@cassels.com>; Glen McCallum <glenmccallum@mns.work>  
**Subject:** IBA Schedule "E" Support Letter

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached letter from President Glen McCallum.

Best regards,

**Chief Executive Office**



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---

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** July 26, 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; DeCoste, Laura; O'Neill, Shannon; Shalyn Fladager; Andrew Spriggs  
**Subject:** RE: MN-S WWH Report - for feedback

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Thanks Brent sounds great!

Best,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
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Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
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---

**From:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>  
**Sent:** July 26, 2023 10:23 AM  
**To:** Nickolet, Sydney <sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; DeCoste, Laura <laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Shannon <shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Shalyn Fladager <sfladager@mns.work>; Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.work>  
**Subject:** RE: MN-S WWH Report - for feedback

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Thank you Sydney. I've taken a preliminary look and it looks pretty good. I'll share with the Region and confirm.

**Brent Laroque**  
Director of Environment

306-361-3189

310 - 20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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---

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:49 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.work](mailto:blaroque@mns.work)>; Andrew Spriggs <[aspriggs@mns.work](mailto:aspriggs@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Shalyn Fladager <[sfladager@mns.work](mailto:sfladager@mns.work)>  
**Subject:** MN-S WWH Report - for feedback

Good morning Brent and Andrew,

Over the recent months, CNSC staff have been implementing a new practice of developing "What We Heard" reports, in response to Indigenous Knowledge studies. The purpose of this document is to summarize what CNSC staff understood from MN-S NR2's Traditional Land Use & Diet Study, for discussion purposes. We welcome comments from MN-S on how we have captured this information and would be happy to meet and discuss further if needed. Once finalized, CNSC would work with MN-S to ensure that the information captured is accurate for sharing with CNSC subject matter experts to ensure a fulsome review of future iterations of the Rook I draft EIS.

We are seeking feedback on the report by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Thank you,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
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---

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** July 28, 2023 10:22 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; Shalyn Fladager; hhill@mns.work; Andrew Spriggs  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Yen, Wish; Way, Jessica; Manickum, Katherine  
**Subject:** MN-S and CNSC Minutes from July 10th Monthly Meeting

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning,

Apologies for the delay but please see below the meeting minutes from our last monthly meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> below for your review.

Thank you and happy Friday 😊

**MN-S & CNSC Monthly Meeting – July 10<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2pm CST**

Participants: Brent Laroque, Shalyn Fladager, Hughie Hill, Wish Yen, Ryan Froess, Katherine Manickum and Sydney Nickolet

**Fission Patterson South Project:**

- Notification letters went out to Indigenous Nations and communities including MN-S on June 28<sup>th</sup> informing the Nations of Fission's application for a license to site, construct and operate a uranium mine and mill facility
- CNSC's next step is looking to set up meetings with interested Nations to introduce, or provide updates on the project likely in late-summer into fall
- CNSC is meeting with NR2 after this meeting (July 10<sup>th</sup> 2pm-3pm CST) as an introduction meeting on the project
  - Brent mentioned that depending on this meeting, the next steps would be to set something up with the CNSC, NR2 and MN-S for the Fission project

**Denison Wheeler River Project:**

- Denison should be sending their responses to the IR's on the draft EIS from the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) sometime this week
- The public comment tables were sent back out to Denison at the end of June and they are currently working on responding to the comments from that table
- Denison is only responding to FIRT in the next submission and will be providing a table with their responses not a revised EIS at this time
- Denison will be providing responses to the public comment table later on. The MN-S comments were in the public comment table not the FIRT table
- MN-S has taken training on traditional land use and Brent, Andrew, Hughie and Gavin went out to visit TWC. Andrew and Hughie have been out in La Ronge and will be in Patunak next week collecting some interviews from Elders and community members.
- MN-S has a capacity agreement for the TK study submission by fall, but may not be able to meet this timeline and is working with Denison to ensure a steady stream of information is provided
- Brent mentioned that the 3D diagram that Denison provided at their kick off meeting earlier this year was very helpful and helps with the understanding of the project for community members

-Wish asked about how best way to get the information out to the community on the project and Brent mentioned doing a video and collaborating with CNSC to talk about who we are and what we do would be beneficial to both the MN-S and community.

**NexGen Rook I Project:**

- Ryan talked about the recent NexGen outreach in June and gave an update on that community tour
- NexGen is planning to resubmit their responses to the IR's for their draft EIS soon
- MN-S had their JWG meeting with NexGen about 2 weeks ago and it was the first one in a while
  - MN-S and NexGen are working back and forth on finalizing the issues table

**REGDOC 3.2.2:**

- MN-S probably won't provide feedback for this early engagement phase but are interested in submitting feedback during the formal consultation period in Spring 2024
- MN-S would be interested in meeting with Nick Bridges from CNSC and learning more about REGDOC 3.2.2 sometime in August. **ACTION:** CNSC to follow up with Brent to set up a meeting on this for sometime in August (complete)

Cheers,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis  
Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

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**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** September 19, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Wylie, Doug; Yen, Wish; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica  
**Subject:** MN-S & CNSC Monthly Meeting September 11th Notes

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi Brent,

Thanks for meeting with us for our monthly meeting last week. See below the notes from that meeting. Please let me know if you have any edits or changes to the notes!

**CNSC & MN-S Monthly Meeting – September 11<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2pm CST:**

Participants: Sydney Nickolet, Ryan Froess, Wish Yen, Doug Wylie and Brent Laroque

Denison Wheeler River:

- Denison has resubmitted their EIS submission package and they have passed the CNSC completeness check
- The Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) is undergoing the technical review phase and will finish reviewing responses to the IRs towards the end of November
- CNSC would be happy to discuss any valued components that MN-S wants the FIRT to be aware of that may have come out of the TLU study
  - CNSC anticipates another round of comments and the TLU could be submitted then if not ready for this round
- MN-S is hoping to have a draft of the TLU finished by the end of the month
  - Denison has requested the TLU as soon as possible and MN-S is hoping to speed through the draft phase so they can provide it to Denison
- MN-S is formalizing a joint working group with Denison to ensure there is consensus on the EIS comments that MN-S provided
  - Difficult with 2 Regions (NR1 and NR3) being involved in Denison unlike the NexGen project
- Andrew will be in Uranium City next week to wrap up the TLU with community

Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Funding (ISCF):

- Currently Hugh Hill is on a one year contract with the Denison funding and it is expiring in November so MN-S is planning to keep him on with the CNSC funding that was provided
  - Hugh grew up in Chitek Lake area but has family in the Buffalo Narrows area so is a local hire from the community

Fission Patterson South:

- Fission is quiet right now as CNSC is waiting on the EIS to be submitted to the province which is expected end of 2023 or early 2024
- Fission licensing application has come in but it was not complete so CNSC is awaiting more documents
- MN-S hasn't been as active on Fission due to Denison and NexGen taking up a lot of time throughout the summer months
- Fission is hoping to have some community sessions in the fall/early winter. CNSC hasn't been officially invited yet but hopefully will know more soon
  - CNSC asked about the consultation process for the Fission project that MN-S wants to take since Leonard mentioned that he wants to be the main point of contact on the consultation for Fission and CNSC wanted to know how to move forward since typically we work through the MN-S.

- ACTION:** Brent responded that he is going to seek clarity on this as MN-S is taking the 'one voice' approach when it comes to industry projects and confirm it with the CNSC.
- Brent mentioned that NR2 has been more assertive ever since the signing of the NexGen IBA
- CNSC would need something in writing to clarify the proper approach to consultation for the Fission project

Beaverlodge:

- Brent was invited to the long term monitoring workshop in Uranium City this week
- Kristin has been involving MN-S in Beaverlodge activities more frequently since the last Beaverlodge hearing and MN-S is working well with Cameco currently – have been involving NR1 in activities on the project as well

NexGen Rook I:

- NexGen has submitted their EIS submission package and Nicole is currently completing the 30-day completeness check
- MN-S, NexGen and CNSC may have a meeting scheduled with President/ Vice President of MN-S in Ottawa with CNSC Executive and NexGen Executive in October or November
- FIRT technical review will kick off if NexGen passes the completeness check
  - Next meeting we can confirm who the FIRT participants are for MN-S
- EA Report writing is a later step in the process and CNSC can work with MN-S on that when the time comes

SMR:

- MN-S is planning an upcoming meeting with SaskPower and ER3 to talk through the siting process for the proposed SMR
- SaskPower has said they will not be providing money to MN-S or ER3 for this meeting
- MN-S is trying to get money from the Province's fast track grants for this meeting but are hitting road blocks
- ACTION:** Sydney to check with Adam on funding opportunities for SaskPower project and the Region (complete)
  - Adam confirmed that there is funding available through Stream 3 of ISCF for either a tri-party meeting between MN-S ER3, SaskPower and CNSC on SMR's or the funding could support a workshop on SMR's with the Region.
  - Brent will let CNSC know if they receive funding through the Province and if not, he will apply under CNSC Stream

3

ROR:

- Engagement session on September 20th at the Delta downtown
- Brent, Andrew and possibly Hugh will be there in-person and Brent may give a quick presentation on the MN-S during the morning of the session
  - \*EDIT\* Brent confirmed that Andrew and Hugh won't be there due to travel but Brent is bringing recent hires from the MN-S engagement team.

- ACTION:** Ryan will update the meeting invites for October and November so they do not land on the stat holidays (complete)

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
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**From:** Yen, Wish  
**Sent:** January 24, 2024 4:04 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Wylie, Doug; Gorzkowski, Konrad; Brent Laroque; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica; Andrew Spriggs  
**Cc:** hhill@mns.work; Nickolet, Sydney  
**Subject:** 2023-12-23-Meeting minutes-MN-S/CNSC Monthly Meeting - Rook I / Wheeler River EAs

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon everyone,

I apologize for the delay in sharing these meeting minutes from December. Please find them attached below for your review.

Thank you,

**Wish Yen** (she, her, elle)

Environmental Review Officer | Agente en examen de l'environnement

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[wish.yen@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:wish.yen@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | 343.553.2233



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#### Métis Nation of Saskatchewan/ MNS-CNSC Meeting Minutes – Monthly Project Updates

December 18, 2023 3:30-4:30PM EST

Attendees: Brent Laroque, Andrew Spriggs, Hughie Hill, Konrad Gorzkowski, Jessica Way, Nicole Frigault, Wish Yen, Ryan Froess, Sydney Nickolet

##### **NexGen**

- Discussions are moving forward on the IBA
- IR comments and feedback were discussed with NexGen and will be shared back in early January for sign-offs
- MN-S is working with NexGen to present to the EC committee
- MN-S is following up on the airport construction process on behalf of NexGen
  - o CNSC staff reiterate that as the airport has been scoped within the project description submitted by NexGen, construction on the airport cannot begin until the EA process is complete

##### **SRC Rare Earth Processing facility**

- Discussions with SRC are underway but are preliminary
- MN-S is concerned with thorium as a by-product of the rare earth processing and would like to know when CNSC would provide oversight of radioactive by-products
  - o CNSC waste management staff would only inspect the facility if thorium by-product is processed or above a certain threshold (similar to uranium as a by-product of mining other minerals)
- ISCF-Stream 3 would be able to support communities that aren't currently impacted by a project – and additional discussions on funding to build capacity to understand this project and participate in the provincial EA process can be provided

##### **Fission**

- CNSC is currently awaiting for the provincial EIS to be submitted (likely Feb/Mar 2024). Fission is going through a provincially led EA process but CNSC will be reviewing all documentation as a federal expert in the process.
- CNSC has sent out notification letters to the identified Nations back in June regarding the license application that was submitted to CNSC. Since then, CNSC has met with NR-2 in August regarding the Fission project and has continued to speak to Fission at our monthly meetings with MN-S. CNSC is interested in setting up a larger meeting in 2024 with MN-S and NR2 which may potentially also include the Province and Fission at the meeting, if MN-S is interested.
- CNSC is the federal regulator for licensing and will be providing documents regarding environmental protection for consideration in the licensing process
  - o As with other projects, mine construction cannot proceed until a licence to construct is granted by CNSC
  - o CNSC is still early in the licensing review process for Fission but once the all the documents are submitted then there will be an opportunity for participants to review the documentation and participate in the hearing process. CNSC will continue to update MN-S on the Fission project and potential opportunities to be engaged and involved in the regulatory review process including funding opportunities.

### Engagement

- CNSC is interested in attending any MN-S events or engagement sessions with MN-S Regions to discuss any upcoming projects and project impacts
  - o CNSC would be happy to provide a deep dive into specific subjects or federal processes, if MN-S is interested
- ISCF-Stream 1 will likely open up in Spring 2024 – callouts will be shared in the new year and CNSC will ensure to keep MN-S updated on any funding opportunities in 2024
- Open House at Uranium City is potentially being planned for Spring/Early Summer
  - o MN-S wants to focus on engaging with the community rather than diving into technical information during these sessions
  - o MN-S provides Cameco kudos for reaching out to engage on monitoring sites and early discussions have taken place. It's a step in the right direction on engagement with Cameco

### SaskPower SMR

- Would the ISCF cover TLUs for the Athabasca region for SMRs?
  - o MN-S should communicate with SaskPower regarding funding for TLUs for the SMR project however, only the Southern and Central parts of the province are currently being consulted with on SaskPower's two potential siting locations – Estevan and Elbow
  - o Once Stream 1 opens up in Spring 2024, MN-S can look into applying into that in order to complete TLU's for MN-S Regions
  - o SaskPower has indicated that they don't want to fund MN-S directly and fast-track funding from Province is two-months behind
  - o There is also currently no project description provided to date

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-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

**Sent:** July 10, 2023 1:33 PM

**To:** Froess, Ryan; Wylie, Doug; Gorzkowski, Konrad; Brent Laroque; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica; Andrew Spriggs; Yen, Wish

**Cc:** hhill@mns.work; Nickolet, Sydney

**Subject:** MN-S/CNSC Monthly Meeting - Rook I / Wheeler River EAs



**When:** December 18, 2023 2:30 PM-3:30 PM (UTC-06:00) Saskatchewan.

**Where:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

Updated monthly meetings between CNSC and MNS on the two EA files – please forward to others needed on the calls as needed.

Brent - needing to move to next week as we have all have town hall today – let me know if date and time do not work?

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## Microsoft Teams meeting

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** January 19, 2024 11:20 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; Andrew Spriggs  
**Cc:** Hughie Hill; Nickolet, Sydney; Frigault, Nicole; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** CNSC - NexGen EIS update to MN-S NR2

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good morning Brent and Andrew,

As discussed in our monthly CNSC -MN-S meetings we are hoping to meet with MN-S NR-2 Environment Committee with respect to providing an update on the NexGen Rook 1 EIS. We did receive the letter dated December 5, 2023 with acceptance of the IR responses signed off by Mr. Montgrand for the NexGen EIS that MN-S provided so thank you for that. Its been awhile since we met with NR-2 and we were hoping to set up a short meeting to provide an update on the regulatory aspects of the project, discuss next steps, and also answer any outstanding questions MN-S may have for CNSC moving forward.

When talking with NexGen earlier this week it was our understanding that the next MN-S NR-2 environment committee meeting was taking place likely in Saskatoon in early to mid February and we were wondering if this may be good opportunity when folks are in town to bring everyone together to meet to provide an update and answer any questions the EC may have on the project. Let us know if we can find a time to touch-base in the coming month ahead and will work to develop an agenda together get something booked .

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** February 5, 2024 5:08 PM  
**To:** Brent Laroque; Andrew Spriggs  
**Cc:** Hughie Hill; Nickolet, Sydney; Frigault, Nicole; Wylie, Doug  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC - NexGen EIS update to MN-S NR2

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Brent and Andrew,

I am following up to my email from January 19, 2024 to see if there is interest from MN-S NR-2 Environment Committee to meet with CNSC staff to discuss the NexGen Project Environmental Assessment. As you are aware NexGen has re-submitted their Draft EIS and CNSC has nearly completed our technical review and will be responding to NexGen in the coming weeks.

If MN-S EC is interested in meeting with CNSC staff on the NexGen Project please let us know and we would be happy to meet and discuss next steps in more detail.

If we do not hear back from MN-S in coming weeks/month CNSC will still continue to provide all technical and EA updates including important timelines/milestones moving forward to the MN-S at our monthly EA meetings and through the FIRT.

Feel free to give me a call if you prefer and/or to set up time to meet.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2024 11:20 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>; Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.work>  
**Cc:** Hughie Hill <hhill@mns.work>; Nickolet, Sydney <sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Wylie, Doug <doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC - NexGen EIS update to MN-S NR2

Good morning Brent and Andrew,

As discussed in our monthly CNSC -MN-S meetings we are hoping to meet with MN-S NR-2 Environment Committee with respect to providing an update on the NexGen Rook 1 EIS. We did receive the letter dated December 5, 2023 with acceptance of the IR responses signed off by Mr. Montgrand for the NexGen EIS that MN-S provided so thank you for that. Its been awhile since we met with NR-2 and we were hoping to set up a short meeting to provide an update on

the regulatory aspects of the project, discuss next steps, and also answer any outstanding questions MN-S may have for CNSC moving forward.

When talking with NexGen earlier this week it was our understanding that the next MN-S NR-2 environment committee meeting was taking place likely in Saskatoon in early to mid February and we were wondering if this may be good opportunity when folks are in town to bring everyone together to meet to provide an update and answer any questions the EC may have on the project. Let us know if we can find a time to touch-base in the coming month ahead and will work to develop an agenda together get something booked .

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

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[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** February 14, 2024 2:53 PM  
**To:** Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Frigault, Nicole; Yen, Wish; Gorzkowski, Konrad; Way, Jessica; Andrew Spriggs; hhill@mns.work  
**Subject:** MN-S & CNSC Monthly Meeting - February 12th

Good afternoon Brent,

See below the notes from our meeting on Monday. Please let me know if you have any edits or comments on the minutes below! Hope you have a great rest of your day 😊

**CNSC & MN-S Monthly Meeting – February 12<sup>th</sup> 1pm-2pm CST**

Participants: Ryan Froess, Sydney Nickolet, Nicole Frigault, Wish Yen, Konrad Gorzkowski, Jessica Way, Brent Laroque, Andrew Spriggs, and Hughie Hill

**NexGen Update:**

- CNSC is sending the review results of the IR responses back to NexGen today
- MN-S has shared that they are happy with the IR comments from NexGen but CNSC noted that there are a few MN-S IR's that are stated as not accepted due to not seeing it within the document yet. They are conditionally accepted and will be finalized and accepted once CNSC see's the next revision of the EIS.
- CNSC will copy MN-S on the correspondents when sending this review back to NexGen as part of the FIRT process
- For the next round, NexGen will need to provide a revised EIS, an updated Indigenous Engagement Report and a commitments report
- CNSC will be asking NexGen for a further response on the Jan 5th letter from NexGen to determine what is happening at site and get a clearer picture
- The Region would like to meet with MN-S on the EA process (Leonard, Keith and Marlene) to discuss the process and address some questions that they have
  - CNSC can work to set this up and MN-S will share some dates that work for that meeting (meeting has been set for March 1, 2024)

**Denison Update:**

- Denison sent in the revised EIS and updated comments to IR's this past weekend and CNSC will be sending an email to confirm receipt of these documents
  - Once everything is resolved and CNSC and the FIRT agree that the IR's have been addressed, the CNSC will let Denison know that they can resubmit as a final EIS package
  - Then CNSC would move towards the drafting of a EA report and the rights impact assessment which CNSC will work with MN-S on drafting their sections, as appropriate
- CNSC is anticipating another 90-day review for this round of comments
- CNSC received MN-S's TLU study and is just awaiting the confidentiality form to be filled out
- CNSC is still completing our review on Denison's license application and once CNSC deems it sufficient, it will begin the 2-year technical assessment of the documents

**Fission Update:**

- CNSC is anticipating to get the EIS sometime in February. This will be a provincial process and the EIS will be coming in through the province and CNSC will be reviewing as a federal technical expert
- Fission may be sharing the EIS documents with MN-S and NR-2

-MN-S had two in-person community meetings with Fission in Buffalo Narrows and La Loche. They went well, except the information that was presented by Fission was very base level and more of an update than specifics on the project

#### **Beaverlodge Update:**

-Notification letter for the project will be sent out sometime in the next week or two by CNSC and Brent will be copied on the letter that will be sent to President McCallum  
-MN-S isn't planning on being too heavily involved in the Beaverlodge project – they may apply for PFP to support Metis citizens living in the area around Uranium City

#### **ROR Update:**

-CNSC is looking at new ways to display the information for Indigenous Nations and the public  
-There will be PFP available for the ROR this year which takes place in December through a Commission meeting. Written and oral interventions are welcome  
-The CNSC will hold a ROR engagement session with Indigenous Nations, which usually takes place in the fall (September-October sometime) and MN-S has previously participated in

#### **SMR Update:**

-IAAC reached out to CNSC regarding MN-S inquiring about funding for SMR's in Saskatchewan. If MN-S is requiring funding for SMR's in the early engagement phase they can apply for funding through our Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund (ISCF) - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund Application Guide - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
-MN-S is allowed to speak to any entity regarding funding, CNSC just wanted to ensure that if funding is needed for early engagement on SMR's then CNSC and SaskPower would be the ones to provide such funding. IAAC process and funding won't kick in until they receive an Initial Project Description (IPD) for the project  
-Brent mentioned that MN-S did meet with IAAC on funding but it was more so on land use, not SMR's. The inquiry mentioned may have been WR2A reaching out to IAAC regarding funding. Brent mentioned that WR2A approached SaskPower for funding but SaskPower told them to contact IAAC.  
-SaskPower is planning to narrow down the sites and the selection process within the coming months and then is planning to submit a draft IPD in 2024 and their final IPD to IAAC in early 2025.

#### **ACTIONS:**

-MN-S will share some dates with CNSC for NR-2 and MN-S to meet with CNSC on NexGen and then CNSC will work to set that meeting up (complete)  
-MN-S to fill out the confidentiality form for the TLU that was sent to CNSC (complete)

Thank you,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

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Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

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**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** March 5, 2024 3:16 PM  
**To:** leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca; bn-metiscouncil@outlook.com;  
lostangelskeith@hotmail.com  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan; Andrew Spriggs; hhill@mns.work; Brent Laroque; Frigault, Nicole; Pandolfi, Dana  
**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S NR2 NexGen Meeting Summary - March 1st 1pm-3pm  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#7230238-v1-NexGen\_Presentation\_to\_MNS\_March\_1\_2024.pdf  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Leonard, Marlene and Keith,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with CNSC on Friday regarding the NexGen project. Below I have included some notes from our meeting as well as attached the presentation that CNSC gave during the meeting. Please let me know if you have any comments or questions on the notes!

During the meeting we also discussed setting up quarterly meetings with NR2 to ensure we are keeping everyone up to date on both the NexGen and Fission projects. When would NR2 like to have this meeting? CNSC can work with MN-S to try get something set up in possibly May or June. We are open to either having a meeting in Saskatoon again or else we would be interested in having our next meeting in the community possibly sometime in June. Let us know what you think would work best and we can look at getting our next meeting on the books. Hope everyone has a great rest of your week and stays warm out there!

**CNSC & MN-S NR2 Meeting on the NexGen Project – March 1<sup>st</sup> 1pm-3pm CST**

Participants: Sydney Nickolet, Ryan Froess, Dana Pandolfi, Nicole Frigault, Andrew Spriggs, Hughie Hill, Marlene Hansen, Leonard Montgrand and Keith Shewchuk

**NexGen Project:**

\*CNSC gave presentation on NexGen project which will be shared with NR2\*

- CNSC gave a bit of background on who the CNSC is and what we do before jumping into the NexGen project
- Marlene mentioned that she wants to stay connected with the CNSC and have CNSC in the community.
  - It was also mentioned that MN-S can support with live streaming the CNSC hearings in the community for members who want to come out and watch
  - Want to ensure that the community is being engaged
  - Marlene would like CNSC to come to the school next time we are in the community to talk about what we do
- CNSC meets with MN-S monthly for projects happening in Saskatchewan but CNSC would be happy to continue meeting with NR2. The group agrees that quarterly meetings would work well.
- Questions on NexGen timelines and what is holding up the project
  - NexGen needs to fulfill aspects on the project including technical items on the environmental assessment before we can move forward

**Licensing:**

- NexGen will need to go before the Commission for both a license to construct and a license to operate
- NexGen has submitted a license to construct (final package) to CNSC on July 1st, 2023 and CNSC staff confirmed on Sept 1st that the package was sufficient to begin the review



- NexGen would go before the Commission once everything is complete - all licensing documents and the environmental assessment is fulfilled
- CNSC would begin inspections during the construction phase to ensure that the construction is following all requirements
- NR2 supports the building of an airport for the NexGen project
  - NexGen has included the airport in the environmental assessment and project description which is being reviewed federally through the EA regulatory process
  - Normally airports would be reviewed by the province and transport Canada but since NexGen included the airport in their project description then CNSC got involved for these airport plans
  - Brianna England from the Province would be the person to contact to ask about future airport constructions in Saskatchewan
- CNSC uses the Safety and Control Areas (SCA's) as a guide when reviewing programs for licensing. There are currently 14 SCA's that CNSC looks at when conducting inspections
  - For the construction phase for NexGen, CNSC would probably be looking at human performance, conventional health and safety and radiation protection
- Marlene asked if CNSC interviews the staff at the sites during inspections?
  - Yes CNSC does do staff interviews during inspections

#### Environmental Assessment Review (EA):

- The environmental assessment for NexGen has been ongoing since 2019
- CNSC is still working through this process and going back and forth with NexGen on the information requests (IR's)
- CNSC has accepted some of the IR's and not accepted others since CNSC will need to see them included in the environmental impact statement (EIS) document before officially accepting
- Technical meetings with NexGen and CNSC are ongoing to work through technical IR's
- Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) consists of multiple federal authorities as well as MN-S and CRDN representatives
- MN-S sent a letter saying that they are happy and accept the responses that NexGen provided to their IR's. CNSC has accepted those but will need to verify them in the document before CNSC can close them off
- CNSC sent their review back to NexGen about a month ago and it is sitting with NexGen to respond to the responses
- Other Nations such as BNDN and BRDN provided comments through the public comment period on the EIS but CRDN was a part of the federal Indigenous review team and submitted comments through that process - same as MN-S
- NexGen told NR2 that they have about 3/4's of the public comments addressed and are wrapping those up now
- NexGen project is unique that there is a lot of community support for the project
- Keith spoke about how the government of Canada should be doing more for communities and it is sad that they have to reach out to companies such as NexGen to help support the communities and the Nations and that the federal government needs to step up
- CNSC is there for the life of the project and is a lifetime regulator
- Keith asked about cancer studies and wanting a cancer study done in the community because he finds a lot of northerners are getting cancer
  - Ryan mentioned the CANUWS study and how MN-S can be a part of this group which looks at cancer rates on uranium workers
  - Nicole talked about how one of the information requests that CNSC and the province is looking at is the camp location and the health of workers as an example
- Keith asked how the Commission comes to a decision at the hearing when outside people or groups come to the hearing and oppose the project?
  - CNSC usually has a good idea of who will intervene on the day of the hearing and currently there is not much interest from outside parties
  - Commission may take 2-3 months to review the information received from the hearing before they make their decision
- Keith asked if the CNSC has ever denied a proponent on their project at the hearing?
  - There have been some applications that have stopped due to other reasons but if we get to the point where CNSC staff are recommending the project then it is rare for it to not go forward. If CNSC staff are not happy with the

project yet then they wouldn't recommend it to go to a hearing yet. If it is going to a hearing then the project is at a good spot to go forward

- Once the EIS is final and all IR's have been addressed, it is usually about a year until the hearing would take place

#### Indigenous Consultation and Engagement:

- CNSC has launched a new funding opportunity called the Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund (ISCF) which supports Nations with capacity, land use, monitoring, etc.
- MN-S has been provided funding capacity through Stream 1 ISCF funding and have hired Hughie Hill full time for 2 years to work with CNSC.
- CNSC is an agent of the Crown and has been consulting and engaging on the NexGen project among others across Canada

#### General Updates:

- CNSC mentioned the Women in STEM conference for Indigenous girls happening at the University of Saskatchewan in May.
- CNSC are hoping to come up to the community to do a CNSC led community tour of the northwest for the NexGen and Fission projects sometime this fall
- CNSC will most likely be attending the NexGen community tour in June as well and will consider outreach at school if kids still in class if not maybe fall tour.

#### Fission Project:

- Fission kicked off the licensing process by submitting an application in April of this year
- Fission has only submitted a few licensing documents at this time.
  - Minimum 14 program documents are required to be submitted for the licensing process, plus all the technical and engineering documents. Could be more or less depending on how they organize their programs.
- There is no federal environmental assessment for the Fission project, but there is a provincial EA and the environmental protection review process for CNSC's licensing. This is a different process from the NexGen project.
- CNSC has been asked to be federal technical experts in the provincial EA process.
  - Due to CNSC's experience in uranium mining, we have been asked to provide that expertise to the province when reviewing the EA documentation.
  - The province timelines for technical review is 30 days
- CNSC has received the terms of reference and project description and CNSC has provided comments on those directly.
- CNSC is expecting the Fission environmental impact statement (EIS) document to be submitted to the province sometime this month which will kick off the review period.

#### ACTIONS:

- CNSC to work with NR2 on setting up quarterly meetings on projects in their NR2 territory (**CNSC work with MN-s to plan next meeting -Spring?**)
- CNSC to share the presentation with NR2 representatives (**complete – PDF attached**)
- CNSC will share information with MN-S NR2 on the CANUWS study (**CNSC- Ryan**)
- CNSC will share Marlene's contact information with the women in stem team so she can be a part of the selection process for the Metis girls attending the event in May (CNSC -Sydney – I have shared Marlene's name with the program committee and her interest will be shared with MN-S once the program team reaches out)

Thank you,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New Phone Number: 343-596-9556**

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
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Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

# NexGen's Rook I Project Update

Métis Nation - Saskatchewan  
Northern Region 2

CNSC Staff presentation



March 1, 2024

[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)

Canada

# Purpose

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An overview of CNSC's regulatory review process as well as an update on the NexGen Project related to the Rook 1 project.

- ❖ Environmental Assessment Review
- ❖ CNSC Licensing
- ❖ Consultation and Engagement Update
- ❖ Next steps/Questions?

March 1, 2024

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2



# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Mission

- Regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect the health, safety, and security of Canadians and protection of the environment
- Implements Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy
- Disseminates objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public

[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



# CNSC Regulates All Nuclear Facilities and Activities



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# Independent Commission

## Acting President



DR. TIMOTHY  
BERUBÉ



MS. ANDREA  
HARDIE



MR. JERRY  
HOPWOOD



MR. RANDALL  
KAHGE



DR. MARCEL  
LACROIX



DR. VICTORIA  
REMENDA



VACANCY

- Agent of the Government of Canada (the Crown)
- Independent of Government - Reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources Canada
- Considers the public and Indigenous communities' concerns and knowledge in decisions
- Decisions reviewable by Federal Court

# CNSC Staff

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- ❖ Perform technical assessments and reviews
- ❖ Presents staff's assessment findings and recommendations
- ❖ Implement Commission decisions
- ❖ Conduct compliance inspections and oversight of the licensees facilities and activities
- ❖ Verify and enforce compliance with regulatory requirements
- ❖ Develop regulatory requirements and guidance
- ❖ Engage the public and Indigenous groups through outreach

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# Responsibilities

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## **CNSC Responsibilities:**

- ❖ Make independent, objective, science based and risk-informed decisions
- ❖ Set requirements
- ❖ Verify compliance

## **Licensee Responsibilities:**

- ❖ Manage regulated activities in a manner that protects health, safety, security and the environment, while respecting Canada's international obligations
- ❖ Responsible and accountable for the safe operation of facilities and activities

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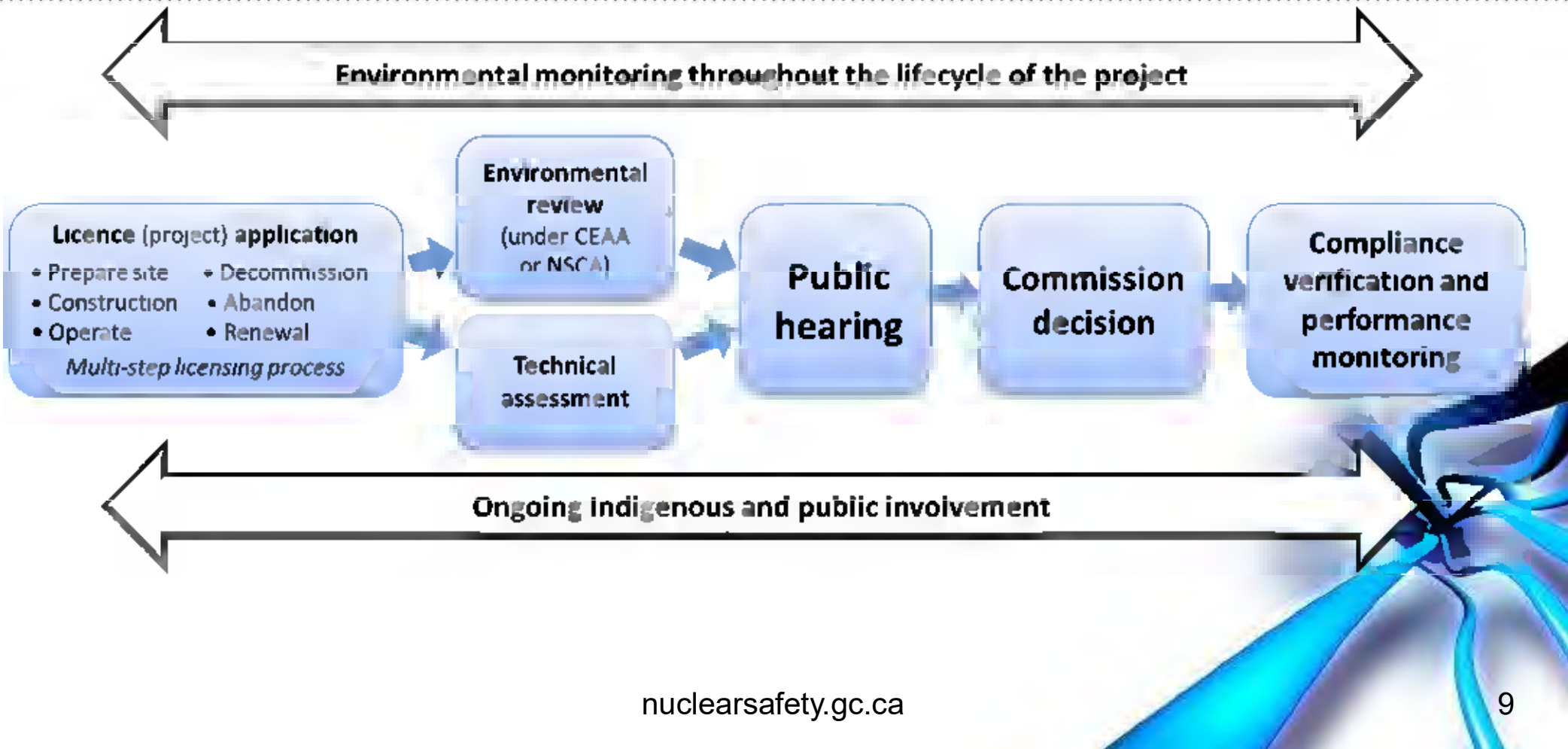
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# REGULATORY REVIEW PROCESS

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# Licensing



# Licensing - Safety and Control Areas

<b>Management</b>	Management system
	Human performance management
	Operating performance
<b>Facility and equipment</b>	Safety analysis
	Physical design
	Fitness for service
<b>Core control processes</b>	Radiation protection
	Conventional health and safety
	Environmental protection
	Emergency management and fire protection
	Waste management
	Security
	Safeguards and non-proliferation
	Packaging and transport

- Safety and control areas are the technical topics CNSC staff use across all regulated facilities and activities to assess, evaluate, review, verify and report on regulatory requirements and performance.
- Public information, community outreach, and Indigenous engagement activities are also considered throughout the licensing assessment

# Rook I Project Update - Licensing

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- July 1, 2023 NexGen submitted final licence application package and CNSC staff confirmed on September 1<sup>st</sup> of this year that package was sufficiently detailed to commence its review
  - Submission included programs, manuals, procedures, design information, etc.

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# Rook I Project Update - EA

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- Undergoing Environmental Assessments (EA) under concurrent Federal (led by CNSC) and Provincial (led by SK) processes:
  - On November 8<sup>th</sup>, SK granted approval (with conditions) to NexGen to proceed with Rook 1 project
  - Technical review of NexGen's IR responses complete and results sent back to NexGen on Feb 12, 2024
  - Federal EA is ongoing and NexGen is expected to perform additional work, revise submission and to re-submit a revised EIS package to CNSC staff for technical review by CNSC

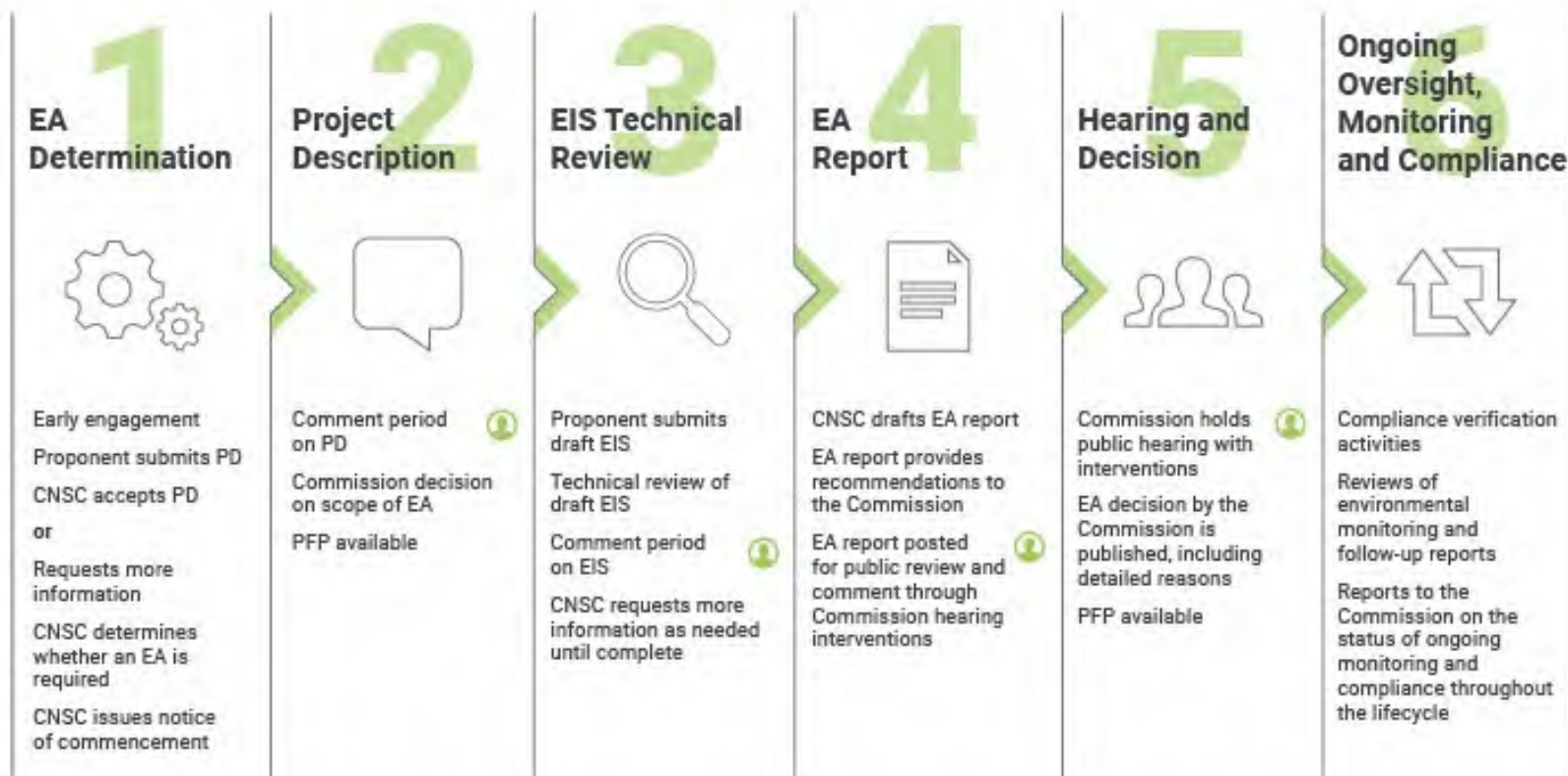
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# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

## Environmental Assessment Process

under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

Ongoing public engagement and Indigenous consultation throughout the EA process



### Legend

EA: Environmental Assessment  
PD: Project Description

EIS: Environmental Impact Statement  
PFP: Participant Funding Program

: Formal Participation Opportunity

# NexGen Rook 1 Project - Next Steps

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- The review of NexGen's responses to information requests is an iterative process to ensure that the draft EIS meets requirements, and this process will continue until which a time all IR responses are accepted, and the EIS deemed acceptable and final by CNSC staff
- Once the draft EIS meets regulatory requirements, CNSC staff will proceed to the development of a CEEA 2012 Environmental Assessment report and the Commission Member Document

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# Indigenous Consultation and Engagement

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- ❖ The CNSC, as Canada's nuclear life cycle regulator, engages with Indigenous Nations and communities over the life of a project
- ❖ As an agent of the Crown, CNSC consults with potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and communities to understand and address potential impacts to Indigenous and/or treaty rights from a project
- ❖ CNSC requires proponents and licensees to engage with potentially affected Indigenous Nations and communities early in the development and throughout the life of their project

***Building long-term positive and trusted relationships with Indigenous Nations and communities in Canada***

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# Moving forward with MN-S/NR-2

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- CNSC is committed to collaborating with MN-S and NR-2 on the NexGen Rook 1 Project – open to continue meeting monthly with MN-S staff (NR-2 quarterly?)
- CNSC is committed to working with MN-S to enhance engagement, outreach and information sharing regarding uranium mining and related health, safety and regulatory measures with MN-S/NR2.
- CNSC is committed for long-term engagement and collaboration with MN-S building trust and information sharing.
- CNSC is committed to working with MN-S to provide additional capacity to MN-S to work with CNSC staff through our Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Funding program (ISCF).



# Next steps – review of EA report

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- Following acceptance of a final EIS submission by CNSC, MN-S and CNSC staff will collaborate on developing sections of the EA report
  - Related to information or concerns provided by MN-S in respect to potential project impacts on MN-S's Aboriginal and Treaty rights, interests, culture or traditional uses, as well as MN-S Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge
  - CNSC staff will continue to meet and work with MN-S staff and NR-2 to share information on the EA report as it becomes available for review and input.

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# **We Will Never Compromise Safety**

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

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Canada

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**From:** Marlene Hansen <BN-MetisCouncil@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** May 30, 2024 8:29 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** CNSC Community Visit

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hi Ryan.

I was unable attend the May 28 Community Engagement , however CWCL NR2 Human Resource Coordinator attended the CNSC booth. We were pleased that CNSC came to our community to be part of the engagement.

As follow up Buffalo Narrows, Metis Community Council is formally inviting CNSC to our community to make our citizens aware of CNSC mandate & role and to strengthen our relationship and work together to discuss ways we can protect the health & safety of our citizens & environment.

Marrsii, for your attention to this important matter.

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** May 31, 2024 12:12 PM  
**To:** Marlene Hansen  
**Cc:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC Community Visit

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Marlene,

Thank you for the email and so grateful for the invitation to come to Buffalo Narrows to continue to engage directly with the citizens of Buffalo Narrows and the Métis Community Council. We were hoping to come up again in the fall without NexGen and Fission to hold a open house with presentations from the CNSC staff , the province, and other regulators so the people in the community can hear directly from staff on how the process works, timelines, and opportunities to be involved in the hearing process and we move forward towards this in 2025. I would like to work directly with you and others from NR2 and MN-S to help coordinates dates and a agenda that works best for you community and region. We would like to hold a community dinner in the evening 4- 8 pm likely with the option to meet with school or leadership in the afternoon if that works? We will be in touch over the next few months to work to plan this event if that works and can help to fund the dinner through our funding program.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our CNSC -MN-S NR2 update meeting planned on June 3, 2024 but I am working with Andrew from MN-S to find a time that works in June to connect with you, Leonard and Keith to provide an update from Nicole , Sydney and team.

Have a great weekend and chat again soon!

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Marlene Hansen <BN-MetisCouncil@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 8:29 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC Community Visit

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hi Ryan.

I was unable attend the May 28 Community Engagement , however CWCL NR2 Human Resource Coordinator attended the CNSC booth. We were pleased that CNSC came to our community to be part of the engagement.

As follow up Buffalo Narrows, Metis Community Council is formally inviting CNSC to our community to make our citizens aware of CNSC mandate & role and to strengthen our relationship and work together to discuss ways we can protect the health & safety of our citizens & environment.

Marrsii, for your attention to this important matter.

---

**From:** Boser, Sydney  
**Sent:** August 19, 2024 9:46 AM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs; Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC- MN-S meeting on NexGen and Fission

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning Brent and Andrew,

I just wanted to follow up if MN-S is still good to proceed with the meeting today on NexGen/Fission or if we should reschedule to another time?

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

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**From:** Nickolet, Sydney  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2024 1:18 PM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.work>; Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC- MN-S meeting on NexGen and Fission

Hello Andrew and Brent,

Ryan is away this week so apologies if you have already discussed this with him but I wanted to follow up on his email below and check in if Monday Aug 19<sup>th</sup> still works for MN-S at 1pm CST to have a meeting on the NexGen and Fission projects? We are still available so I just wanted to check if it still works for you? If not, no big deal we can reschedule to another time.

Let me know and I can send out an invite!

Cheers,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 2:27 PM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs <[aspriggs@mns.work](mailto:aspriggs@mns.work)>; Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.work](mailto:blaroque@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC- MN-S meeting on NexGen and Fission

Hey Brent and Andrew,

I apologize if I already sent a note on this (I might be going crazy) but I was hoping we can connect on both NexGen EIS review and Fission in August. I have a date to connect on Denison which is great on August 9 at 1 pm confirmed with agenda to follow.

I do have a HOLD time and date in CNSC calendars with folks working on the Fission and NexGen files to connect with MN-S on August 19 at 1 pm CST if that works? This would be good opportunity to update MN-S on the NexGen Technical review (should be near completion) and provide an update on the Fission file both on licensing and EA. Let me know if this works and if so I will send over and we can also discuss an agenda.

Moving into the fall perhaps we can find a time monthly to connect on all three projects monthly or separate out by region etc? Let me know what you think and will go from there.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
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---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** September 24, 2024 3:04 PM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque; Boser, Sydney; McKeown, Justin  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC Community Outreach - MN-S Northern Region 2

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi Andrew,

Just following up on this and the discussion we had last week regarding potential dates for the CNSC and potentially the province to hold a community outreach event in Buffalo Narrows and La Loche this fall on the two proposed uranium mines (NexGen and Fission). Our goal would be to work directly with MN-S and NR-2 leadership and the community to hold an open house to deliver some presentations related to the two projects and our regulatory processes and answer any questions community members have about the projects located at Patterson Lake with the regions Indigenous Nations and communities.

As discussed we are now looking at the week of **November 18** and will know more details as we move things forward but would be happy to discuss with MN-S if the dates still work? We would plan to hopefully bring a number of CNSC SMEs and will take some coordination so before booking flights and moving things forward I wanted to get confirmation that the week works for MN-S and NR2 and if so what date works best?

Happy to have quick chat later this week or early next when you and Brent are back from Uranium City.

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:20 PM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.work>  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>; Nickolet, Sydney <sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC Community Outreach - MN-S Northern Region 2

Hi Andrew,

Great to hear that MN-S and NR-2 is interested! I am away next week on work travel but perhaps we can find a time to meet and discuss the following week for 30 mins?

I am also waiting for a response from a couple other Nations as well in the Northwest and I know there are some communities that have been evacuated by fires.

Let me know if the week of September 3<sup>rd</sup> works to connect on the funding for setting up a couple outreach events in La Loche and Buffalo Narrows the week of October 7.

Thanks,  
Ryan



---

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 11:21 AM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs <[aspriggs@mns.work](mailto:aspriggs@mns.work)>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.work](mailto:blaroque@mns.work)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC Community Outreach - MN-S Northern Region 2

Hello Andrew,

Great news that the regional council is interested! This is definitely something we can support through our funding programs however we are still working out those details. Ryan is away this week but once he is back next week I will follow up on this and ensure we let you know what is needed for the application process!

Best,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
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---

**From:** Andrew Spriggs <[aspriggs@mns.work](mailto:aspriggs@mns.work)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 10:58 AM  
**To:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.work](mailto:blaroque@mns.work)>  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC Community Outreach - MN-S Northern Region 2

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hey Sydney,

I just got off the phone with Regional Director, Montgrand, he would like MN-S to apply for grant funding to host the 2 engagement meetings Ryan proposed. What is the process to apply for the stream 3 funding.

Maarsii,

**Andrew Spriggs**  
Acting Director of Environment

Lands and Consultation Manager  
Ministry of Environment  
306-381-7854

### Métis Nation–Saskatchewan

310-20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

### Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory



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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 8, 2024 4:16 PM

**To:** [leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca](mailto:leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca); [bn-metiscouncil@outlook.com](mailto:bn-metiscouncil@outlook.com); [lostangelskeith@hotmail.com](mailto:lostangelskeith@hotmail.com)

**Cc:** Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.work](mailto:blaroque@mns.work)>; Andrew Spriggs <[aspriggs@mns.work](mailto:aspriggs@mns.work)>; Hughie Hill <[hhill@mns.work](mailto:hhill@mns.work)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** CNSC Community Outreach - MN-S Northern Region 2

Good afternoon Leonard, Marlene, and Keith ,

I hope you are all enjoying the summer and have had some time to enjoy and make some memories with family and friends.

I wanted to touch base to see if there is interest from the MN-S Northern Region 2 for CNSC staff to hold a community outreach event in Buffalo Narrows and La Loche this fall on the two proposed uranium mines (NexGen and Fission). Our goal would be to work directly with MN-S and NR-2 leadership and the community to hold an open house to deliver some presentations related to the two projects and our regulatory processes and answer any questions community members have about the projects located at Patterson Lake with the regions Indigenous Nations and communities.

We're in the early stages of planning but it will take some effort and community support to pull together so want to start planning early. This visit would be **without** the project proponents (NexGen and Fission) and would be done with representatives from the province which would likely include staff from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment Branch and Saskatchewan Ministry of Health. We were thinking that perhaps one afternoon and one evening meeting would provide the best opportunity for community members to attend.

We can support a community lunch/supper and some logistics (hall rental, other) through our **Participant Funding Program to help support this event** and would look to MN-S and NR-2 to help organize a venue and advertise the events in advance. We are currently targeting the **week of October 7, 2024** but wanted to check if there would be

community interest in this type of event and if this week would work for your community first before we get too far. Let me know what your thoughts and we will be in touch as things advance and we begin planning for the fall.

I will be out of office all of next week but Nicole Frigault the lead for the NexGen Rook 1 project is copied on the email as are my ISRD colleagues Justin and Sydney. We would also be happy to discuss this further and set up a meeting to discuss with MN-S and NR-2 virtually as well.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** November 4, 2024 1:48 PM  
**To:** Pandolfi, Dana; Froess, Ryan; Williamson, Elizabeth  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Boser, Sydney  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of support NR2 and MNS 2024  
**Attachments:** Letter to CNSC from MNS and NR2 Nov 2024.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FYI –

I also saved in e-access and replied to acknowledge receipt back to Leonard .

N

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**From:** leonard montgrand <leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 4, 2024 12:13 PM  
**To:** nicole.frigault@canada.ca  
**Cc:** Melissa Scansen <mscansen@nxe-energy.ca>  
**Subject:** Letter of support NR2 and MNS 2024

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Please see attached letter of support for your review asap. Any concerns or issues please email.

Thanks

**Leonard Montgrand**  
NR 2 Regional Rep  
PO Box 580  
La Loche, Sask. S0M 1G0  
Ph: (306) 822-2606  
Fax: (306) 822-2623  
Cell: (306) 822-7643



November 4, 2024

To Nicole Frigault  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission ("CNSC")

Dear Nicole,

We are writing with respect to the Rook I Project, which is being advanced by NexGen Energy Ltd. ("NexGen").

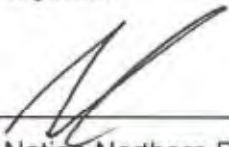
Please accept this letter as confirmation that the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan ("MN-S") and the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, Northern Region 2 ("MN-S NR2") confirm and publicly state our ongoing and full support the Rook I Project (the "Project"). In addition to the support for the Project, and to follow-up on the email you responded to on October 25, 2024, please take this letter as confirmation that working with NexGen, the MN-S NR2 are satisfied with their responses from NexGen on the MN-S NR2 public comments and are considered closed.

The long-term partnership developed between NexGen, the MN-S NR2, and the MN-S (the "Partnership") has ensured that our Nation is fully informed, engaged with and has had and will have a voice throughout the life of the Project. This collaborative approach and Partnership facilitates success for all parties while we, jointly, advance ongoing activities at the Rook I site in a responsible manner. NexGen, the MN-S NR2, and the MN-S are working in lockstep, which has supported the inclusion of the MN-S NR2's Métis Knowledge throughout the Environmental Assessment ("EA") process.

The MN-S and the MN-S NR2 fully support and are partners in the Rook I Project, and any delay in this timeline will detrimentally affect our Nation in addressing the socio-economic challenges our community members continue to face. With the EA demonstrating NexGen's industry-leading approach to responsible resource development, and any delay to the commencement of this Project is of great concern to our Nation. NexGen is ready, and the Métis people are ready to build this project. With Provincial environmental assessment approval already having been granted, we expect the Federal regulators to be ready to approve the EA and set a Commission Hearing Date in short order.

As caretakers of our Métis homelands, we look forward to working side by side with NexGen, the Province of Saskatchewan, the CNSC and the Government of Canada to continue addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action #92 through responsible project development.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a diagonal stroke, positioned above a horizontal line.

Métis Nation Northern Region 2 Director

Cc. Clearwater Clearlake (MN-S NR2) Board  
MN-S NR2 and NexGen Environmental Committee

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** November 4, 2024 1:46 PM  
**To:** leonard montgrand; nicole.frigault@canada.ca  
**Cc:** Melissa Scansen  
**Subject:** RE: Letter of support NR2 and MNS 2024

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good afternoon Leonard,

This is to confirm receipt of your letter of support.

Thank you and we look forward to meeting with you in person a couple of weeks.

Best Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657

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**From:** leonard montgrand <leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 4, 2024 12:13 PM  
**To:** nicole.frigault@canada.ca  
**Cc:** Melissa Scansen <mscansen@nxe-energy.ca>  
**Subject:** Letter of support NR2 and MNS 2024

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Please see attached letter of support for your review asap. Any concerns or issues please email.

Thanks

**Leonard Montgrand**  
NR 2 Regional Rep  
PO Box 580  
La Loche, Sask. S0M 1G0



Ph: (306) 822-2606  
Fax: (306) 822-2623  
Cell: (306) 822-7643

# Community Outreach with Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and Community Members to Discuss NexGen and Fission

**Location:** Buffalo Narrows, SK – Local High School gymnasium

**Date:** November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (~16-20h30)

## **Participants:**

- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC): Maria Healy-Magdalene, Ryan Froess, Nicole Frigault, Dana Pandolfi, Rain Noakes
- Métis Nation of Saskatchewan (MN-S): Andrew Spriggs, Hughie Hill, Hillary, Marlene, Lindon, Barbie Bourassa, Bill Peterson, Rose, Justice Jordan
- Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA): David Poon and Brian Quinn
- Gov't of Saskatchewan – Environmental Protection (SK-EP): Tim Moulding and Andrew Rempel

## Description

The initial intention for this visit was to focus on the NexGen – Rook 1 project; the apparent consensus among community members was generally supportive toward NexGen, and adverse toward Fission - Patterson Lake South project. Discussions were primarily focussed around Fission. CNSC staff prepared a PowerPoint presentation in collaboration with SHA and SK-EP. In addition, CNSC staff set-up a table and banner with handouts providing information on both projects, as well as the CNSC's mandate and role and nuclear regulator. MN-S circulated a printout of their issue and concerns with Fission (see Attachment 1 and Attachment 2). The gymnasium at the local high school was set-up with a series of tables and chairs oriented toward the front of the room where the screen was. The tables were re-oriented into a semi-circle at the front of the gymnasium. Approximately 40 community members passed through, with a consistent active participation of roughly 15-20 community members. The general tone of session was respectful and productive. MN-S provided a handout detailing all their issues and concerns with the Fission project.

## List of Questions from Community Members

- Where does SHA get their data?
  - If you have been collecting data for decades, where are our services?
  - This intervenor went to say that it is not even possible to see a nurse.
  - Is there any impact to the lease or license of a proponent as a result of the data collected by SHA?

- Have specific health studies been completed with respect to uranium mining?
- Does SHA talk to landowners during the life of mine to monitor for potential effects?
- Does SHA collect their own data through outreach to communities?
- One community member noted that the data collected is high-level and not applied...why collect at all?
  - The speaker went on to discuss community vitality with a reference to the importance of finishing high school before working at the mines.
  - Lastly, the speaker asked if the data collected will affect policy changes?
- One member noted that the high school gymnasium in Buffalo Narrows is an aging facility, where is the support from Public Health? Buffalo Narrows has a low population, the data collected will support the need to secure funding.
- A community member challenged a comment about equal opportunity for men and women; to the effect of: “where are the daycares?”
- Concern was raised around the prospective buyout of Fission by Paladin and the security review being completed by the Gov’t of Canada.
  - Will this slip under the radar and result in previously known “dirty mining”.
- The Patterson Lake South property where Fission is located is 31,000 hectares; is the whole property assessed as well as the transportation routes?
- Why was MN-S not involved in the drafting of the EIS from the beginning?
- Would SK gov’t have allowed the Paladin buyout if there was no intervention from the gov’t of Canada?
- The provincial approach to the Duty to Consult process is flawed. Issuing permits to disturb the landscape without consulting local community members is not “early engagement”. This comment was directed at the provincial process (associated to provincial permitting, the Fission environmental assessment process) and that CNSC staff’s efforts and process throughout the NexGen and Denison process was supported.
- The Saskatchewan First Act assumes jurisdiction over natural resources.
- **There was mention of the ongoing negotiations regarding Métis rights to NR-2.**
- How is the CNSC’s Commission selected, is there a Saskatchewan representative?
- Could NR-2 complete their own EIA, insufficient resources. Could CNSC participant funding be used for this purpose?
- Will all the comments, issues and concerns raised by MN-S on the NexGen file be shared with/applied to the Fission file?
  - Will this information be shared with SK Gov’t?
- The NexGen engagement process captured issues and concerns of band members during that time; band members have changed, and it is important to retain all previous input moving forward with Fission.
- Given the timing of both projects, we don’t know the effects of Rook 1 and we are trying to consider the effects of Fission?
- Is this the first time two project of this size in this proximity have been approved?
  - An analogy was drawn between Maclean and Rabbit Lakes.
- Local health facilities are already overwhelmed. Consider the additional stress on local resources if both projects are approved at the same time.

- Specific attention was paid to traffic management; double traffic and high-risk hairpin turn directly in community.
- If there is environmental degradation, who will be blamed? Will it be possible to trace back damage to Fission or NexGen (i.e. finger-pointing/passing blame).
- Will local emergency response services be called away from communities to support mine emergencies?
- What about the cumulative effects on transportation infrastructure if both projects are using one road throughout the life of both projects?
- One community member was concerned about community growth considerations (referencing Uranium City and bust/boom nature of mining) and the lack of analysis.
- How can we communicate our concerns to the Commission (CNSC)
- The desire to be included in the Project from the beginning to build trust was stressed.
- A council member expressed frustration that Fission has been allowed to drill holes through the ice at Patterson Lake without MN-S being consulted.

## Feedback

Some community members provided some feedback and additional information. It was expressed that the CNSC would have better success in these engagement sessions if we considered the following:

- ❖ Include more infographics and images, rather than text-heavy slides. Similar support for this format was expressed in other outreach sessions (e.g., Annual ROR for UMMD's Indigenous Community Engagement Sessions held in Saskatoon)
- ❖ Consider sharing engagement information on local radio stations to increase awareness.
- ❖ Some community members mentioned their disappointment that SK-EP had to leave early, they would have liked to ask more questions. Furthermore, interest in having a member of the provincial EA group was expressed.

## **Fission Uranium Corp. Patterson Lake South Project – MN-S Concerns**

November 1, 2024

### **1. Patterson Lake is important to Métis:**

- Area includes trails, cabins, and is used for hunting, trapping, fishing, camping, gathering, teaching, healing, and has historically had a commercial fishery

### **2. Fission will mine underneath Patterson Lake and build a tailings pond:**

- Fission is different than NexGen's project. Fission will mine underneath Patterson Lake and have an open tailings pond, creating environmentally and health risks

### **3. Effects of Fission's Project are in addition to NexGen's Rook 1:**

- NR2 Supports NexGen's Rook 1 Project that will be developed in collaboration with the Métis
- Fission is not being developed in collaboration with the Métis
- Rook 1 (NexGen) is better than Fission's Project. It will not mine underneath Patterson Lake or use a tailings pond
- If Fission's Project goes ahead, it will mean 2 uranium mines on either side of Patterson Lake. That will significantly disturb Métis use and access to the lake and activities around the lake
- We do not yet know all of the effects of Rook 1. Instead of charging ahead with Fission's Project as well, we should wait to see the full effects of Rook 1.

### **4. Adding another mining project harms communities:**

- We know that Rook 1 will put pressure on nearby communities, including La Loche and Buffalo. We will work with NexGen to address these challenges
- Adding another project at the same time will be much harder to manage the pressure and may lead to harmful effects on the Métis community
  - i. More temporary workers
  - ii. More pressure on housing, health care, and other community resources
  - iii. Community resources are already stretched
  - iv. Harder to attract and keep local service workers (like teachers, healthcare providers), plus more demand for these services
  - v. Temporary workers may increase violence, organized crime, and substance abuse in communities
  - vi. Young people will be pressured to leave school to work – maybe not by the mines, but to meet the increased demand for labour that comes with more mining.

- 2 -

**5. Community will be left with nothing after closure of mine:**

- If Rook 1 and Fission's Project proceed at the same time, it will create a boom and bust cycle rather than sustainable jobs
- Boom and bust hurts communities – for example the Métis community in Uranium City has been decimated by the closure of the mines.

**6. Prevents recovery of Caribou:**

- Métis historically hunted caribou, but mining activities have reduced caribou herds and Métis have shifted to moose.
- The Project will further harm caribou and prevent recovery of herds

**7. Project will put end to food and commercial fishing at Patterson lake:**

- Métis will be unable to sell fish caught at a mine site.
- Who would buy fish caught next to the Project? Who would want their children, elders, or neighbours to eat fish caught from a polluted lake next to a mine?
- The same problem happened at Cluff Lake, where Métis have been alienated from the lands and waters around the old mine

**8. Project will hurt all communities along all-season road:**

- There will be increased traffic through Buffalo Narrows, Bear Creek, and La Loche
- Increased traffic will hurt these communities and animals that Métis communities hunt and trap near the road

**9. Project will deprive Métis of wealth and resources in Homeland before Land Claim resolved:**

- The Métis Homeland includes the Project and is part of the Northwest Métis Land Claim
- Industry and government will extract wealth and resources from the Homeland through mines like the Project before the Métis can resolve land claim negotiations with Canada.



# CANADIAN NUCLEAR SAFETY COMMISSION

Métis Nation – Saskatchewan  
Community Open House Sessions

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024





# Overview

- Who is the 'CNSC' and what do we do
- How we consult, engage and work with Indigenous communities
- How do we protect people and the environment
- NexGen Rook I Project
  - CNSC updates on EA and licensing processes
- Fission Patterson Lake Project
  - CNSC update on licensing process

# The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission





# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



## Canada's Nuclear Regulator



# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



Uranium mines  
and mills



Uranium fuel  
fabrication and  
processing



Nuclear power  
plants



Nuclear substance  
processing



Industrial and  
medical applications



Nuclear research  
and educational  
activities



Transportation of  
nuclear substances



Nuclear security  
and safeguards



Import and  
export controls



Waste management  
facilities

## Regulates All Nuclear-Related Activities in Canada



# CNSC Across Canada

## Human resources

Approximately **900** full-time equivalents

---

## Licensees

**1,700**

## Licences

**2,500**

Calgary Western  
Regional Office

Saskatoon Uranium Mines  
and Mills Regional Office

Point Lepreau

Chalk River

Ottawa

Bruce

Laval Eastern Regional Office

Mississauga Southern  
Ontario Regional Office

Darlington

Pickering



# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)

## The Commission Tribunal



**DR. TIMOTHY  
BERUBE**



**MS. ANDREA  
HARDIE**



**MR. JERRY  
HOPWOOD**



**DR. MARCEL  
LACROIX**



**DR. VICTORIA  
REMENDA**



**PRESIDENT  
PIERRE  
TREMBLAY**



**VACANCY**

**TRANSPARENT, EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING**



## What We Do, What We Don't

- Commission and staff work for Canadians, we are an **independent** regulator
- Staff **review** applications and Commission **issues** licences
- Commission's decisions based on **best available information** (*i.e., science and Indigenous Knowledge*)
- Staff **verify safety and compliance** – take action if needed



- We are **not** industry, nor are we the Province
- We do **not** select sites
- We do **not** own, manage, construct or operate projects
- We **don't** regulate exploration
- We do **not** promote the nuclear industry





# Indigenous Consultation and Engagement and Public Participation





## Indigenous Consultation & Engagement – CNSC’S Role

- Agent of the Crown (S. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 - Duty to Consult)
- Crown Consultation Coordinator for all non-designated projects
- Building long term relationships with Indigenous peoples
- Listen to and address concerns and potential impacts on rights (mitigation/accommodation)
- Being flexible, honourable, reasonable, accessible, fair
- Provide funding and support building capacity



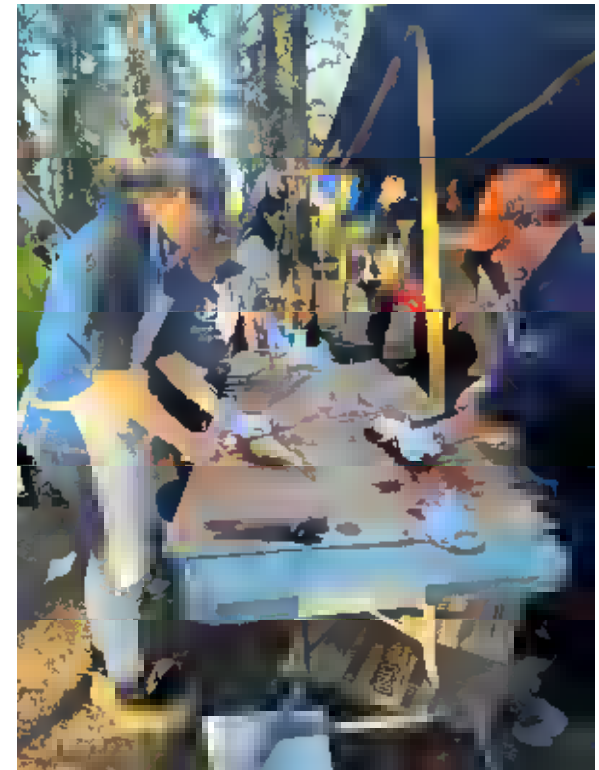


# Indigenous Engagement Activities

- CNSC is a lifecycle regulator and is working to build long-term relationships with Indigenous Nations and communities near existing or proposed nuclear facilities across Canada.

## Examples of Recent Engagement Activities:

- Community information sessions – CNSC 101
- CNSC staff visits to culture camps
- Treaty Day celebrations
- Collaboration on environmental monitoring programs
- Signing of long-term engagement Terms of Reference



CNSC Outreach & Consultation at the Metis Culture Camp Learning  
How to Fillet a Fish - September 2022



## CNSC's ongoing Engagement with MN-S

- CNSC staff are committed to and will continue to work with Indigenous Nations and communities to establish regular and ongoing engagement throughout the life cycle of UMM facilities and activities.

### Engagement Activities with MN-S:

- Signed Terms of Reference for engagement with MN-S NR2 signed on NexGen in 2022, including development of a workplan for continued meetings and together
- Keeping MN-S updated on all project activities and updates taking place in NR-2
- Provided capacity support (staff member) for MN-S to work on nuclear projects in Saskatchewan.



CNSC staff doing outreach in Buffalo Narrows in June 2022.



# CNSC's ongoing Engagement with Indigenous Nations

- Oversight of proponent engagement (REGDOC 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement)
- Support for gathering and consideration of Indigenous Knowledge (IK Policy Framework)
- Funding to review CNSC reports and documents
- Commitment to long-term engagement and collaboration
- Collaboration on monitoring activities
- Participate in community outreach/events
- Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund (started in May of 2023 – 5-year program)



CNSC staff testing water with Indigenous Nation in September 2022.



# CNSC Participant and Capacity Funding

- Participant Funding Program (PFP) provides funds to assist members of the public and Indigenous Nations and communities to take part in our regulatory processes including Commission proceedings.
- The Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund (ISCF) aims to build organizational capacity and support relationship-building with Indigenous Nations and communities and stakeholders.

## ISCF Funding Streams

- **Stream 1:** Indigenous Capacity Support
- **Stream 2:** Regulatory Policy Dialogue
- **Stream 3:** Engagement and Collaboration Support





# Independent Environmental Monitoring Program(IEMP)

- Independent of a facility's environmental monitoring program
- We seek input from local Indigenous Nations and communities such as traditional knowledge, land use, and values and incorporate this into our sampling plans
- Air, water, soil, fish, and vegetation samples are collected in the immediate vicinity of nuclear facilities
- Samples are analyzed for radioactive and hazardous substances
- <https://www.cnscccsn.gc.ca/eng/resources/maps-of-nuclear-facilities/iemp/>



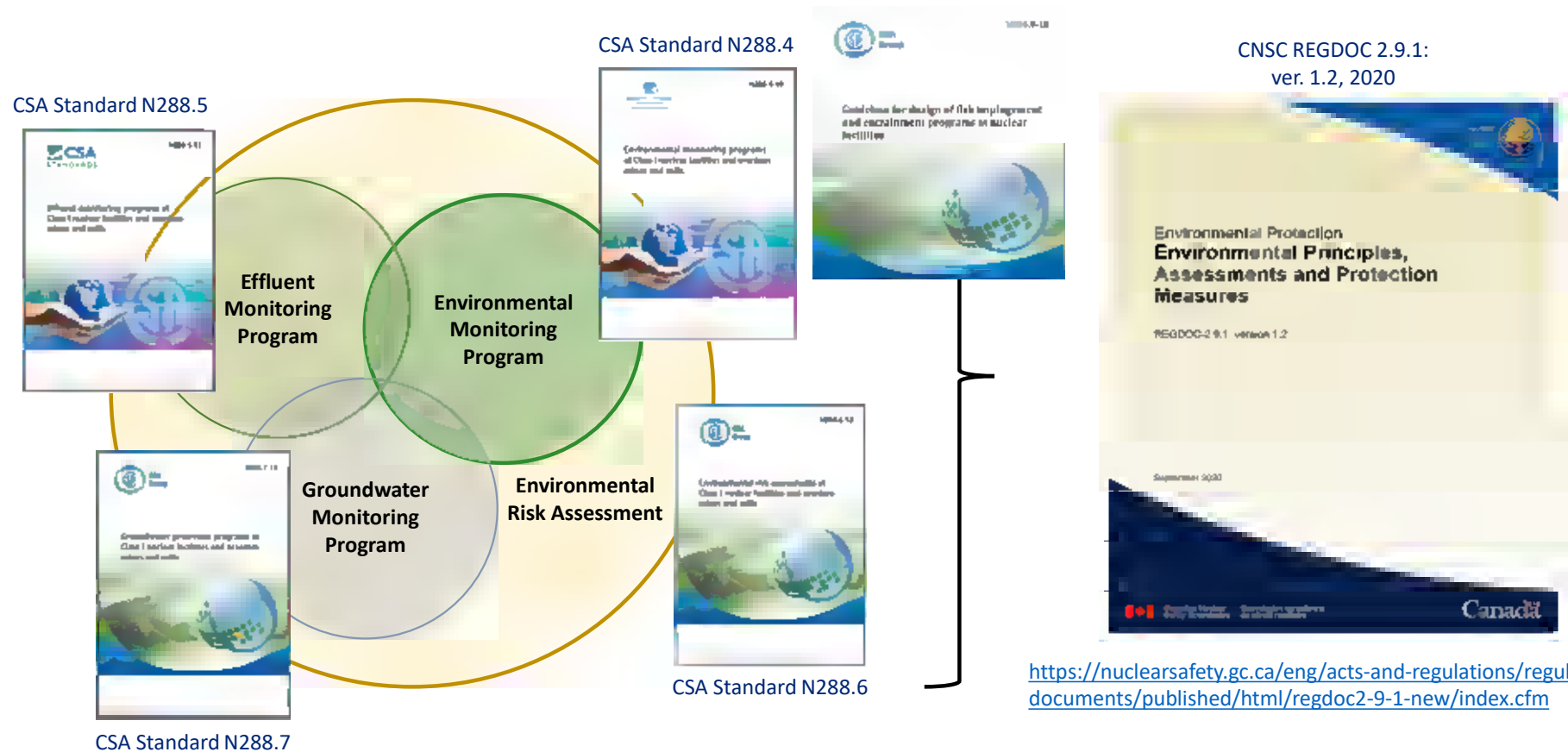


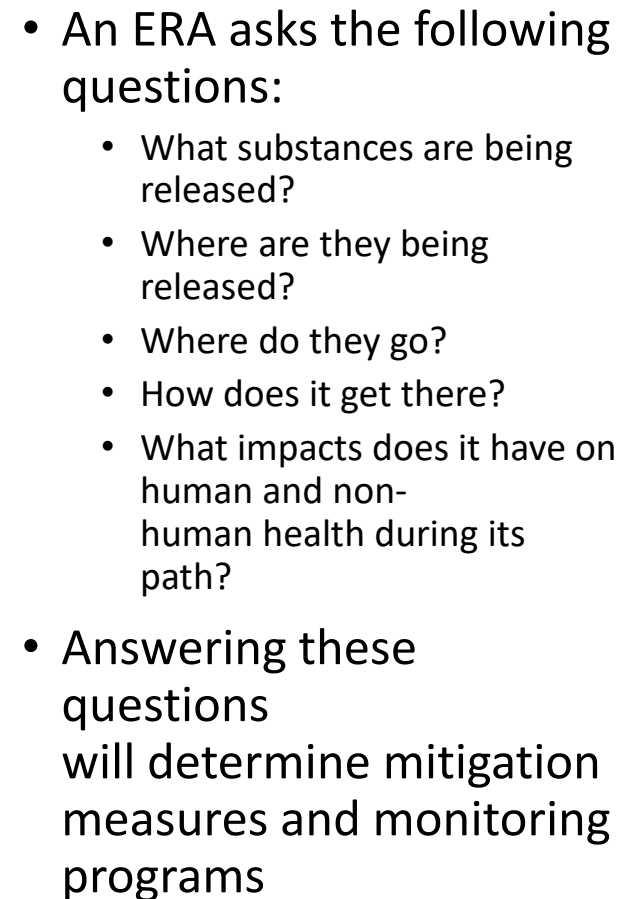
# Protection of People and the Environment





# Environmental Protection framework







# Risk Informed Recommendations

- The end product of an ERA is a determination of the risk to human and non-human biota
- ERA results provide feedback into a licensee's monitoring programs (e.g., recommending any changes to the monitoring program to focus on new issues or to reduce uncertainties)
- A licensee's Effluent/Emissions Monitoring Program and Environmental Monitoring Program are updated following completion of an ERA to address identified data needs
- ERA results are the basis for risk-informed recommendations to the licensee about the need for risk management/adaptive management, mitigation, and/or remediation

**CNSC staff review the licensee's ERA to ensure the recommendations being made are adequate and that they are being implemented**



# Effluent and Emissions Monitoring

- Monitoring of Releases (Effluent/Emissions) to the Environment
  - collecting and analyzing samples of treated water/air **at the point of release/final point of control**
  - samples analyzed for those contaminants and/or physical stressors identified as requiring control or identified as a parameter of stakeholder interest
  - compared to licensed release limits, action levels, internal control levels
  - compared to estimated releases used as source-term for the ERA





# Environmental Monitoring

- Environmental Monitoring
  - collecting and analyzing samples in the **receiving environment**
  - media: surface water, sediment, soil, air, groundwater
  - biota: fish, birds, moose, caribou, other terrestrial animals
  - samples analyzed informed by the ERA and those of stakeholder interest
  - results are compared against local/regional background, protective environmental quality guidelines, and ERA predictions
- Monitoring results are used to periodically update the ERA (i.e., every 5 years)





# Protection of People

- Licensee shall ensure that members of the public are not exposed to “unreasonable” risk with respect to hazardous substances
- Licensee shall assess the predicted human health effects of a proposed licensed activity due to the concentrations and quantities of hazardous substances
- Licensee shall ensure that members of the public are not exposed to an estimated radiation dose over the regulatory limit of 1 mSv/yr
  - Some facilities apply a dose constraint of 0.3 mSv/yr

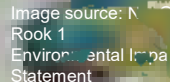


# NexGen Energy Ltd. – Proposed Rook I Project Environmental Assessment and Licensing Requirements





- Proposed underground uranium mine and uranium mill on Patterson Lake
  - Proposes underground tailings management
- Initial regulatory applications in 2019
  - CNSC-led Environmental Assessment
  - Application for CNSC licence to construct a mine, mill
  - Applications for Provincial approvals
- Ongoing reviews of NexGen's documents, responses to comments





# Proposed Rook I Project (NexGen)

- Undergoing Environmental Assessments under concurrent Federal (led by CNSC) and Provincial (led by SK) processes:
  - On November 18, 2024 CNSC staff are completed the technical review of NexGen's May 2024 draft EIS package re-submission and deemed all responses to information requests acceptable.
  - NexGen to submit Final EIS that will undergo a 30-day review by CNSC staff to ensure all documents have been revised accordingly.
  - Once CNSC staff deem the EIS as Final, CMD and EA Report to be drafted.
- July 1, 2023 NexGen submitted licence application package to determine if it was sufficiently detailed for CNSC staff to commence its review.
- CNSC staff confirmed sufficiency on September 1, 2023 but issued a letter on February 23, 2024 pausing the 24-month time period for a Commission decision until the Federal Environmental Assessment was completed.



# Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012

## Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Environmental Assessment Process under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

CNSC engages with Indigenous groups and communities throughout the EA process





# Nuclear Facility Licensing Stages





## Proposed Rook I Project (NexGen) MN-S Issues and Concerns

- NexGen's EIS included the following issues and concerns expressed by MN-S:
  - Access to the land, use of land
  - Transmission of Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge
  - Quality of engagement
  - Cumulative effects of other mines
  - Community well-being (family dynamics, mental health etc.)
  - Socio-economic environment
  - Accidents and spills
  - Lack of confidence in environmental monitoring data
  - Safety of consuming fish from Patterson Lake
  - Ability to harvest country foods
  - Dust on vegetation and wildlife
  - Decrease in water quality
  - Radiation exposure
  - Safety of underground tailings management facility



## Proposed Rook I Project (NexGen) MN-S Issues and Concerns

- MN-S is participating as a member of the Federal-Indigenous-Review-Team (FIRT) for the technical review of the draft EIS
  - MN-S review of the draft EIS resulted in 65 information requests (in the FIRT IR Table) and over 300 comments (included in the public comment table)
- NexGen has been working closely with MN-S to address all issues and concerns
- In November 2024, MN-S communicated to CNSC staff that all issues and concerns have been addressed adequately by NexGen to date and has consented to the project moving forward.



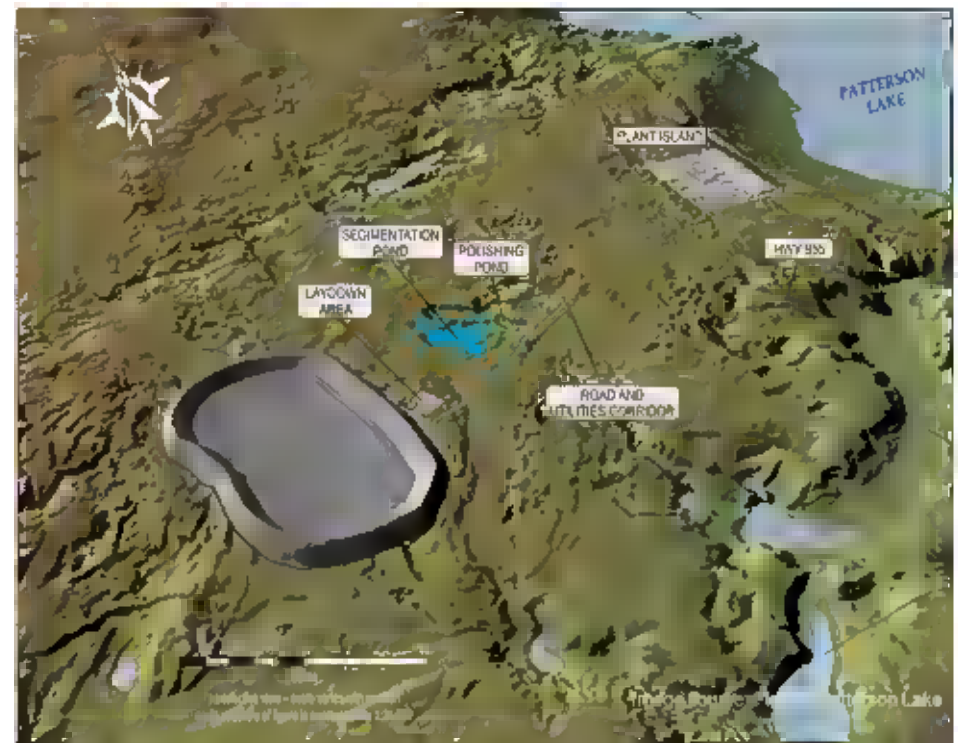
# Proposed Patterson Lake South Project (Fission Uranium Corp.) Environmental Assessment and Licensing Requirements





# Proposed Patterson Lake South Project (Fission)

- Proposed underground uranium mine and uranium mill at Patterson Lake
- Undergoing Provincial Environmental Assessment led by Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
- Application for CNSC licence to prepare site for and construct a uranium mine and mill
- Ongoing reviews of Fission's documents, responses to comments
- Indigenous and Public Engagement



Source: [Fission Uranium Corp.'s Fission Project Description](#)



# Proposed Patterson Lake South Project (Fission)

- **Provincial EA**
- Fission submitted a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the province in March 2024
- At the request of the province, CNSC conducted a technical review of the draft EIS and submitted comments. Fission has now responded to those comments and the province and CNSC are now reviewing those responses.
- **CNSC Licensing**
- April 2023 - Fission submitted an initial application for CNSC licence
- Working in Parallel - CNSC has initiated a review of their application for sufficiency while the province of Saskatchewan conducts the EA
- CNSC staff are engaging and consulting with Indigenous Nations and communities to address concerns and advise on the CNSC licence review process.

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[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



1-800-668-5284

**General inquiries:** [cnsc.info.ccsn@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:cnsc.info.ccsn@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)

**Project specific inquiries:** [er-ee@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:er-ee@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)

---

**From:** blaliberte@sasktel.net  
**Sent:** November 25, 2024 3:40 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan; Pandolfi, Dana  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Andrew Spriggs; BN-MetisCouncil@outlook.com  
**Subject:** Re: NR2 Buffalo Narrows Metis update meeting Nov. 21st, 2024

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hi Ryan

Thank you for the quick response. 😊

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** November 25, 2024 3:19 PM  
**To:** blaliberte@sasktel.net <blaliberte@sasktel.net>; Pandolfi, Dana <Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.ca>; BN-MetisCouncil@outlook.com <BN-MetisCouncil@outlook.com>  
**Subject:** RE: NR2 Buffalo Narrows Metis update meeting Nov. 21st, 2024

Good afternoon,

Thanks for taking the time to attend the meeting last week and look forward to meeting you again in the spring of 2025.

I have attached a PDF of the PowerPoint Presentation that the CNSC staff delivered in Buffalo Narrows Métis Local and community on November 21, 2024.

If you have any more questions please let us know.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Pandolfi, Dana <Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2024 3:09 PM  
**To:** blaliberte@sasktel.net

**Cc:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: NR2 Buffalo Narrows Metis update meeting Nov. 21st, 2024

Good afternoon,

No worries, I think the issue is the CCSN (you put down CSSN) part of the email address which is the CNSC's acronym in French. I've included Ryan on this reply but please let me know if there are still issues reaching out to any of us and we can surely send over a PDF of our presentation.

Regards,

Dana

Dana Pandolfi (she, her, elle)

Senior Project Officer, Regulatory Operations Branch

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission/ Government of Canada

[dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tel: 613-297-4340

Agente principale de projet, Réglementation des opérations

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire/Gouvernement du Canada

[dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tél:613-297-4340

---

**From:** [blaliberte@sasktel.net](mailto:blaliberte@sasktel.net) <[blaliberte@sasktel.net](mailto:blaliberte@sasktel.net)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2024 4:04 PM

**To:** Pandolfi, Dana <[Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Fw: NR2 Buffalo Narrows Metis update meeting Nov. 21st, 2024

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Dana

I left you a telephone message indicating that I couldn't reach Ryan Froess, my mistake I put wrong email address, same as yours it came back as error . sorry my fault as you can see on your email below, I put wrong email address as well. I resent the email to Ryan

---

**From:** [blaliberte@sasktel.net](mailto:blaliberte@sasktel.net) <[blaliberte@sasktel.net](mailto:blaliberte@sasktel.net)>

**Sent:** November 25, 2024 2:34 PM

**To:** [dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca) <[dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; [dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca) <[dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** NR2 Buffalo Narrows Metis update meeting Nov. 21st, 2024

Hi

I'm the person who took some notes from meeting on the above-mentioned date , can you please forward me your PowerPoint presentation. At the meeting , I think Ryan said that we can request this from CNSC.I tried to send the email to Ryan Froess but my email came back as error could not be delivered.

Thank you, I can share this information with the Buffalo Narrows Metis Local 62 council members.





---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** December 10, 2024 11:40 AM  
**To:** Andrew Spriggs; Boser, Sydney  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque; Hilary Peterson; Marc Wang; Arun Stiles; McKeown, Justin  
**Subject:** RE: Future CNSC Engagements with MN-S

Hi Andrew,

Thanks for the email and follow-up from our meetings last month up north.

CNSC staff did take some notes at both meetings that we can share with MN-S from these meetings if you would like? I believe I did send a copy of our presentation to Buffalo Narrows Metis Local and cc'd Andrew I hope? Let me know if you did not get our presentation and we would also be happy to send.

We are open to either having CNSC staff work with MN-S staff to take notes and share. If MN-S would prefer to take notes we would likely look to Hughie who is funded under CNSC's ISCF to work with our staff to ensure we are working together to capture meeting mins together on nuclear files in Saskatchewan.

Happy to discuss further at one of our next meetings if you would like!

**Ryan Froess**

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation | Conseiller principal, Consultation Autochtones  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division | Division de la consultation et de la mobilisation des Autochtones  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 10, 2024 11:27 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Nickolet, Sydney <sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Marc Wang <mwang@mns.ca>; Arun Stiles <astiles@mns.ca>  
**Subject:** Future CNSC Engagements with MN-S

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hey Ryan and Sydney,

MN-S conducted a debrief with our staff that were present at the engagement meetings in Buffalo and La Loche Nov. 21/24.

We would like to request that future engagements have a dedicated note taker and that those notes be shared with MN-S.

If you would like to discuss further, we can put this on the agenda of one of our future update meetings.

Maarsii,

**Andrew Spriggs**  
Lands and Consultation Manager  
Ministry of Environment  
306-381-7854

**Métis Nation–Saskatchewan**

310-20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** December 17, 2024 5:02 PM  
**To:** leonardmontgrand@yahoo.ca  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque; Andrew Spriggs  
**Subject:** Administrative Monetary Penalty issued to NexGen Energy Ltd.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Mr. Montgrand,

The CNSC wanted to advise you that the attached Administrative Monetary Penalty (AMP) has recently been issued to NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen). AMPs are an enforcement tool that are intended to promote future compliance with requirements. In this case, the AMP was issued to NexGen for performing site preparation and construction of a uranium mine and mill facility without a CNSC licence. This AMP is being issued to NexGen to promote compliance and to deter reoccurrence.

The NexGen AMP is posted to the CNSC's website here:

<https://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-action/nexgen/>  
<https://www.cnsccsn.gc.ca/fra/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-action/nexgen/>

If you have any questions on the above, you please contact Dana Pandolfi at [dana.pandolfi@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:dana.pandolfi@cnsccsn.gc.ca) or feel free to contact me and we would be happy to set up a call and answer any questions.

Thanks,

**Ryan Froess**

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation | Conseiller principal, Consultation Autochtones  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division | Division de la consultation et de la mobilisation des Autochtones  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Salmon, Candace  
**Sent:** January 7, 2025 10:10 AM  
**To:** Sigouin, Luc; Snider, Richard; Burton, Patrick  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; Pandolfi, Dana; Registry / Greffe (CNSC/CCSN); Young, Michael; Boser, Sydney; Froess, Ryan  
**Subject:** Re: NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project Hearing Scheduling  
**Attachments:** Response to MN-S on Rook 1.pdf; LT CNSC re Nexgen Rook I Hearing Scheduling.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached the response from Registry to the correspondence sent to PO on December 16, 2024, by counsel for Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Northern Region 2.

Should you have any questions, please advise.

Best,  
Candace

**Candace R. Salmon**  
(she | elle)

Registrar – Commission Registry / Registraire – Greffe de la Commission  
Legal and Commission Affairs Branch / Direction générale des affaires juridiques et de la Commission  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[Candace.Salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Candace.Salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tel: 343-630-3471



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

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**From:** Rivard Gosselin, Caroline <[Caroline.RivardGosselin@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Caroline.RivardGosselin@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 17, 2024 7:00 AM  
**To:** Thiele, Lisa <[Lisa.Thiele@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Lisa.Thiele@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Tremblay, Pierre <[pierre.tremblay@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pierre.tremblay@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Salmon, Candace <[candace.salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:candace.salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Registrar to action: NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project Hearing Scheduling

Good morning Lisa,

see attached an email to President Tremblay from Matt Hammer on behalf of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Northern Region 2 for the Registrar to action since this is pertaining to the scheduling of NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project Hearing.

Thank you,

Caroline

**Caroline Rivard Gosselin**

(she, her, elle)

Executive Office Manager

Office of the President

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada

[President-CEO@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:President-CEO@cnsccsn.gc.ca) / Tel: 613-462-1630

Gestionnaire du bureau exécutif

Cabinet du président

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada

[President-CEO@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:President-CEO@cnsccsn.gc.ca) / Tel: 613-462-1630

---

**From:** Hammer, Matt <[mhammer@cassels.com](mailto:mhammer@cassels.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 16, 2024 4:18 PM

**To:** Tremblay, Pierre <[pierre.tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pierre.tremblay@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Interventions / Interventions (CNSC/CCSN) <[Interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Hoekstra, Arend J.A. <[ahhoekstra@cassels.com](mailto:ahhoekstra@cassels.com)>

**Subject:** Re: NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project Hearing Scheduling

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon,

On behalf of our client Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Northern Region 2, please see attached correspondence. Please do not hesitate to reach out regarding this matter.

- Cheers, Matt

**Cassels** | **MATT HAMMER** *(he/him/his)*  
Associate  
t: +1 403 351 3816  
e: [mhammer@cassels.com](mailto:mhammer@cassels.com)

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP | [cassels.com](http://cassels.com)  
Suite 3810, Bankers Hall West, 888 3rd Street SW  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 5C5 Canada

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**VIA EMAIL**

e-Doc 7431384 (Word)  
e-Doc 7436029 (PDF)

January 6, 2025

Leonard Montgrand  
Regional Director, Métis Nation  
Saskatchewan - Northern  
Region 2

**Re: NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project Hearing Scheduling**

Dear Leonard Montgrand,

I am writing in response to your December 16, 2024, letter to President Tremblay regarding the scheduling of a public hearing for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s Rook 1 Project. Thank you for sharing the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan - Northern Region 2 (MN-S) perspectives and thoughts on this project.

The CNSC is committed to ensuring that regulatory review processes for nuclear projects are effective, efficient, fair, and done to the highest standards. The CNSC's role and mandate is to ensure that all proposed nuclear projects, including uranium mines and mills, are safe for people and the environment. The CNSC continues to advance the timelines for the regulatory review and licensing process for the NexGen Rook 1 Project.

Below is an update on the status of the CNSC's review and on the expected next steps in the process.

- On November 30, 2024, NexGen submitted its Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) package to the CNSC. CNSC staff are now completing their review. NexGen has also provided responses to the comments from the public and Indigenous Nations and communities on the EIS.
- If and when CNSC staff deem the final EIS to be acceptable, it will confirm to NexGen that the EIS meets regulatory requirements and notify the Commission Registry of the need to identify hearing dates.

- Should CNSC staff accept a Final EIS, CNSC staff will work with the Registry to complete an internal process to determine the hearing format, timing, and location. Once these are determined, a *Notice of Public Hearing* will be issued, and the details will be communicated to MN-S. The Notice of Public Hearing would include details on the timing of the public hearing, as well as submission deadlines.

We understand that from MN-S's perspective, the hearing process appears to be lengthy; however, like all CNSC public hearing processes, it must be fair, open and transparent. The CNSC's hearing process must allow sufficient time for:

- all interested parties, including Indigenous Nations and communities and the public, to make applications for participant funding;
- NexGen and CNSC staff to complete and file their Commission Member Document and Environmental Assessment report submissions;
- intervenors to review the information and prepare their submissions; and
- the Commission members to review all materials as part of their decision-making process.

CNSC and Registry staff would welcome a meeting with MN-S leadership and technical team early in the New Year to provide a full status update on the regulatory review process for the NexGen Rook 1 Project and to discuss next steps. CNSC staff are committed to working with MN-S as the project moves forward, and to building our partnership together.

In the immediate term, if you have any specific questions or concerns relating to the ongoing Final EIS review period for the NexGen Rook 1 Project, please feel to contact Ryan Froess ([ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) or Nicole Frigault ([nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)).

Sincerely,

Candace Salmon

Commission Registrar  
Legal and Commission Affairs Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[candace.salmon@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:candace.salmon@cnsccsn.gc.ca) / cell: (343) 630-3471

Registraire de la Commission  
Direction générale des affaires juridiques et de la Commission  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[candace.salmon@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:candace.salmon@cnsccsn.gc.ca) / Tél. (343) 630-3471



December 16, 2024

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street, Post Office Box 1046, Station B  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1P 5S9

Attention: Pierre Tremblay, President and Chief Executive Officer

**RE: NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project Hearing Scheduling**

Dear Mr. Tremblay,

I write as Regional Director of Métis Nation – Saskatchewan - Northern Region 2 (“**NR2**”), on behalf of the seven Locals of NR2: Local #39 (La Loche), Métis Local #156 (Bear Creek), Métis Local #62 (Buffalo Narrows), Métis Local #162 (Black Point), Métis Local #40 (Turnor Lake), Métis Local #70 (St. George’s Hill), Métis Local #65 (Michel Village) (collectively the “**Locals**”). I write to request that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (“**CNSC**”) proceed promptly with its review of the NexGen Energy Ltd. (“**NexGen**”) Rook 1 Project (“**Rook 1**”).

The Métis of NR2 and the Locals are eager to realize the collaborative and transformational benefits from Rook 1. As you are aware, we have reached a benefit agreement with NexGen which will provide significant opportunities for our communities. The timely development of Rook 1 will best facilitate the achievement of those opportunities and the advancement of Métis interests in Rook 1.

NexGen submitted the Final Environmental Impact Statement package on November 29, 2024. That package is now under a 30-day technical review by CNSC staff. Following this review, CNSC staff will draft an Environmental Assessment Report summarizing the results of the technical review and staff’s recommendations to the Commission. Once the Report is released, a CNSC hearing will be scheduled.

We wish to request that the technical review be concluded as soon as is reasonably practicable, and that the CNSC hearing be scheduled as soon as possible following the conclusion of the technical review. We make this request having regard to the extensive review to which Rook 1 has been subject and the importance of Rook 1 to Indigenous benefiting communities such as NR2 and the Locals. The timely process of environmental assessment is also of benefit to all parties and to the public interest generally.

Moreover, such an expedited process would be consistent with the spirit of reconciliation. Reconciliation includes attention to the economic benefits stemming from Aboriginal rights exercised in the course of resource development. The Supreme Court has recognized that “the important and valuable economic and community benefits negotiated in compensation of Aboriginal and Treaty rights, ... are entitled to the protection through the honour of the Crown construed generously and purposefully”.<sup>1</sup>

NR2 and the Locals look forward to participating in an efficient and effective review of Rook 1.

Regards,



---

Leonard Montgrand  
Regional Director, Métis Nation –  
Saskatchewan - Northern  
Region 2

cc: Nicole Frigault, Environmental Review Specialist, Environmental Review Division

---

<sup>1</sup> *Ermineskin Cree Nation v. Canada (Environment and Climate Change)*, 2021 FC 758, para 110.



## La Loche Métis Local #39 Corp.

Box 730 La Loche, Sk. S0M 1G0

January 28, 2025

To Nicole Frigault– Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission ("CNSC")

Dear Mrs Frigault,

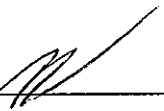
We are writing with respect to the Rook I Project, and as it relates to the recent CNSC approval of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and our support for the next steps of setting a Commission Hearing Date for the Rook I Project.

Please accept this letter as confirmation and support from the MN-S Local 39 as a formal submission during this exciting stage for the Project. With the Final EIS now approved, our Local and all of its members fully expect the CNSC to set the Commission Hearing Date immediately after receipt of this letter, if it has not been set already. It is of concern to our community that any delay in setting of the hearing date will detrimentally affect our community and our other Nation partners. The Rook I Project is fully supported by not only our Local and its membership, but by the entire Clearwater Clearlake Region and the Métis Nation Saskatchewan. With the full support from all of the impacted Nations in the Local Priority Area we expect the Federal powers to be, to set a hearing date before February 7, 2025.

Our community has been a partner with NexGen well before any agreement was signed. With that, we expect the Federal Government and Regulatory Agencies to recognize this Project, and the approach NexGen and our Local have taken in partnership to the responsible development of this generational Project. The importance and attention of setting the Commission Hearing Date in the coming days cannot be taken lightly by the Federal Government and the CNSC, as we have seen in the past how easily the Federal Government has forgotten and overlooked our people when important transformational opportunities like this Project have been presented. This partnership we have built with NexGen emulates the definition of the TRC Call to Action #92, and any delay in approval of this Project is a direct defiance by the Federal Government and the CNSC as it relates to these TRC commitments.

As caretakers of our Métis homelands, we look forward to the response from the CNSC, and the Federal Government that immediately addresses our concerns and requests stated here as it relates to the imminent setting of a Commission Hearing Date for the Rook I Project. Our Métis citizens are ready to build this Project!

Best Regards,



---

Keith Shewchuk

Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Local 39 President

Cc. • Ryan Froess – Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division, CNSC  
Adam Levine – Director Indigenous Consultation and Engagement, CNSC  
MN-S Local 39 Board  
Leonard Montgrand – MN-S NR2 Area Director

---

**From:** McKeown, Justin  
**Sent:** February 18, 2025 2:21 PM  
**To:** Boser, Sydney; McDonald, Taya  
**Subject:** FW: Next Steps of Consultation with MN-S - Proposed Rook I Project  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#7460112-v3-2025-02-14-Letter-CNSC\_to\_MN-S\_-\_Next\_steps\_of\_the\_Regulatory\_Process-Rook\_I\_EA.pdf

---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 14, 2025 3:37 PM  
**To:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Burton, Patrick <Patrick.Burton@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Pandolfi, Dana <Dana.Pandolfi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Zenobi, Adam <adam.zenobi@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Andrew Spriggs <aspriggs@mns.work>; Kwamena, Nana-Owusua <Nana-Owusua.Kwamena@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Next Steps of Consultation with MN-S - Proposed Rook I Project

Dear Brent,

I am sending the attached letter on behalf of the CNSC, outlining proposed next steps of the CNSC's consultation process with Métis Nation – Saskatchewan for the Rook I regulatory review process.

We look forward to meeting with you again and our continued work together on this file.

Sincerely,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657



February 14, 2025

CIAR NO.: [80171](#)  
e-Doc: 7460112

Mr. Brent Laroque  
Métis Nation - Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK  
[blaroque@mns.ca](mailto:blaroque@mns.ca)

**Subject: Proposed Next Steps of Consultation with Métis Nation – Saskatchewan for the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process for the Proposed Rook I Project**

Dear Mr. Laroque:

Thank you for taking the time to inform CNSC of Métis Nation – Saskatchewan's (MN-S) support for NexGen Energy Ltd.'s (NexGen) proposed Rook I Project (the Project). We are looking forward to our continued work together on the remaining steps of the regulatory review process.

### **Current Status of the Process of the federal Environmental Assessment**

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the federal review of NexGen's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concluded, and the Final EIS was accepted by CNSC staff as it meets the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, 2012 (CEAA, 2012). As communicated in CNSC's January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 email to the project distribution list for the project, the documents can be found on the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry \(the Registry\)](#).

CNSC staff have reviewed the responses NexGen provided to comments that were received during the public comment period on the draft EIS in 2023, including those from MN-S. The comments and NexGen's responses are now [available on the Registry](#). CNSC staff have also drafted responses to comments that were applicable to CNSC's oversight and responsibilities and look forward to further discussing these as part of our proposed next steps as described below. CNSC's responses to these comments can also be [found on the Registry](#).

### **Proposed Next Steps of Consultation**

Building on the ongoing consultation, relationship building, and engagement that began in 2019 between MN-S and CNSC in relation to the Project, we have outlined the next steps on the Project below and how we would like to collaborate with MN-S.

CNSC staff will be preparing the following reports and documents to support staff's recommendations to the Commission:

- **An EA Report** which provides information and analysis to assist the Commission in its determination on whether the proposed project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.
- **A Consultation Report** which will include an assessment of the Project's potential impacts to the Rights and interests of potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and communities as well as recommendations regarding the Duty to Consult and Accommodate and MN-S's perspective and position on their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), as appropriate.
- **A Commission Member Document (CMD)** which presents CNSC staff's findings, recommendations and conclusions from the technical review of NexGen's licence application and supporting documentation.

CNSC staff are interested in collaborating with MN-S to ensure that MN-S's perspectives, issues and concerns, Indigenous Knowledge and Land use information, potential impacts of the proposed Project on Métis rights, and other topics of interest to MN-S are properly reflected in CNSC staff's reports and recommendations. This would involve CNSC staff developing the content as a first step based on information that MN-S has submitted and provided to date to the CNSC and NexGen and then providing the draft content for review and comment. CNSC staff will be providing detailed timelines on the remainder of the regulatory process once a Commission hearing date has been identified by the Commission Registry.

Funding through CNSC's Participant Funding Program (PFP) will be available to support the review of CNSC's reports and consultation and engagement with the CNSC, as well as to support the preparation of a written intervention to submit to the Commission and participation in the Commission's hearing process through an oral intervention.

CNSC staff are committed to continued collaboration with MN-S to ensure that the consultation for the Project is meaningful, addresses MN-S's concerns, protects your Nation's rights and interests, and upholds the Honour of the Crown. To discuss any matters related to the regulatory review process of the Project, please contact:

- Nicole Frigault, Environmental Review Officer, Rook I EA Lead  
Email: [nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)
- Justin McKeown, Team Leader Western and Northern Regions, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Email: [justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

Please provide any feedback on the next steps in the regulatory review process for the proposed Rook I Project by **March 14, 2025 or we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss.**

The CNSC looks forward to continuing to build a long-term relationship with MN-S and working together throughout the regulatory review process for the proposed Rook I Project.

Yours sincerely,



Nana-Owusua Kwamena  
Director  
Environmental Review Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



Adam Levine  
Director  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

c.c./c.c. : CNSC: J. McKeown, P. Burton, N. Frigault, R. Froess, D. Pandolfi, A. Zenobi  
MN-S: A. Spriggs

#### References:

- [1] CNSC, Regulatory Guide, *REGDOC- 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement*, Version 1.2, August 2022, [REGDOC-3.2.2, Indigenous Engagement, Version 1.2](#)
- [2] CNSC, *Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement*, May 2016, <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng>



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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 12:56 PM  
**To:** David Devos  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque; McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; dtc@mns.ca  
**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** MN-S Consultation Report - Section 4.2 - For Review.docx;  
MN\_S\_Rook\_1\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed.docx

Good afternoon David,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.2 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with MN-S related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on MN-S, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by MN-S related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without MN-S' feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
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*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

## 4.2 Consultation Activities with Métis Nation-Saskatchewan

### 4.2.1 Background on Métis Nation-Saskatchewan



**Figure 8: MN-S Logo**

Métis Nation - Saskatchewan is a government that represents Métis citizens in Saskatchewan. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) is the governing authority of MN-S, made up of the Presidents of Métis Locals and the Provincial Métis Council. The MNLA has the authority to enact legislation, regulations, rules and resolutions governing the affairs and conduct of the Métis in Saskatchewan.

The Métis emerged as a distinct people/Nation in the historic Northwest during the course of the 18th & 19th centuries prior to Canada becoming a formal nation state. While the initial offspring of these unions were individuals who possessed mixed ancestry, the gradual establishment of distinct Métis communities, outside of First Nations and European cultures and settlements, as well as the subsequent inter-marriages between Métis women and Métis men, resulted in the genesis of a new Indigenous people – the Métis. The definition of Métis as adopted by Métis Nation–Saskatchewan is: “a person who self identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, and is accepted by the Métis Nation.”

The Métis Nation grounds its assertion of Aboriginal nationhood on well-recognized international principles, including a shared history, common culture (song, dance, dress, national symbols, etc.), unique language (Michif, with various regional dialects), extensive kinship connections from Ontario westward, a distinct way of life, traditional territory, and a collective consciousness. The area known as the “historic Métis Nation Homeland” includes the three prairie provinces and extends into Ontario, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and the northern United States.

The Métis are recognized in the Canadian Constitution Act, 1982 “Section 35 the existing Treaty and aboriginal rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed;” In this Act, “aboriginal peoples of Canada” includes Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples.

The 2023 Métis Nation within Saskatchewan Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement between the MN-S and His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, including specifically Canada’s recognition, in Section 5.02(e)(ii) recognizes the MN-S as the exclusive representative of Métis rights in the context of the Crown’s duty to consult and accommodate. The MN-S has described to the CNSC how MN-S Citizens may elect to become members of the community- Locals in which they reside, but that such elections are not required. Métis share rights across

Northern Saskatchewan, and many members of Locals outside of Northern Saskatchewan continue to be connected with the communities of Northern Saskatchewan and continue to exercise their Métis rights within Northern Saskatchewan. In this context, the MN-S has asserted that its authority and responsibility to represent Métis rights within Northern Saskatchewan.



**Figure 9: MN-S Regional Map in the Vicinity of the NexGen Rook 1 Project**

#### **4.2.2 CNSC's Consultation Activities with Métis Nation-Saskatchewan**

CNSC staff have identified that MN-S citizens, including residents of Northern Region II (NR-2), as represented by MN-S, potentially have Indigenous Rights in the area where the Rook 1 project (the Project) is proposed, defining them as a potentially impacted Indigenous Nation or community. NR-2, under the governance structure of MN-S, serves Métis citizens from the far-northwest of Saskatchewan, including in the communities of La Loche and Buffalo Narrows.

MN-S has advised CNSC staff that they represent the interests of Métis citizens across the province and are the single point of contact for consultation and engagement for the purposes of the Project. Consultations must take place with the Métis government structures that the Métis people elect and support. CNSC staff work through the MN-S and the respective Region(s), unless the Region(s) has clearly delegated that MN-S will represent them for the purposes of consultation for a project. MN-S has indicated that it is responsible for taking the lead on consultation and engagement in relation to all industrial activity that occurs within their traditional territory, including nuclear projects.

CNSC staff and MN-S have a long history of engagement and collaboration on nuclear projects in the province, and CNSC staff have been engaging and consulting with MN-S on this Project since 2019. CNSC staff have offered MN-S a TOR for long-term engagement, as well as a project-specific TOR for consultation on this Project. In July 2022, MN-S and the CNSC signed a project-specific TOR. This included opportunities for MN-S' participation in the consultation process for the Project, including MN-S' technical review of the draft EIS and NR2 representatives' participation in the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT), reviews of responses to information requests, and collaboration on RIA process specific to MN-S. CNSC staff and MN-S, including representatives from NR2, have been meeting regularly to discuss the Project, including working towards understanding, assessing and addressing the concerns that MN-S has raised with regards to the Project.

NexGen entered into a capacity funding agreement with MN-S which included funding for MN-S to complete a Métis Knowledge Study (MKS). In July 2022, MN-S completed the *Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Northern Region 2 Traditional Land Use & Diet Study for the NexGen Rook 1 Project* which was shared with NexGen and the CNSC. NexGen included the results from the study in the draft and Final EIS. CNSC staff have collaborated with MN-S by reflecting and including the information shared from the study to support CNSC staff's review of the EIS, as well as drafting the CNSC's reports, assessments and recommendations to the Commission. CNSC staff drafted a What We Heard Report (WWHR) based on the MKS and shared it with MN-S for review to ensure accuracy.

CNSC staff and MN-S have had ongoing discussions to address project-specific concerns and potential impacts to MN-S' Indigenous Rights. MN-S has previously expressed concerns in relation to technical elements of the project which are summarized in Appendix \_\_\_\_ Issues Tracking Table.

CNSC staff have worked with MN-S and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions and comments and MN-S has indicated that they are satisfied with NexGen and CNSC's consultation and engagement process to date. In June 2023, NexGen, MN-S and MN-S NR2 signed an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) which addresses the interests and priorities of MN-S in relation to the project. MN-S sent a letter of support to the CNSC in relation to the Project, including their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for the Project to proceed. Since receiving MN-S' consent letter and support for the project, CNSC staff have been working and meeting with the Nation to address their questions and concerns regarding the remaining steps, timelines and requirements,

in view of completing the regulatory review process and drafting recommendations for the Commission. CNSC staff and MN-S have also continued to meet to collaborate on drafting content for the Consultation Report, to ensure that information specific to MN-S, such as their rights, knowledge, concerns and perspectives, are captured accurately.

Key correspondence related to the consultation activities below is included in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

**Table 7 Summary of the key consultation activities with Métis Nation-Saskatchewan**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Consultation Activity</b>
April 2019–June 2019	CNSC staff provided notice to MN-S of the project, as well as the forthcoming posting of the Notice of Commencement and Project Description. A reminder was sent soliciting comments on the Project Description following the 30-day public comment period. MN-S sought and was granted an extension for comments on the Project Description.
July 2019 –December 2019	No activity.
January 2020-June 2020	CNSC staff met with MN-S virtually to discuss the Project and related updates.
July 2020-December 2020	CNSC staff met with MN-S virtually and MN-S submitted questions about PFP funding for reviewing NexGen’s draft EIS.
January 2021-June 2021	<p>CNSC staff met with MN-S to provide an update on the status of the project, including MN-S' engagement with NexGen, and plans for the EA, regulatory process, and engagement and consultation processes. CNSC staff outlined expectations of project proponents in terms of their role for Indigenous engagement. Staff shared the funding decision on MN-S' funding application for the draft EIS and provided an overview of the PFP funding opportunity, as well as options for the involvement and engagement of MN-S in the EA and regulatory review processes.</p> <p>CNSC staff met with MN-S three times to discuss concerns relating to the scope of work based on the value of funds awarded for the Project. Participants also discussed the approach to Rights Impact Assessments (RIA) and the prospect of MN-S participating in the Federal- Indigenous Review Team (FIRT). CNSC staff shared</p>

	<p>information on the EA process, timelines, and additional collaboration and funding opportunities.</p>
<p>July 2021-December 2021</p>	<p>CNSC staff and MN-S continued to meet to discuss the Project.</p> <p>MN-S provided comments on the draft TOR for consultation on the project. CNSC provided information on funding opportunities, soliciting feedback on which opportunities MN-S would like to pursue.</p> <p>CNSC staff became aware of a letter that MN-S sent to the Minister of Natural Resources which, although intended for the CNSC President, was not received due to a misspelling of the email address. The letter expressed concerns about the NexGen project and the level of engagement with MN-S. By the time the CNSC became aware of the correspondence, the relationship and level of engagement between NexGen and MN-S had improved. CNSC staff emailed both MN-S and NexGen to address the concerns in the letter.</p>
<p>January 2022 – June 2022</p>	<p>CNSC staff and MN-S corresponded and to discuss funding, as well as the review of the draft EIS, FIRT participation, development and implementation of the TOR for consultation on the Project, sharing of MN-S' IK study results, and the RIA process.</p> <p>Both CNSC staff and MN-S met to discuss questions that MN-S had regarding the draft EIS. In a separate meeting, CNSC staff had an EIS process discussion with Two Worlds Consulting who represented MN-S.</p> <p>CNSC staff suggested possible dates and topics for community engagement in Saskatchewan and MN-S expressed interest for in-person engagement.</p>

	<p>CNSC staff confirmed with MN-S that NexGen did not share the draft EIS package with MN-S, despite CNSC staff recommending that NexGen do so on multiple occasions.</p> <p>CNSC staff followed up with NexGen on sharing the draft EIS but received no reply. CNSC staff recommended that MN-S follow up with NexGen again to request the documents and CNSC staff indicated they would also continue to follow up with NexGen on this matter.</p>
July 2022 – December 2022	<p>MN-S shared MNS' NR2 <i>Traditional Land Use (TLU) &amp; Diet Study</i> with CNSC staff. CNSC and MN-S finalized the TOR for consultation on the project.</p> <p>CNSC staff and MN-S had regular meetings to discuss the Project and opportunities for continued collaboration and engagement. Both met to discuss MN-S' concerns with NexGen's 2022 Provincial Site Program Application, as well as MN-S' role in the FIRT for the technical review of the draft EIS. Meetings touched on issues relating to the EA.</p> <p>MN-S invited CNSC staff to participate in in-person community meetings in La Loche and Buffalo Narrows. CNSC staff were unable to attend in person but did so virtually, providing updates on the regulatory review process for the Project. CNSC staff and MN-S met in person in Saskatoon to review MN-S' FIRT comments on the draft EIS and to share the CNSC's findings. MN-S thanked CNSC staff for meeting and indicated that the presentations and discussions were well-received.</p>
January 2023 – June 2023	CNSC and MN-S met virtually to discuss updates on the Project.
July 2023 – December 2023	CNSC staff shared a proposed approach to drafting "What We Heard" reports, with the goal of summarizing and confirming with Nations that those reports accurately reflect information from IK studies. CNSC staff indicated how the CNSC would use the

	<p>information contained within those reports and welcomed MN-S' comments on the incorporation of NR2's <i>TLU &amp; Diet Study</i>.</p> <p>MN-S sent a letter from their President to the CNSC concerning the IBA they had signed with NexGen.</p> <p>CNSC staff and MN-S met on several occasions to discuss projects in the NR2 region, including Rook 1, NexGen's EIS, participation in the FIRT, MN-S' TLU, other action items, and the CNSC's requirements for proponent engagement as per REGDOC 3.2.2.</p> <p>During a meeting between CNSC staff, MN-S, and NexGen, MN-S NR2 emphasized their desire for economic prosperity and expediency with regards to project approvals, while acknowledging the need for due diligence and regulatory oversight by the CNSC.</p>
January 2024 – June 2024	<p>CNSC staff and MN-S met regularly to discuss several topics, including the status of NexGen's EIS and related information request responses.</p> <p>CNSC staff met with MN-S NR2 to discuss the NexGen EIS, explain the EA process, provide updates on the Project, and address any questions or concerns the Nation might have. CNSC staff set up quarterly meetings with MN-S NR2.</p> <p>CNSC staff participated in community engagement activities with a booth. Buffalo Métis Community Council expressed a desire to invite CNSC staff to the community to increase public awareness of the CNSC's mandate and role. CNSC staff indicated plans to visit in the fall and hold an open house independently from the proponents, with the province and other regulators presenting information on projects, timelines, and opportunities. MN-S expressed an interest in planning for an open house in the fall.</p>



	MN-S sent a letter of support for the Project to the CNSC.
July 2024 – December 2024	<p>CNSC staff confirmed receipt of MN-S' letter of support for the Project.</p> <p>CNSC staff shared the presentation materials with MN-S, following an in-person meeting on project updates and next steps with MN-S NR2.</p> <p>CNSC staff notified MN-S that NexGen had been issued an administrative monetary penalty resulting from the preparation and construction of a site without a CNSC license, including links to the online AMP notification.</p>
January 2025 – June 2025	<p>MN-S sent a letter to the CNSC in support of the Project, expressing the desire for a Commission hearing and decision as soon as possible. CNSC staff responded to the letter by providing information on the status of the project and next steps in the regulatory process.</p> <p>CNSC staff wrote to MN-S suggesting next steps for consultation on the proposed Project. CNSC staff and MN-S met virtually to discuss the Project and next steps in the CNSC regulatory review.</p>
July 2025 – December 2025	TBD.

#### 4.2.3 Key issues and concerns raised by Métis Nation-Saskatchewan

The key issues and concerns specific to the Project that MN-S has raised to date are summarized below. MN-S raised these concerns in their October 2022 submission on the draft EIS, as well as during consultation activities with the CNSC. The detailed issues tracking table for MN-S can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_. The specific row discussing these issues can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ and is listed beside each bullet. Please refer to this row in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ for additional context regarding the issue, CNSC staff's response and the issue's current status.

1. Concerns about contamination and environmental safety around the following topics:
  - a. Concern about the safety and long-term integrity of underground tailings management area including potential health impacts on nearby communities.
  - b. Concerns about the potential for seepage from the Underground tailings management area during construction and operation phases.
  - c. Uncertainty around the duration and extent of solute mass loading into Patterson Lake and its long-term environmental effects.
  - d. Concern about increased risk of accidents and, material spills due to increased traffic volumes.
  - e. Potential release of uranium concentrates, radioactive materials, fuel and chemicals in the event of transportation incidents.
2. Concerns about cumulative effects and ecosystem integrity including concern around the following topics:
  - a. Concern about combined impacts of this project and other nearby industrial projects.
  - b. Concerns that the climate change analysis is overly simplistic and lacks integration into monitoring programs.
  - c. Concerns about the vegetation and ecosystem assessment including dismissal of minor but cumulative vegetation changes, use of baseline data that may not reflect natural, pre-industrial conditions, and lack of transparency in field sampling data and soil characterization.
3. Concerns about water quality and aquatic health including concerns around the following topics:
  - a. Concerns about the safety of consuming fish from Patterson Lake.
  - b. Concerns about potential degradation of water quality in Patterson Lake and Clearwater River.
  - c. Fears of similar contamination as seen in Lake Athabasca where fish are reportedly inedible.
  - d. Potential impacts of copper exposure, effluent temperature, and other stressors on aquatic life.
4. Concern about indigenous involvement and monitoring including:
  - a. Strong emphasis on involving MN-S in all stages of environmental monitoring.

- b. Requests for training Métis members in environmental sampling and data analysis.
  - c. Desire for Métis involvement throughout the entire project lifecycle.
5. Concerns about engagement and consultation including:
- a. Concerns that higher Indigenous engagement standards may hinder project approvals.
  - b. Requests for meaningful collaboration in designing mitigation and monitoring programs.
6. Concerns about cultural and land use impacts including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Fears that uranium mining will negatively affect future generations.
  - b. Concern that potential adverse impact on Métis land claims and traditional territories.
  - c. Concerns about threats to animals, lands, and waters central to Métis identity.
  - d. Risks to the ability to harvest traditional foods.
  - e. Concerns about the use, ownership, and confidentiality of Métis knowledge in environmental assessments.
7. Concerns about economic and social impacts including:
- a. Concerns around lack of clear economic opportunities, training and workforce support for Métis communities.
  - b. Concerns about the anticipated strain on community well-being due to project-related changes.
8. Concerns about long-term project impacts including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Concerns over potential long-term effects on community cohesion, health services, caribou populations and the terrestrial ecosystem.
  - b. Concerns about increased traffic, dust, and noise affecting vegetation and wildlife.
  - c. Fears of improper hazardous waste storage and disposal methods, and abandonment without adequate remediation.
  - d. Concerns about impacts on wildlife and traditional harvesting after project decommissioning and closure.

#### **4.2.4 CNSC staff's response**

CNSC staff acknowledge the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised to date relating to the Project. CNSC staff have worked to understand, assess and address the concerns to the greatest extent possible through consultation, having focused discussions, providing detailed responses, reflecting MN-S' views in CNSC's documentation and discussing the Project at regularly scheduled meetings with MN-S to better understand their concerns and identify a path forward to addressing them through commitments and mitigations, as necessary. CNSC's staff view is that the approach to consultation conducted for the Project has been in line with best practises and is flexible based on the specific needs and requests of each potentially impacted Indigenous Nation and community. CNSC staff will continue to monitor NexGen's engagement through the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and ensure that NexGen is addressing MN-S' questions, concerns and requests, and implementing the commitments they have made to MN-S. CNSC staff have and will continue to provide opportunities for MN-S to provide input and feedback on how they would like to be consulted for the Project and what would be meaningful for them.

CNSC staff have made initial commitments (listed below) to address the concerns raised to date. These commitments are being proposed currently and CNSC staff will discuss these further with MN-S. CNSC staff are committed to working with MN-S through the RIA process and further consultation on the Project by identifying additional commitments, mitigations and paths forward to addressing concerns relating to the Project, as appropriate. The outcome, as well as a final commitment list will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission.

Information regarding specific responses to each of MN-S's concerns are included in the issues tracking table found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

In summary, CNSC staff are committed to:

- Continuing to discuss the requests for mitigation and accommodation that MN-S has raised, including with NexGen, as appropriate;
- Collaborating on monitoring, oversight and engagement with MN-S;
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with MN-S for this Project on regular information sharing including discussions through the proposed TOR for long-term engagement between the CNSC and MN-S;
- Oversight of NexGen's commitments to MN-S;
- Oversight of NexGen's engagement with MN-S; and
- Continuing ongoing community visits and engagement with MN-S.

CNSC staff encourage NexGen to continue discussions and collaboration with MN-S to address any concerns that arise. CNSC staff anticipate receiving an update from NexGen on their engagement efforts in an IER to be filed on record, as part of the upcoming Commission hearings.

CNSC staff have worked with MN-S and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions and comments and MN-S has concluded that they are satisfied with CNSC's consultation process to date, as well as NexGen's engagement on the Project. MN-S has clearly indicated that they have given their FPIC for the Project and would like the project to move forward as soon as possible. NexGen's commitments to MN-S are summarized in Section X and further information will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission. CNSC looks forward to continuing work with MN-S through our proposed long-term engagement TOR and throughout the lifecycle of this project, if approved.

Information regarding specific responses to each of MN-S' concerns are included in the issues tracking table found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

#### **4.2.5 Conclusion**

CNSC staff are committed to continuing to consult, engage and work collaboratively with MN-S and NexGen in advance of the Part-2 Commission hearing to address any outstanding concerns, should they arise. This includes work on drafting an MN-S\_ specific RIA, which will provide updated information about potential impacts of the Project application on MN-S' Indigenous Rights. Mitigation and/or accommodation measures to address any identified impacts will be included in the supplemental submission, to be submitted to the Commission prior to the Part-2 hearing.



# Environmental Assessment Report: Rook I Project

September 2025



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

## ***Executive Summary***

*Background*

*Environmental assessment requirements*

*Scope of the assessment*

*Potential effects of the project on the environment*

*Indigenous consultation and engagement*

*Follow-up monitoring program*

*Recommendations*

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*Note, this Table of Contents is only a draft for context.*

## Section 6 - PREDICTED CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT

### 6.1. Atmospheric environment

#### 6.1.1. Air quality

Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recommended that all objectives for screening against Ambient Air Quality Objectives (AAQO) be entirely health-based. Further, MN-S recommended that all COPCs acting within a non-threshold level of toxicity be included for further assessment, regardless of whether they exceed AAQOs. MN-S emphasized that intermediate components, such as air, should be considered and discussed within the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) when selecting boundaries for Indigenous land and resource use. Given that Indigenous Knowledge (IK) evidence demonstrates that air quality is extremely high in the Study Area, MN-S asked if the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) reflects these high-quality air conditions rather than those already impacted by activity. Additionally, the Nation questioned why short-term exposures to air quality pollutants were not included in the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA).

### 6.2. Aquatic Environment

#### 6.2.1. Changes in surface water quality and sediment quality

MN-S identified concerns with how NexGen was selecting constituents of potential concern (COPCs) for their environmental risk assessment. MN-S indicated that it was unclear if COPCs that exceeded water quality objectives at end-of-pipe treatment, but met water quality objectives in the mixing zone were excluded from further assessment. MN-S made it clear that using dilution in surface water as part of their ecological risk assessment was not best practice. MN-S also expressed concern that NexGen was relying on design criteria and road access management controls to mitigate any release of uranium or other COPCs from an accident near surface water bodies such as the Clearwater River. Noting that NexGen makes no mention of aquatic invasive species, MN-S asked how NexGen will monitor aquatic environments until decommissioning and asked NexGen to detail its environmental monitoring plan for aquatic species.

MN-S indicated that Lake whitefish is an inadequate fish to use to predict contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) concentrations in sediments as they do not behave in the same manner as other fish species, such as Burbot, that may be potentially impacted due to COPC concentrations in sediment given they are more sedentary and move smaller distances.

### 6.3. Terrestrial environment

#### 6.3.1. Terrain and soils/ 6.3.2. Vegetation

MN-S noted that it was unknown if soils investigations were completed to describe soil characteristics in the Project study areas. MN-S noted concerns of Project-related dust and its potential impacts to vegetation as a pathway of effects to humans and wildlife. MN-S also requested NexGen include results from supplemental vegetation inventory and rare plant surveys in the EIS. MN-S questioned the omission of lesser duckweed (*Lemna minor*), despite it being a provincially listed species observable within ecosite BP25. MN-S also indicated a number of additional pathways, including secondary pathways, that should be considered concerning potential impacts to vegetation. MN-S noted a concern that the Environmental Monitoring Plan for vegetation was not identified. MN-S identified that reclamation activities should be

completed such that vegetation communities present at the time of disturbance would be reestablished and also indicated it was not clear which vegetation species would be used for reclamation and asked NexGen to confirm the completion of surveys for non-vascular plants or lichen Species of Conservation Concern.

#### **6.4. Geological and hydrogeological environment**

##### 6.4.1. Changes in groundwater flow / 6.4.2. Changes in groundwater quality

MN-S noted a lack of clarity concerning cumulative impacts to groundwater from nearby future developments as groundwater drawdown from the Project activities is predicted to extend 2-4 kilometres from the Project site but it is not evident if groundwater drawdown from a reasonably foreseeable future development case will overlap or cause additional impacts to NexGen's groundwater drawdown. MN-S noted that the residual effects for groundwater indicated a negative change to groundwater elevation but a neutral change for groundwater flows and direction. MN-S indicated that groundwater elevation influences flow and direction and questioned the differing conclusions reached as part of the groundwater effects assessment.

#### **6.5. Human Environment**

##### 6.5.1. Human Health

MN-S questioned why short-term exposures to air quality pollutants were not included in the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA).

MN-S expressed concerns with the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA), including which COPCs were included, the methodology for evaluating toxicity interactions, inconsistencies with the Health Canada policy on incremental cancer risk, and a lack of specifics on residual effects from arsenic. The Nation noted that the HHRA should form an integral part of any robust and holistic assessment of community wellbeing and requested that the analysis of community wellbeing be updated to that effect. The Nation also sought clarification on how NexGen is defining "acceptable" levels of risk to human health and recommended that NexGen clarify the effects of radiological exposure on human health. MN-S also requested the inclusion of a detailed comparative review of health guidelines from multiple jurisdictions to guarantee the consistent application of those guidelines.

### **7. PREDICTED EFFECTS ON VALUED COMPONENTS**

#### **7.1. Fish and Fish Habitat**

##### 7.1.1. Fish habitat loss and alteration / 7.1.2. Fish health

MN-S indicated that given Burbot's unique physiology, use of habitat and feeding habits that they should have been selected as a fish species VC to more fully assess baseline information and knowledge gaps for the EIS. MN-S identified that using one forage fish species may be inadequate to assume how other forage species may retain COPCs. MN-S also requested more information regarding effluent release and how mixing zones and temperature changes in water may attract fish and affect refuge type habitat and use. MN-S also noted concerns that the environmental risk assessment (ERA) identified benthic invertebrates as the most sensitive endpoints for copper exposure in Patterson lake's north arm.

#### **7.2. Terrestrial Biota / 7.3. Migratory Birds / 7.4. Ungulates, Furbearers and Woodland Caribou**

### Habitat Loss and Alteration / Sensory disturbance

MN-S questioned the choice of Valued Components (VCs) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), emphasizing that omitted species, specifically Burbot, can address baseline knowledge gaps. MN-S noted that there is a disconnect between field studies and assessments, given that the number of traditional plant species listed is less than the number observed during baseline surveys. MN-S questioned the data collection methods and survey results, particularly the number of nighthawks reported and methods for gauging the size of bat populations. Noting that the study area for birds is different from that of waterfowl and raptors, MN-S underscored that this could impact the findings for different wildlife groups. The Nation expressed concerns about impacts to wildlife and connectivity and asked how NexGen will mitigate those impacts. On habitat availability and use, MN-S asked whether the classification of caribou habitat is consistent with the Omnia (2018) report and, therefore, the EA and suggested that NexGen determine habitat use and availability based on seasonal or year-round use. MN-S also asked NexGen to explain the correlation drawn between the rusty blackbird habitat and that of the olive-sided flycatcher and its relevance to the EA. With respect to the methodology, MN-S requested clarification on methods for the residual effects analysis and asked why the lack of available information for certain species was not addressed within baseline studies, and why more up-to-date provincial wildlife regulations were not used. MN-S noted that there are no measurement indicators for resilience and adaptability, despite the analysis for determining residual effects being based on species' resilience and adaptability limits. The Nation emphasized that the assessment should consider both real and perceived impacts, to reflect that knowledge of the land and resource use is just as valuable as scientific data collection.

### **7.5. Indigenous uses: Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes**

#### Indigenous Land Use

MN-S Northern Region 2 (NR-2) members are concerned about accessing existing traplines in proximity to the potential mine site. MN-S NR-2 Members expressed the need for locals to control the land, not industry, as industry leasing the land restricts access to their traplines and cabins. MN-S requested that NexGen work with MN-S to develop fishing policies that consider both fisheries protection and traditional use activities. MN-S noted a disconnect in the EIS where the number of species identified as traditional plant species is less than the number of traditional use plant species observed during baseline surveys.

#### Landscape Fragmentation and Changes to Terrestrial Environment

MN-S shared concerns that moose have moved further away because there is too much activity in the area, and one member noted that not only are there are fewer fish in the lakes, but coyotes are also venturing into the community now because there is less food for them to hunt.

#### Surface Water and Groundwater Contamination and Use

##### Increased Access & Changes to Access

MN-S requested additional information related to the ongoing management and maintenance of Highway 955 given this is an important travel route to access traditional use areas.

### Legacy Impacts and Fear and Avoidance

MN-S NR2 members do not believe the Cluff Lake Mine was properly decommissioned and therefore do not trust the government's requirements as they pertain to the proposed NexGen Rook I project. They question the manner with which the Cluff Lake Mine tailings pond was decommissioned; they do not trust the method used and want to know if there is radioactive contamination on the surface of waste rock. Informed by its experience with the Cluff Lake Mine, the community has many concerns, the biggest of which is its distrust for the industry, an industry which refuses to explicitly state the dangers involved with uranium extraction. In general, members believe that the deaths of those who worked at the Cluff Lake Mine were a result of exposure, and that the high cancer rates throughout the community are also a result of exposure to uranium in dust, water, animals and plants.

MN-S NR-2 community members have noticed a change in the quality of meat and pelts. Members have noted increased contamination in the food, especially from further north; others expressed a fear of eating fish, rabbits and moose from the north due to legacy issues of Cluff Lake.

### Cumulative Impacts of mining projects and exploration activities

MN-S members shared concerned that cumulative impacts of substantial and growing projects and mineral exploration activity will severely limit their ability to practice continued and use of the region around and north of Patterson Lake.

#### **8.2. Effects of accidents and malfunctions**

MN-S requested NexGen complete a hazard scenario related to vehicles be included in the EIS. MN-S noted concerns of materials being hauled from Highway 955 and Highway 155 at Green Lake to the Project site and that there were no mitigations provided for reducing the potential for accidents on this stretch of road. MN-S indicated that in the event of a traffic accident resulting in a release of uranium concentrates, fuel or hazardous chemicals pose a risk to the environment, as well as a risk to initiating a fire or explosion, beyond the aquatic environment, which poses additional risks to the environment and human health. MN-S noted concerns that the proposed mitigations contained in the Ground Transportation Emergency Response Plan did not specifically mention Indigenous land and resource users in order to maintain the safety of Indigenous land and resource users utilizing Project area roads.

#### **8.3. Effects of the environment on the project**

##### Potential Impacts as a result of climate change

MN-S noted that the climate change analysis contained in the EIS was qualitative and high-level and that some of the assumptions made regarding climate change effects may be too simplistic. MN-S also noted that monitoring programs do not consider climate change. MN-S raised questions of whether the warmer effluent being released, interacting with the potential for climate change to also raise water temperatures, to affect lake trout habitat sooner than predicted. MN-S indicated it was not clear if the risk measurement and evaluation for tornado damage considered climate change.

#### **11. MONITORING AND FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMS**

Noting that NexGen makes no mention of aquatic invasive species, MN-S asked how NexGen will monitor aquatic environments until decommissioning and asked NexGen to detail its environmental monitoring plan for aquatic species.

MN-S noted that monitoring programs do not consider climate change.

MN-S noted a concern that the Environmental Monitoring Plan for vegetation was not identified.

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 19, 2025 2:24 PM  
**To:** 'David Devos'  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque; McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; 'dte@mns.ca'  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & MN-S Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** MN\_S\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed.docx; MN-S Consultation Report - Section 4.2 - For Review.docx

Good afternoon David,

I hope you are doing well. Sending out a friendly reminder that we'd appreciate your review on the attached sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment reports by June 27th.

Also, Nicole and I would like to set up a 30-minute touch base next week if that works for you. Would there be any dates or times that work best for MN-S?

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 1:13 PM  
**To:** 'David Devos' <ddevos@mns.ca>  
**Cc:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.work>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; 'dte@mns.ca' <dte@mns.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & MN-S Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Hi David,

Please disregard the attachments on my last email, and accept these as the correct versions to review.

Thank you,

Hilary

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 12:56 PM



**To:** David Devos <[ddevos@mns.ca](mailto:ddevos@mns.ca)>

**Cc:** Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.work](mailto:blaroque@mns.work)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; [dte@mns.ca](mailto:dte@mns.ca)

**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon David,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.2 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with MN-S related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on MN-S, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by MN-S related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without MN-S' feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** July 7, 2025 11:54 AM  
**To:** Hilary Peterson  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin; Levine, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: Request for extension- Consultation Report Rook 1 Project

Hello,

Thank you for informing us of your current situation. My apologies for the delay in responding as I was out of the office last week.

We recognize the seriousness of the situation and understand the disruption the wildfires may have caused to communities. According, we are granting an extension for providing feedback on the consultation report and EERRs, with the revised deadline set for July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Wishing your community safety and resilience.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>  
**Sent:** June 30, 2025 4:19 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Request for extension- Consultation Report Rook 1 Project

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon, Hilary Hunter,

The MN-S requests additional time to provide feedback on the Consultation Report. We request a two week extension. Over the past month we have been dealing with wildfires across a number of our communities and the formation of a new government following the MN-S elections.

The MN-S has provided its support and consent for the Rook 1 Project. While we understand that much of the consultation report appears to predate MN-S providing its support and consent, the MN-S

requests additional time to review these submissions to ensure that they are consistent with the MN-S's support and consent commitments. An extension is consistent with the objectives of reconciliation and may help to simplify the work of CNSC.

We request a response confirming the availability of an extension at your earliest convenience.

Maarsii,

**Hilary J. Peterson, JD, LLM (She/Her)**

Michif Citizen

Senior General Counsel/ Head Legal Officer

[306-380-5301](tel:306-380-5301)

[hpeterson@mns.ca](mailto:hpeterson@mns.ca)

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**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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**From:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>  
**Sent:** July 14, 2025 3:56 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Cc:** Marc Wang; Arend J. A. Hoekstra; Hilary Peterson; David Devos  
**Subject:** CNSC consultation report review  
**Attachments:** MN\_S\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed (1).docx; MN-S Consultation Report - Section 4.2 - For Review.docx; MNS\_Ltr\_CNSC\_Response\_071125.pdf

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon Hilary. Please see attached documents related to MN-S's review of the NexGen Rook I consultation report.

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July 11, 2025

Hilary Hunter  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 5S9

Dear Hilary Hunter,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft documents of the CNSC. We have provided proposed revisions in red font.

At this stage, we can confirm that the MN-S, including Northern Region II, has participated in a robust and sufficient consultation process regarding the environmental assessment for the Project, aimed at, and resulting in, the granting of Métis consent for Rook 1.

This outcome is consistent with the goals of reconciliation.

Yours truly,

Brent Laroque  
Director of Environment  
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan



---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** July 15, 2025 7:05 AM  
**To:** Brent Laroque  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; Levine, Adam; Marc Wang; Arend J. A. Hoekstra; Hilary Peterson; David Devos  
**Subject:** FW: MN-S CNSC consultation report review  
**Attachments:** MN\_S\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed (1).docx; MN-S Consultation Report - Section 4.2 - For Review.docx; MNS\_Ltr\_CNSC\_Response\_071125.pdf

Good morning Brent,

Reaching out to confirm that we have received your letter and comments related to the MN-S sections related to the NexGen EA and CR reports.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>  
**Sent:** July 14, 2025 3:56 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Marc Wang <mwang@mns.ca>; Arend J. A. Hoekstra <ahoekstra@cassels.com>; Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC consultation report review

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Good afternoon Hilary. Please see attached documents related to MN-S's review of the NexGen Rook I consultation report.

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**From:** Jean, Arielle  
**Sent:** July 16, 2025 8:48 AM  
**To:** David Devos  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson; Brent Laroque; Taya McDonald; Boser, Sydney; Hunter, Hilary;  
Participant Funding Program - Programme de financière des participants (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen PFP Signed  
**Attachments:** PFP - CA - MNS - NEX04 - 2025 - RPPPD - FINAL.pdf

Hello David,

Please find attached the agreement signed by CNSC for your records.

Thank you,  
Arielle

---

**From:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>  
**Sent:** July 11, 2025 11:52 AM  
**To:** Participant Funding Program - Programme de financière des participants (CNSC/CCSN) <pfp@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; Taya McDonald <tmcdonald@mns.ca>;  
Boser, Sydney <sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** NexGen PFP Signed

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Please find attached the NexGen Rook1 MN-S Signed Agreement.

**Dave DeVos**  
**Consultation Manager**  
**306.227.2928**

310-20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:16 PM  
**To:** David Devos; blaroque@mns.ca  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson; McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; Hertz, Sarah  
**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I  
**Attachments:** MN-S Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review .docx

Good afternoon David & Brent,

Please see attached the MN-S's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that MN-S has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from MN-S.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without MN-S's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
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### A.3 Issues Tracking Table for Métis Nation- Saskatchewan (MN-S) with respect to the NexGen Rook I Project

ID	Issue or concern (including impacts to Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights)	Theme	Crown response	Status of issue/concern
MN-S01	<p><b>Accidents and Spillage</b></p> <p>MN-S raised concerns about potential accidents and spillage of materials due to increased traffic from the Project. MN-S is concerned that health risks may arise from the release of uranium concentrates, radioactivity, fuel and hazardous chemicals in the event of a traffic accident.</p> <p><b>Tailings Safety</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the safety of tailings stored underground in the UGTMF and their possible effects on the health of people living in the region.</p>	Accidents and malfunctions/ human health	<p>The CNSC is committed to ensuring that Indigenous communities, including MN-S, are meaningfully involved in environmental oversight for the proposed Project, if it is approved, and recognizes the importance of community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to community-level engagement and support, and the CNSC expects NexGen to continue working with MN-S to identify and address health and well-being concerns throughout the facility lifecycle. NexGen has included assessments of the human environment and Indigenous land and resource use within their final EIS that</p>	

			<p>considers impacts on physical and emotional health. NexGen is committed to consultation with Indigenous peoples regarding accidents and malfunctions and have proposed mitigation measures, including the development of a Ground Transportation Emergency Response Plan and travel management plans.</p> <p>The CNSC reviews public health reports from relevant Northern Saskatchewan health authorities and conducts health studies of uranium workers to provide further independent verification that people's health living near the uranium mines and mills is protected. Based on current environmental levels of radiation exposures near the uranium mines and mills, the current scientific knowledge about the sources, effects, and risks of ionizing radiation, as well as relevant local and</p>	
--	--	--	--	--

			<p>provincial health information, CNSC staff have not observed and do not expect to observe any adverse health outcomes related to the environmental radiation exposures from the uranium mines and mills.</p> <p>The safety and potential effects of the stored tailings underground on human health and the environment are assessed in the EIS through alternative means assessment, source term characterization and control and groundwater contaminant transport analysis, in addition to adequate engineering design features and environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring programs.</p> <p>The CNSC regulates nuclear facilities across their entire lifecycles and CNSC staff perform various compliance activities to ensure the facilities are operating in ways</p>	
--	--	--	--	--

			that are safe for the environment and human health and mitigating risks of accidents and malfunctions. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved	
MN-S02	<p><b>Monitoring Programs</b></p> <p>MN-S is concerned that monitoring programs do not consider climate change impacts adequately.</p> <p><b>Cumulative Effects on Vegetation</b></p> <p>Concerns about the assessment dismissing minor changes without defining terms and not considering all adverse effects on vegetation, particularly in cumulative effects assessments.</p>	Environmental monitoring/ climate change/ cumulative effects	NexGen has committed to the detailed scoping and development of environmental monitoring details during federal licensing and provincial permitting processes involving engagement with primary Indigenous Groups, including MN-S. NexGen has committed to working with local Indigenous Groups, including MN-S, to implement independent environmental monitoring in	

			<p>addition to standard Project monitoring processes. The independent Indigenous monitoring program is intended to provide unfettered access to the site during all Project phases and allow for opportunities such as independent environmental sampling.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S03	<p><b>Baseline Data</b></p> <p>MN-S is concerned that baseline data used in the Environmental Risk Assessment may not reflect natural high-quality conditions but those already impacted by existing activity.</p>	Accidents and malfunctions/ Indigenous engagement	<p>NexGen has offered opportunities to the MN-S to discuss baseline data results, EA methods and discipline-specific assessment approaches through Joint Working Group meetings. NexGen has committed to</p>	

	<p><b>Indigenous Engagement</b></p> <p>MN-S requests engagement and collaboration with Métis citizens regarding the development of mitigation and monitoring programs relating to the access road, including the Ground Transportation and Emergency Response Plan and Security Program.</p>		<p>working with local Indigenous Groups, including MN-S, to implement independent environmental monitoring in addition to standard Project monitoring processes, as well as the Ground Transportation and Emergency Response Plan and Security Program.</p> <p>CNSC staff will ensure NexGen continues to engage with MN-S on these topics and concerns meaningfully.</p>	
MN-S04	<p><b>Ecosite Field Sampling</b></p> <p>MN-S notes the lack of information on the data collected at each ecosite field sampling/ground truthing sites regarding the vegetation VCs.</p> <p><b>Soil Characteristics</b></p> <p>MN-S notes the lack of information on how soil characteristics, including moisture and nutrient regimes, were incorporated within Project-specific ecosite mapping and field verification.</p>	Terrestrial environment/ vegetation	<p>NexGen confirmed that data collected are limited to ecosite information and provided detailed information on characteristics such as structural components, species diversity and soil characteristics within Section 6 of the Final EIS. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p>	

			CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with MN-S, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with MN-S on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle.	
MN-S05	<p><b>Fish Consumption Safety</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the safety of consuming fish from Patterson Lake due to potential contamination of surface water from mining operations, especially in Patterson Lake and Clearwater River.</p> <p><b>Polluted Water Effects</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about polluted water and effects on wildlife, noting that in the case of Lake Athabasca there are consumption limits on local fish populations.</p>	Aquatic environment/ fish and fish habitat/ human health	<p>NexGen assessed changes to the availability and quality of fish for harvesting in the EA pathway analyses and has committed mitigation measures, including Project-specific Groundwater, Effluent, and Environmental Monitoring Plans, installing effluent and sewage treatment plants and avoiding critical or sensitive habitat to the extent practical during construction.</p> <p>NexGen's assessment determined that the residual</p>	



			<p>effects on surface water, sediment quality, and aquatic biota are predicted to not cause adverse effects, with the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and the effects being characterized as low magnitude, localized, and able to be further reduced through adaptive management. CNSC staff have reviewed NexGen's models and predictions for effects to surface water, sediment quality and aquatic biota and confirmed that NexGen conducted a comprehensive analysis of these effects. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p> <p>CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with MN-S, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's</p>	
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			issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with MN-S on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle.	
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MN-S06	<p><b>Waste Rock Placement</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about how the placement and grade of waste rock and may impact wildlife, traditional land use and the Métis' sense of place, including psychological health, due to perceived risks of radioactive material.</p> <p><b>Seepage Pathways</b></p> <p>MN-S notes that it is unclear whether the EIS considers seepage pathways from the underground tailings management facility (UGTMF) during the construction and operation phases. Similarly, MN-S underscores that the predictions for mass loadings to Patterson Lake and the duration of negative impacts are unclear. MN-S has concerns about the effects of releasing groundwater into Patterson Lake.</p>	Waste management/ groundwater	<p>NexGen has committed to mitigation measures for potentially acid generating (PAG) materials, including storing them separately from other material, constructing engineered source control layers and installing a liner for the potentially acid-generating waste storage area, installing an engineered cover system during reclamation and collecting contaminated runoff and seepage for treatment.</p> <p>ECCC has also recommended the ongoing testing of waste rock to inform potential mitigations to water quality from PAG material.</p> <p>CNSC staff are satisfied with NexGen's proposed mitigation measures relating to waste management and storage. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on</p>	
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			<p>follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S07	<p><b>Copper Exposure</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about potential impacts of chronic copper exposure on benthic invertebrates, zooplankton</p>	<p>Aquatic environment/ fish and fish habitats</p>	<p>Regarding copper loading from the PAG waste rock storage area to Patterson Lake in the far future, NexGen is developing an adaptive management plan. This plan</p>	

	<p>reproduction and forage fish growth.</p> <p>Effluent Temperature: MN-S has concerns about the potential thermal refuge created by effluent release and its impacts on lake trout habitat, especially in combination with climate change.</p>		<p>aims to reduce uncertainty and manage risks associated with this pathway. NexGen will also develop mitigation measures including Project-specific Groundwater, Effluent, and Environmental Monitoring Plans, and installing effluent and sewage treatment plants to minimize impacts on the aquatic environment and fish habitats.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S08	<p><b>Dust Effects</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the potential effects of dust on vegetation</p>	Atmospheric environment	<p>NexGen has confirmed that Project activities would result in changes to local air quality and, as such, effects to people, wildlife and the environment</p>	

	<p>and wildlife.</p> <p><b>Truck Traffic and Low-Level Flights</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the impact of additional truck traffic and low-level flights on dust, wildlife, visual value of Métis land and the Métis sense of place and territory.</p>		<p>were evaluated within the EA. Results generally showed that effects due to changes in air quality and noise would be minor, with the exception of woodland caribou; NexGen has committed to working with provincial and federal regulatory agencies and local Indigenous Groups to develop a Caribou Mitigation and Offsetting Plan to prevent significant adverse effects to woodland caribou. NexGen has acknowledged that maintenance of Highway 955 is outside of NexGen's control but has committed to discussions with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways to develop a road upgrade and maintenance agreement to minimize noise.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to accommodation measures to maintain Métis sense of place, including limiting the project footprint as feasible,</p>	
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			<p>controlling public access to the site and, implementing IBAs. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p> <p>CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities.</p>	
MN-S09	<p><b>Environmental Monitoring</b></p> <p>MN-S notes that there is insufficient detail on environmental monitoring for wildlife and wildlife components and insufficient follow-up programs to test predictions made in the EIS.</p>	Environmental monitoring	<p>NexGen has committed to developing detailed monitoring programs as part of the Environmental Monitoring Plan, with mechanisms existing within the IBA with MN-S to discuss the development of these plans.</p>	

			<p>The CNSC expects NexGen to continue to work collaboratively with MN-S to address information gaps. CNSC staff will ensure NexGen continues to engage meaningfully with MN-S on these topics and concerns.</p>	
MN-S10	<p><b>Effects on Wildlife and Heritage Resources</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about potential impacts on wildlife from the Project, including caribou and migratory bird species.</p> <p><b>Caribou Assessment</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the rationale for determining the significance of residual effects at different spatial boundaries for caribou.</p>	<p>Terrestrial biota/ species at risk</p>	<p>NexGen has confirmed that a Caribou Mitigation and Offsetting Plan is to be submitted to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment for approval prior to construction. The Plan, which would be subject to requirements under both provincial and federal recovery strategies, is predicted to make residual adverse effects to woodland caribou not significant. Engagement with Indigenous Groups and regulators will continue to occur through its development. Details of monitoring plans will be developed during permitting</p>	



			<p>and licensing, with mechanisms existing within the IBA with MN-S to discuss the development of these plans.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S11	<p><b>Reclamation</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about reclamation practices that differ from pre-disturbance vegetation ecosystems or forest types and underscores the need for consistency with existing ecosystems with methods informed by Indigenous land users.</p>		<p>NexGen has committed to making all reasonable efforts to reestablish vegetation communities that are representative of existing conditions but have noted that the terrain would have changed because of the Project and therefore the effectiveness of this reclamation is uncertain.</p>	

			CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved	
MN-S12	<p><b>Environmental Monitoring Data</b></p> <p>MN-S citizens lack confidence in environmental monitoring data accuracy and note the importance of communicating results.</p> <p><b>Perception Study</b></p> <p>MN-S identifies a need for a perception study to document existing perceptions and concerns relating to mining, to inform current practices and support future monitoring, mitigation and adaptive management.</p>	Environmental monitoring/ Indigenous engagement	NexGen has committed to developing monitoring programs in detail during licensing as part of the EMP, with mechanisms existing within the IBA with MN-S to discuss the development of these plans. NexGen has committed to working with local Indigenous Groups, including MN-S, to implement independent environmental monitoring in addition to standard Project monitoring processes. The independent Indigenous monitoring program is intended to provide unfettered access to the site during all	

			<p>Project phases and allow for opportunities such as independent environmental sampling.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S13	<p><b>Threats to Freedoms and Land Access</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns that industrial activities may threaten freedoms, access to land, use of land and the ability to transmit traditional knowledge to younger generations.</p> <p><b>Engagement with Cabin Owners and Trappers</b></p> <p>MN-S notes a lack of engagement to date with Métis cabin owners and</p>	Indigenous land and resource use	<p>CNSC staff are of the view that MN-S' concerns relating to long-term impacts have and will continue to be addressed through the responses and commitments of NexGen and CNSC staff. NexGen has included Métis Knowledge, land and resource use, and cumulative effects assessments within their final EIS that considers impacts on numerous valued components. NexGen has also committed</p>	

	trappers in areas around Patterson Lake, as well as a lack of engagement with the broader community.		<p>to ongoing engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the Project lifecycle, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised. MN-S has formally given consent for the Project to proceed.</p> <p>The CNSC expects NexGen to continue to work collaboratively with MN-S to address access issues and concerns and to minimize disruptions to traditional practices and land use. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually.</p>	
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MN-S14	<p><b>Harvesting Country Foods</b></p> <p>MN-S citizens have concerns about the Project's effects on their ability to harvest country foods and the implications for food security and community wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Use of Métis Knowledge</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the use of Métis Knowledge in the EA and notes that the EIS lacks credibility because this Knowledge was not incorporated appropriately.</p>	Métis Knowledge	<p>NexGen has initiated a Traditional Food Study and committed to further developing monitoring programs during licensing. Country foods are a key component assessed in human health monitoring proposed by NexGen.</p> <p>Indigenous Knowledge, including Métis Knowledge has been incorporated by NexGen throughout the final EIS. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p>	
MN-S15	<p><b>Engagement and Consultation</b></p> <p>Duty to Consult and Accommodate: MN-S emphasizes the constitutional obligation of the Crown to consult and accommodate, holding the CNSC responsible for ensuring the DTC is</p>	Indigenous consultation	<p>The CNSC ensures that all environmental assessments and licensing decisions uphold the honour of the Crown and uphold Indigenous peoples' potential or established Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights, pursuant to</p>	

	<p>met.</p> <p>Recognition of Land Claims: MN-S expects NexGen to recognize that the Project area belongs to MN-S, that it is subject to a land claim and that NexGen work with Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Northern Region II.</p>		<p>Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act</i>, 1982. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S16	<p><b>Cultural and Heritage Resources</b></p> <p>Cultural Resource Studies: MN-S expects NexGen to disclose how it will work with MN-S to review and assess the adequacy of cultural resource studies, noting that only MN-S can determine if cultural resources studies are adequate.</p>	Indigenous engagement	<p>NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised. MN-S has formally given consent for the Project to proceed. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on</p>	

			engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually.	
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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** October 21, 2025 8:02 AM  
**To:** David Devos  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN); Brent Laroque  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I  
**Attachments:** MN-S Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review .docx

Good morning David,

I hope things are going well.

I wanted to let you know that the hearing documents were posted online by the Registry this past Friday. You can access them here: [Download Hearing Documents](#). The CMD is available at this link: [CMD NexGen Rook I](#), and the Consultation Report starting on page 418 of 628.

I'm also following up regarding the MN-S Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I. CNSC staff did not post the table yet, as we were hoping to receive your review beforehand. This table will be included as part of a supplemental filing ahead of the Part 1 hearing scheduled for November 19, 2025.

If you're able to provide your review at your earliest convenience, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:16 PM  
**To:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>; blaroque@mns.ca  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hertz, Sarah <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good afternoon David & Brent,

Please see attached the MN-S's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that MN-S has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing.



Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from MN-S.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without MN-S's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

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[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>  
**Sent:** November 5, 2025 4:33 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson; Brent Laroque; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I  
**Attachments:** MN-S Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review\_.docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good day. Please find attached up updated Issues and Concerns Table for NexGen Rook 1.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Maarsii,

**Dave DeVos**  
Manager, Consultation

306-227-2928

30-20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 4, 2025 2:07 PM  
**To:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good afternoon,

I'm following up on the issues and concerns table for MN-S with respect to the NexGen project. Our deadline to post these tables is in a couple days. If we don't receive any feedback then we plan to post the table as is.

Please reach out with any questions.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

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**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <[hpeterson@mns.ca](mailto:hpeterson@mns.ca)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.ca](mailto:blaroque@mns.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

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If you're able to provide your review at your earliest convenience, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

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**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:16 PM

**To:** David Devos <[ddevos@mns.ca](mailto:ddevos@mns.ca)>; [blaroque@mns.ca](mailto:blaroque@mns.ca)

**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <[hpeterson@mns.ca](mailto:hpeterson@mns.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Hertz, Sarah <[sarah.hertz@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.hertz@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good afternoon David & Brent,

Please see attached the MN-S's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that MN-S has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from MN-S.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without MN-S's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

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### A.3 Issues Tracking Table for Métis Nation- Saskatchewan (MN-S) with respect to the NexGen Rook I Project

ID	Issue or concern (including impacts to Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights)	Theme	Crown response	Status of issue/concern
MN-S01	<p><b>Accidents and Spillage</b></p> <p>MN-S raised concerns about potential accidents and spillage of materials due to increased traffic from the Project. MN-S is concerned that health risks may arise from the release of uranium concentrates, radioactivity, fuel and hazardous chemicals in the event of a traffic accident.</p> <p><b>Tailings Safety</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the safety of tailings stored underground in the UGTMF and their possible effects on the health of people living in the region.</p>	Accidents and malfunctions/ human health	<p>The CNSC is committed to ensuring that Indigenous communities, including MN-S, are meaningfully involved in environmental oversight for the proposed Project, if it is approved, and recognizes the importance of community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to community-level engagement and support, and the CNSC expects NexGen to continue working with MN-S to identify and address health and well-being concerns throughout the facility lifecycle. NexGen has included assessments of the human environment and Indigenous land and resource use within their final EIS that</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to accidents, spillage and tailings safety. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>

			<p>considers impacts on physical and emotional health. NexGen is committed to consultation with Indigenous peoples regarding accidents and malfunctions and have proposed mitigation measures, including the development of a Ground Transportation Emergency Response Plan and travel management plans.</p> <p>The CNSC reviews public health reports from relevant Northern Saskatchewan health authorities and conducts health studies of uranium workers to provide further independent verification that people's health living near the uranium mines and mills is protected. Based on current environmental levels of radiation exposures near the uranium mines and mills, the current scientific knowledge about the sources, effects, and risks of ionizing radiation, as well as relevant local and</p>	
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			<p>provincial health information, CNSC staff have not observed and do not expect to observe any adverse health outcomes related to the environmental radiation exposures from the uranium mines and mills.</p> <p>The safety and potential effects of the stored tailings underground on human health and the environment are assessed in the EIS through alternative means assessment, source term characterization and control and groundwater contaminant transport analysis, in addition to adequate engineering design features and environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring programs.</p> <p>The CNSC regulates nuclear facilities across their entire lifecycles and CNSC staff perform various compliance activities to ensure the facilities are operating in ways</p>	
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			that are safe for the environment and human health and mitigating risks of accidents and malfunctions. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved	
MN-S02	<p><b>Monitoring Programs</b></p> <p>MN-S is concerned that monitoring programs do not consider climate change impacts adequately.</p> <p><b>Cumulative Effects on Vegetation</b></p> <p>Concerns about the assessment dismissing minor changes without defining terms and not considering all adverse effects on vegetation, particularly in cumulative effects assessments.</p>	Environmental monitoring/ climate change/ cumulative effects	NexGen has committed to the detailed scoping and development of environmental monitoring details during federal licensing and provincial permitting processes involving engagement with primary Indigenous Groups, including MN-S. NexGen has committed to working with local Indigenous Groups, including MN-S, to implement independent environmental monitoring in	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to monitoring programs and cumulative effects on vegetation. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely</u></p>



			<p>addition to standard Project monitoring processes. The independent Indigenous monitoring program is intended to provide unfettered access to the site during all Project phases and allow for opportunities such as independent environmental sampling.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	<u>manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>
MN-S03	<p><b>Baseline Data</b></p> <p>MN-S is concerned that baseline data used in the Environmental Risk Assessment may not reflect natural high-quality conditions but those already impacted by existing activity.</p>	Accidents and malfunctions/ Indigenous engagement	<p>NexGen has offered opportunities to the MN-S to discuss baseline data results, EA methods and discipline-specific assessment approaches through Joint Working Group meetings. NexGen has committed to</p>	<u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to</u>

	<p><b>Indigenous Engagement</b></p> <p>MN-S requests engagement and collaboration with Métis citizens regarding the development of mitigation and monitoring programs relating to the access road, including the Ground Transportation and Emergency Response Plan and Security Program.</p>		<p>working with local Indigenous Groups, including MN-S, to implement independent environmental monitoring in addition to standard Project monitoring processes, as well as the Ground Transportation and Emergency Response Plan and Security Program.</p> <p>CNSC staff will ensure NexGen continues to engage with MN-S on these topics and concerns meaningfully.</p>	<p><u>baseline data and Indigenous engagement. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>
MN-S04	<p><b>Ecosite Field Sampling</b></p> <p>MN-S notes the lack of information on the data collected at each ecosite field sampling/ground truthing sites regarding the vegetation VCs.</p> <p><b>Soil Characteristics</b></p> <p>MN-S notes the lack of information on how soil characteristics, including moisture and nutrient regimes, were incorporated within Project-specific ecosite mapping and field verification.</p>	<p>Terrestrial environment/ vegetation</p>	<p>NexGen confirmed that data collected are limited to ecosite information and provided detailed information on characteristics such as structural components, species diversity and soil characteristics within Section 6 of the Final EIS. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to ecosite field sampling and soil characteristics. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely</u></p>

			CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with MN-S, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with MN-S on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle.	<u>manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>
MN-S05	<p><b>Fish Consumption Safety</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the safety of consuming fish from Patterson Lake due to potential contamination of surface water from mining operations, especially in Patterson Lake and Clearwater River.</p> <p><b>Polluted Water Effects</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about polluted water and effects on wildlife, noting that in the case of Lake Athabasca there are consumption limits on local fish populations.</p>	Aquatic environment/ fish and fish habitat/ human health	<p>NexGen assessed changes to the availability and quality of fish for harvesting in the EA pathway analyses and has committed mitigation measures, including Project-specific Groundwater, Effluent, and Environmental Monitoring Plans, installing effluent and sewage treatment plants and avoiding critical or sensitive habitat to the extent practical during construction.</p> <p>NexGen's assessment determined that the residual</p>	<u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to fish consumption and water effects. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>

			<p>effects on surface water, sediment quality, and aquatic biota are predicted to not cause adverse effects, with the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and the effects being characterized as low magnitude, localized, and able to be further reduced through adaptive management. CNSC staff have reviewed NexGen's models and predictions for effects to surface water, sediment quality and aquatic biota and confirmed that NexGen conducted a comprehensive analysis of these effects. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p> <p>CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with MN-S, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's</p>	
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			issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with MN-S on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle.	
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MN-S06	<p><b>Waste Rock Placement</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about how the placement and grade of waste rock and may impact wildlife, traditional land use and the Métis' sense of place, including psychological health, due to perceived risks of radioactive material.</p> <p><b>Seepage Pathways</b></p> <p>MN-S notes that it is unclear whether the EIS considers seepage pathways from the underground tailings management facility (UGTMF) during the construction and operation phases. Similarly, MN-S underscores that the predictions for mass loadings to Patterson Lake and the duration of negative impacts are unclear. MN-S has concerns about the effects of releasing groundwater into Patterson Lake.</p>	Waste management/ groundwater	<p>NexGen has committed to mitigation measures for potentially acid generating (PAG) materials, including storing them separately from other material, constructing engineered source control layers and installing a liner for the potentially acid-generating waste storage area, installing an engineered cover system during reclamation and collecting contaminated runoff and seepage for treatment.</p> <p>ECCC has also recommended the ongoing testing of waste rock to inform potential mitigations to water quality from PAG material.</p> <p>CNSC staff are satisfied with NexGen's proposed mitigation measures relating to waste management and storage. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to waste rock and seepage. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>
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			<p>follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S07	<p><b>Copper Exposure</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about potential impacts of chronic copper exposure on benthic invertebrates, zooplankton</p>	<p>Aquatic environment/ fish and fish habitats</p>	<p>Regarding copper loading from the PAG waste rock storage area to Patterson Lake in the far future, NexGen is developing an adaptive management plan. This plan</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these</u></p>

	<p>reproduction and forage fish growth.</p> <p>Effluent Temperature: MN-S has concerns about the potential thermal refuge created by effluent release and its impacts on lake trout habitat, especially in combination with climate change.</p>		<p>aims to reduce uncertainty and manage risks associated with this pathway. NexGen will also develop mitigation measures including Project-specific Groundwater, Effluent, and Environmental Monitoring Plans, and installing effluent and sewage treatment plants to minimize impacts on the aquatic environment and fish habitats.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	<p><u>concerns pertaining to copper exposure. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>
MN-S08	<p><b>Dust Effects</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the potential effects of dust on vegetation</p>	<p>Atmospheric environment</p>	<p>NexGen has confirmed that Project activities would result in changes to local air quality and, as such, effects to people, wildlife and the environment</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns,</u></p>



	<p>and wildlife.</p> <p><b>Truck Traffic and Low-Level Flights</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the impact of additional truck traffic and low-level flights on dust, wildlife, visual value of Métis land and the Métis sense of place and territory.</p>		<p>were evaluated within the EA. Results generally showed that effects due to changes in air quality and noise would be minor, with the exception of woodland caribou; NexGen has committed to working with provincial and federal regulatory agencies and local Indigenous Groups to develop a Caribou Mitigation and Offsetting Plan to prevent significant adverse effects to woodland caribou. NexGen has acknowledged that maintenance of Highway 955 is outside of NexGen's control but has committed to discussions with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways to develop a road upgrade and maintenance agreement to minimize noise.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to accommodation measures to maintain Métis sense of place, including limiting the project footprint as feasible,</p>	<p><u>including these concerns pertaining to dust effects, truck traffic and low-level flights. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>
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			<p>controlling public access to the site and, implementing IBAs. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p> <p>CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities.</p>	
MN-S09	<p><b>Environmental Monitoring</b></p> <p>MN-S notes that there is insufficient detail on environmental monitoring for wildlife and wildlife components and insufficient follow-up programs to test predictions made in the EIS.</p>	Environmental monitoring	<p>NexGen has committed to developing detailed monitoring programs as part of the Environmental Monitoring Plan, with mechanisms existing within the IBA with MN-S to discuss the development of these plans.</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to environmental monitoring. The MN-S</u></p>

			The CNSC expects NexGen to continue to work collaboratively with MN-S to address information gaps. CNSC staff will ensure NexGen continues to engage meaningfully with MN-S on these topics and concerns.	<u>now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>
MN-S10	<p><b>Effects on Wildlife and Heritage Resources</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about potential impacts on wildlife from the Project, including caribou and migratory bird species.</p> <p><b>Caribou Assessment</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the rationale for determining the significance of residual effects at different spatial boundaries for caribou.</p>	Terrestrial biota/ species at risk	NexGen has confirmed that a Caribou Mitigation and Offsetting Plan is to be submitted to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment for approval prior to construction. The Plan, which would be subject to requirements under both provincial and federal recovery strategies, is predicted to make residual adverse effects to woodland caribou not significant. Engagement with Indigenous Groups and regulators will continue to occur through its development. Details of monitoring plans will be developed during permitting	<u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to effects on wildlife, heritage resources and caribou. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>

			<p>and licensing, with mechanisms existing within the IBA with MN-S to discuss the development of these plans.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S11	<p><b>Reclamation</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about reclamation practices that differ from pre-disturbance vegetation ecosystems or forest types and underscores the need for consistency with existing ecosystems with methods informed by Indigenous land users.</p>		<p>NexGen has committed to making all reasonable efforts to reestablish vegetation communities that are representative of existing conditions but have noted that the terrain would have changed because of the Project and therefore the effectiveness of this reclamation is uncertain.</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to reclamation. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely</u></p>

			CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved	<u>manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>
MN-S12	<p><b>Environmental Monitoring Data</b></p> <p>MN-S citizens lack confidence in environmental monitoring data accuracy and note the importance of communicating results.</p> <p><b>Perception Study</b></p> <p>MN-S identifies a need for a perception study to document existing perceptions and concerns relating to mining, to inform current practices and support future monitoring, mitigation and adaptive management.</p>	Environmental monitoring/ Indigenous engagement	NexGen has committed to developing monitoring programs in detail during licensing as part of the EMP, with mechanisms existing within the IBA with MN-S to discuss the development of these plans. NexGen has committed to working with local Indigenous Groups, including MN-S, to implement independent environmental monitoring in addition to standard Project monitoring processes. The independent Indigenous monitoring program is intended to provide unfettered access to the site during all	<u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to environmental monitoring data and a perception study. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>

			<p>Project phases and allow for opportunities such as independent environmental sampling.</p> <p>CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
MN-S13	<p><b>Threats to Freedoms and Land Access</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns that industrial activities may threaten freedoms, access to land, use of land and the ability to transmit traditional knowledge to younger generations.</p> <p><b>Engagement with Cabin Owners and Trappers</b></p> <p>MN-S notes a lack of engagement to date with Métis cabin owners and</p>	Indigenous land and resource use	<p>CNSC staff are of the view that MN-S' concerns relating to long-term impacts have and will continue to be addressed through the responses and commitments of NexGen and CNSC staff. NexGen has included Métis Knowledge, land and resource use, and cumulative effects assessments within their final EIS that considers impacts on numerous valued components. NexGen has also committed</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to freedoms, land access and engagement with cabin owners and trappers. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory</u></p>

	trappers in areas around Patterson Lake, as well as a lack of engagement with the broader community.		<p>to ongoing engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the Project lifecycle, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised. MN-S has formally given consent for the Project to proceed.</p> <p>The CNSC expects NexGen to continue to work collaboratively with MN-S to address access issues and concerns and to minimize disruptions to traditional practices and land use. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually.</p>	<u>process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>
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MN-S14	<p><b>Harvesting Country Foods</b></p> <p>MN-S citizens have concerns about the Project's effects on their ability to harvest country foods and the implications for food security and community wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Use of Métis Knowledge</b></p> <p>MN-S has concerns about the use of Métis Knowledge in the EA and notes that the EIS lacks credibility because this Knowledge was not incorporated appropriately.</p>	Métis Knowledge	<p>NexGen has initiated a Traditional Food Study and committed to further developing monitoring programs during licensing. Country foods are a key component assessed in human health monitoring proposed by NexGen.</p> <p>Indigenous Knowledge, including Métis Knowledge has been incorporated by NexGen throughout the final EIS. NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised.</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to harvesting country foods and use of Métis Knowledge. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>
MN-S15	<p><b>Engagement and Consultation</b></p> <p>Duty to Consult and Accommodate: MN-S emphasizes the constitutional obligation of the Crown to consult and accommodate, holding the CNSC responsible for ensuring the DTC is</p>	Indigenous consultation	<p>The CNSC ensures that all environmental assessments and licensing decisions uphold the honour of the Crown and uphold Indigenous peoples' potential or established Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights, pursuant to</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to engagement and</u></p>



	<p>met.</p> <p>Recognition of Land Claims: MN-S expects NexGen to recognize that the Project area belongs to MN-S, that it is subject to a land claim and that NexGen work with Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Northern Region II.</p>		<p>Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act</i>, 1982. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with MN-S on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	<p><u>consultation. The MN-S now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u></p>
MN-S16	<p><b>Cultural and Heritage Resources</b></p> <p>Cultural Resource Studies: MN-S expects NexGen to disclose how it will work with MN-S to review and assess the adequacy of cultural resource studies, noting that only MN-S can determine if cultural resources studies are adequate.</p>	Indigenous engagement	<p>NexGen and MN-S have agreed to an IBA which addresses many of the issues and concerns that MN-S has raised. MN-S has formally given consent for the Project to proceed. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on</p>	<p><u>NexGen has subsequently satisfactorily accommodated the MN-S' concerns, including these concerns pertaining to cultural and heritage resources. The MN-S</u></p>

			engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including MN-S, annually.	<u>now desires to conclude the regulatory process in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay.</u>
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Outlook

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**RE: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I**

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**From** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>**Date** Wed 11/5/2025 3:33 PM**To** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Cc** Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca> 1 attachment (43 KB)

MN-S Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review\_.docx;

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Good day. Please find attached up updated Issues and Concerns Table for NexGen Rook 1.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Maarsii,

**Dave DeVos**

Manager, Consultation

306-227-2928

30-20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 4, 2025 2:07 PM**To:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Subject:** FW: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good afternoon,

I'm following up on the issues and concerns table for MN-S with respect to the NexGen project. Our deadline to post these tables is in a couple days. If we don't receive any feedback then we plan to post the table as is.

Please reach out with any questions.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté  
nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4  
Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** October 21, 2025 8:02 AM  
**To:** David Devos <[ddevos@mns.ca](mailto:ddevos@mns.ca)>  
**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <[hpeterson@mns.ca](mailto:hpeterson@mns.ca)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Brent Laroque <[blaroque@mns.ca](mailto:blaroque@mns.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good morning David,

I hope things are going well.

I wanted to let you know that the hearing documents were posted online by the Registry this past Friday. You can access them here: [Download Hearing Documents](#). The CMD is available at this link: [CMD NexGen Rook I](#), and the Consultation Report starting on page 418 of 628.

I'm also following up regarding the MN-S Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I. CNSC staff did not post the table yet, as we were hoping to receive your review beforehand. This table will be included as part of a supplemental filing ahead of the Part 1 hearing scheduled for November 19, 2025. If you're able to provide your review at your earliest convenience, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté  
nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary

**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:16 PM

**To:** David Devos <[ddevos@mns.ca](mailto:ddevos@mns.ca)>; [blaroque@mns.ca](mailto:blaroque@mns.ca)

**Cc:** Hilary Peterson <[hpeterson@mns.ca](mailto:hpeterson@mns.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Hertz, Sarah <[sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** CNSC & MN-S - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good afternoon David & Brent,

Please see attached the MN-S's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that MN-S has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from MN-S.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without MN-S's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

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Outlook

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**For Your Review: MN-S Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I**

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**From** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

**Date** Thu 11/13/2025 12:21 PM

**To** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>

**Cc** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Doyle, Shae (CNSC/CCSN) <shae.doyle@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

■ 1 attachment (4 MB)

MN-S Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx;

Good afternoon,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of the MN-S Right's Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to MN-S to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to MN-S' land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to MN-S' rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary




Outlook

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**FW: For Your Review: MN-S Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I**

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**From** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Date** Tue 12/9/2025 12:14 PM**To** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>**Cc** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca> 1 attachment (4 MB)

MN-S Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx;

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome by December 19<sup>th</sup> on the attached Rights Impact Assessment.

Take care and stay warm.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté  
nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)**Sent:** November 13, 2025 1:21 PM**To:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>**Cc:** Brent Laroque <blaroque@mns.ca>; Hilary Peterson <hpeterson@mns.ca>; Doyle, Shae (CNSC/CCSN) <shae.doyle@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Subject:** For Your Review: MN-S Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

Good afternoon,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of the MN-S Right's Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to MN-S to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to MN-S' land use including any governance structure,

maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to MN-S' rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary





Outlook

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**RE: NexGen Hearing Part 2**

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**From** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>**Date** Mon 12/15/2025 2:02 PM**To** Boser, Sydney (CNSC/CCSN) <sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Cc** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN) <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
---

Awesome!

Maarsii,

**Dave DeVos**

Manager, Consultation

306-227-2928

310-20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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**From:** Boser, Sydney (CNSC/CCSN) <sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 3:01 PM**To:** David Devos <ddevos@mns.ca>**Cc:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN) <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>**Subject:** RE: NexGen Hearing Part 2

Good afternoon Dave,

Thank you! Yes it was a busy one but overall it was a successful week and thanks again to MN-S for their oral intervention – it went great!

As for NexGen, this is a request that is done through the Registry and they can be contacted at – [interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca) . However, the interventions aren't due until January 9<sup>th</sup> so after that point is when the agenda will be finalized. I would suggest that when you send in your intervention you can also include in your email that MN-S is interested in giving an opening prayer prior to doing your oral presentation and then Registry will organize that with you!

I have also copied in Hilary Hunter who is leading the NexGen file from our team and will be able to assist you with any further requests!

Best,

Sydney Boser née Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Senior Policy Officer, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agente principale en politiques, Division de la consultation et de la mobilisation des Autochtones  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

Je reconnais que les terres sur lesquelles je vis et travaille sont le territoire traditionnel du Traité no 6 et la patrie des Métis

---

**From:** David Devos <[ddevos@mns.ca](mailto:ddevos@mns.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 15, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Boser, Sydney (CNSC/CCSN) <[sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.boser@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** NexGen Hearing Part 2

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Good morning Sydney. Hope you have recovered from your busy week. You all did very great!

Quick question, we are wondering how we can request to have someone from MN-S, possibly, President McCallum, perform an opening prayer on the day that MN-S and NR2 present. Is this something that is possible and if so, how do we officially make this request?

Maarsii,

**Dave DeVos**

Manager, Consultation

306-227-2928

310-20<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7

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**From:** [Taya McDonald](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [David Devos](#); [Brent Laroque](#); [Hammer, Matt](#); [Marc Wang](#); [Hilary Peterson](#);  
**Subject:** Rights Impact Assessment  
**Attachments:** [MN-S Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-12-19 2:30:49 PM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good afternoon,

Attached is the Rights Impact Assessment. Happy Holidays guys!!!

Kind regards,  
**Taya McDonald**  
**Consultation Coordinator**  
**(639) 470-9355**  
310-20th Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Canada S7K 0A7  
**Heartland of the Métis and Treaty 6 Territory**



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## **C.4 Key Correspondence with Buffalo River Dene Nation**

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**From:** Ennamsaoui, Mouna (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** April 2, 2019 10:59 AM  
**To:** lmercampbell35@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.  
**Attachments:** Lettre to E Campbell.pdf

Dear Chief Elmer Campbell,

Please find attached an electronic copy of the Notice sent to you regarding a project proposal submitted by NexGen Ltd for a new uranium mine and milling project in northern Saskatchewan.

Please direct any questions relating to the environmental assessments of these projects to Nicole Frigault (Environmental Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessment Division, CNSC), at (613) 995-7948 or by e-mail at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

Candida Ciani  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865699

Chief Elmer Campbell  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
P.O. Box 40  
Dillon, SK S0M 0S0

[elmercampbell35@gmail.com](mailto:elmercampbell35@gmail.com)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Campbell:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
- an on-site mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment circuit and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.



### **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

### **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

### **Participant Funding Program**

The CNSC has established a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to enhance participation in the CNSC’s regulatory processes. Funding for this project will be offered for participation in both the EA/licensing and Commission hearing processes. The availability of PFP will be announced within the next few months (around the same time as the official posting of the Notice of Commencement for the project). Once the availability of funding is announced we will provide you with further details on the application process, scope of funding and amounts available.

Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnsccfp@canada.ca](mailto:cnsccfp@canada.ca).



### **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project and encourages you, during the review process, to:

- advise the CNSC of any adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights; and if so
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on the right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated as well as any evidence that will help in understanding these concerns
- provide local and traditional knowledge to support determination of potential impacts and potential mitigation measures
- advise the CNSC of how you and your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown as part of the regulatory review process for this project

### **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.

## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:

<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

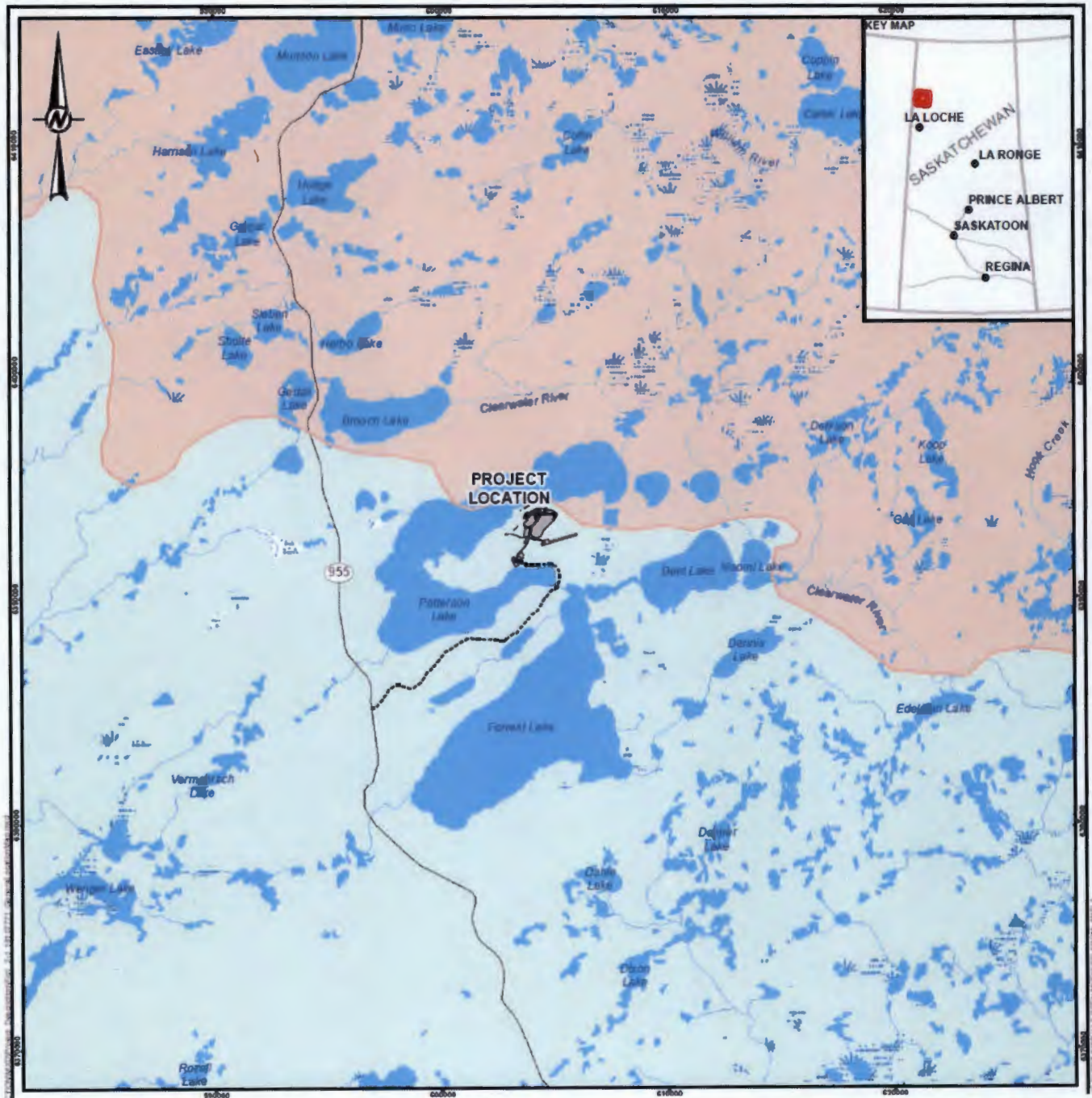
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

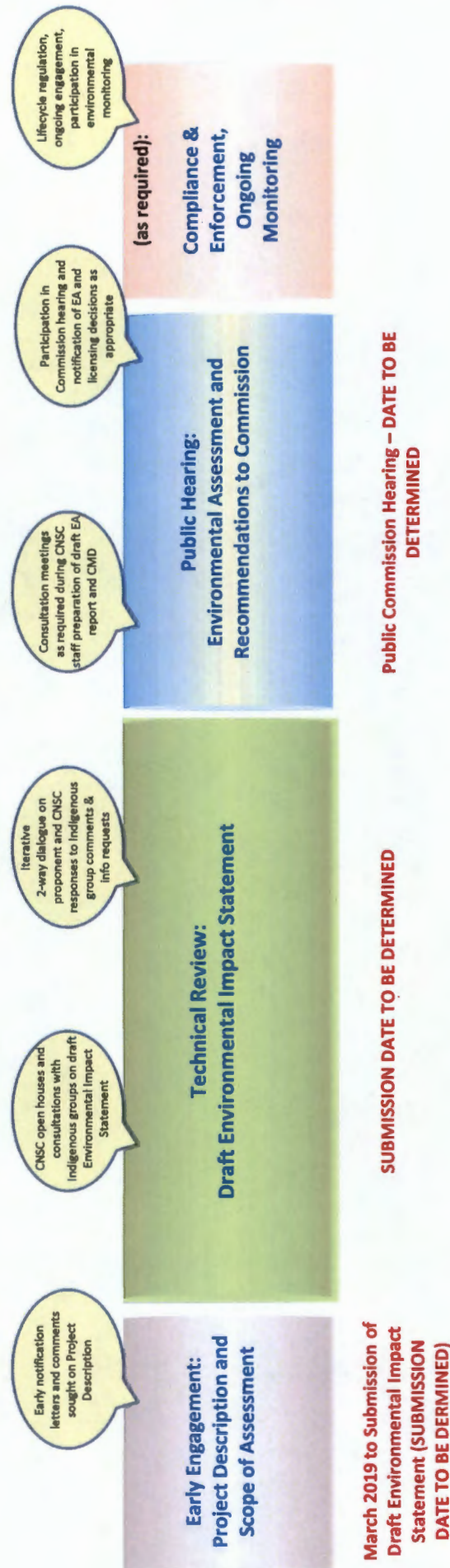
Métis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

# Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and mill project





## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS Engagement Record**

Record Number:	191009_BRDN
Group/individual(s) contacted:	Buffalo River Dene Nation
Date/time:	October 9, 2019
Type of contact:	Presentation and Meeting
Location:	Super 8 Motel, Meadow Lake
Attendees (names, positions):	<p>Chief Elmer Campbell  Sylvia Bekkatla, Councillor  Debbie Billette, Councillor  Chris LaPlante, Councillor  Louis Chanalquay, Councillor  Grayson Janvier, Councillor  Kelly Montgrand, Band Manager</p> <p>Nicole Frigault, CNSC  Adam Zenobi, CNSC</p> <p>Ann Reimer, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment  Steve Wilkie, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</p>
Present from NXE:	<p>Bruce Sprague  Troy Boisjoli  Susan Mattieu  Adam Engdahl  Karina Tyne</p>
NXE Project:	Rook I
Reason for contact:	Meeting with Regulators
Record No.: [Office Use Only]	
COMMENTS - RECORD OF POINTS MADE	
<p><i>Presentation by CNSC, with the following questions/discussion:</i></p> <p>Chris LaPlante (CL): What options are there for enforcement if there is an environmental incident?  CNSC: There are several options, depending on the severity of the incident. It is a graduated system that goes from a warning all the way to a loss of license.</p>	
<p><b>SUMMARY OF CONTACT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive meeting, questions/comments focused around regulatory processes, environmental concerns and worker</li> </ul>	

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS Engagement Record**

Chief Elmer Campbell (CEC): What is the difference between CEAA, 2012 and IAA?

CNSC: There are lots of similarities between the two; IAA has different timelines and different internal processes. Both are effective at ensuring environmental impacts are considered.

CEC: With Fission in the area, will there be one mill, two mills?

CNSC: Fission has not yet submitted an application, so it is not something we are considering. It would not be a requirement for the two companies to use one mill, but it would be a question that is asked, and cumulative effects would be considered.

CL: So, NexGen is applying for a license to construct at the same time as the environmental assessment? How is this possible, it takes away all leverage for negotiating if the license application is done at the same time as the environmental assessment.

CNSC: There would be no decision on the license application until there is a successful EA. While they can work on the two at the same time, the EA decision comes before. There must be a successful EA decision before there is a decision on licensing.

CEC: There is a local worker who spent his career at Cluff Lake. He has concerns about the coverage on the tailings pile. Also, when I worked there we wore dosimeters – what happens over time with radiation exposure?

CNSC: We know the individual you are talking about, and we have met with him to discuss his concerns. We went to Cluff Lake to see what he was talking about, but in the end we (the CNSC) were satisfied with the state of Cluff Lake and that the decommissioning was done appropriately. We are not recommending any additional work. Regarding health concerns, the CNSC has experts who study this – including a current study underway. I don't want to speak to this, but if there's interest I can arrange to have our expert present to you.

Louis Chanalquay (LC): In the environmental assessment and testing, is there first nation input into environmental monitoring?

NXE: Yes, definitely. One main objective of the joint working group is to ensure that indigenous knowledge is included in the environmental assessment and future environmental monitoring programs.

CL: We aren't included or notified when exploration is happening within our traditional territory.

NXE: We can share the information for the Ministry of Environment contacts responsible for exploration permits.

CEC: We've never had capacity funding like that is being provided by NexGen. With the community coordinator

safety. Good opportunity for the CNSC and Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment to explain the regulatory processes directly to BRDN.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS Engagement Record**

they are funding we will be able to contact the CNSC when we have questions.	
--	--



**Buffalo River Dene Nation – NexGen Joint Working Group for the Rook I Project  
Meeting #6**

**Date of Meeting:** Friday December 11, 2020

**Time:** 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Attendance:**

Name	Representing	In Person	Remotely	Regrets
Chris Laplante	BRDN			X
Brian Benjamin	BRDN (Community Coordinator)		X	
Merle Catarat	BRDN		X	
Norma Catarat	BRDN		X	
Arsene Nezcroche	BRDN (Elder)			X
Marcus Chanalquay	BRDN (Youth Representative)		X	
Richard Snider	CNSC (Senior Project Officer)		X	
Nicole Frigault	CNSC (Environmental Assessment Specialist)		X	
Cassandre Roy-Drainville	CNSC (Policy Officer)		X	
Ryan Froess	CNSC (Senior Advisor, Indigenous Relations)		X	
Troy Boisjoli	NexGen Energy (Vice President Operations & Project Development)		X	
Karina Tyne	NexGen Energy (Engagement Lead)		X	
Adam Engdahl	NexGen Energy (Senior Manager, Community)		X	
Melissa Scansen	NexGen Energy (Geologist)		X	
Marci Mehl	NexGen Energy (Consultant, Golder Associates)		X	
Jennifer Olson	NexGen Energy (Consultant, InterGroup)		X	
Don Hovdebo	NexGen Energy (Consultant, Kingsmere Resource Services)		X	
Gill Gracie	Aurora Communications Ltd. (Recorder)		X	

**Please note:**

- Notes are not always verbatim, but rather a summary of the points made or questions asked.
- Individuals will first be identified using their full name, and then by first name only.
- Bulleted paragraphs indicate explanation of points made in the presentation



- Any additional commentary to provide context to the notes is identified in italics.

**Table 1: Summary of Action Items**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
1.	Coordinate a Radiation 101 presentation for community members, ensuring material is simple, visual.	Merle Catarat / Norma Catarat / NexGen / CNSC
2.	Provide today's presentation and CNSC YouTube videos to BNDN JWG participants.	Nicole Frigault / Karina Tyne

#### **Abbreviations used in this meeting**

CEAA – Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012  
 CMD – Commission Member Document (CNSC)  
 CNSC – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
 DTC – Duty to Consult  
 EA – Environmental Assessment  
 EIS – Environmental Impact Statement (Summary of the Environmental Assessment)  
 FRC – Funding Review Committee (CNSC – independent)  
 IAA – Impact Assessment Act 2019  
 IBA - Impact Benefit Agreement  
 IK – Indigenous Knowledge  
 JWG – Joint Working Group  
 MLFM – Mining Facility Licensing Manual (CNSC)  
 mSv – millisievert, a measure of radiation dose  
 NSCA - Nuclear Safety and Control Act (CNSC)  
 PFP – Participant Funding Program (CNSC)  
 PPE – Personal Protective Equipment  
 TLU – Traditional Land Use  
 VC – Valued Component

#### **Attachments**

CNSC Presentation: E-DOCS-#6253769-v3-Rook\_1\_JWG\_CNSC\_presentation\_December\_11\_2020.pdf  
 NexGen Presentation: 20211211\_BNDN\_JWG.pdf

**Safety Moment:** Adam reviewed ladder safety.

**Agenda Review:** Adam

**Prayer:** Norma

#### **Introductions.**

Note: The meeting will be recorded and transcribed.

#### **Recap of last meeting – Karina**

- August 28, 2020 was our first virtual JWG meeting. We talked about the status of the project and the EA; baseline studies are being finalized and now transitioning into the modelling and assessment portion. We talked about what the COVID 19 situation means for NexGen and for meeting as a group - the result is these virtual meetings.

- There was an update on the regulatory process, including the Participant Funding Program (PFP), with the understanding that BRDN has since applied to the PFP. Partly out of that discussion, we were prompted to have this meeting today with the CNSC presenting.
- The JWG meetings to date were reviewed; this is our sixth meeting. We've met in Saskatoon, at Vermette Lake, and at the Rook I site. We've talked about the different aspects of the project; received feedback on VCs for the EA; we talked about the Traditional Land Use (TLU) Study that Buffalo River has completed. Some feedback from the JWG resulted in a youth workshop, held the day before travel restrictions were in place in March 2020.
- We talked about possible topics for upcoming meetings, including results from the assessment, the decommissioning plan, traffic study results, learning more about radiation, and the results from the ecological and human health risk assessment. That list evolves as the project progresses, based on what we hear and talk about in each JWG meeting.

### **CNSC Presentation – Richard, Nicole, Cassandre**

---

#### **Richard:**

*I work for the Uranium Mines and Mills Division. We regulate operating uranium mines and mills and decommissioning sites in Saskatchewan, the NWT, and Ontario. Thank you for the opportunity to present.*

- The CNSC is Canada's nuclear industry regulator. Our mandate is to regulate the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect people and the environment, ensure the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and share objective scientific information with the public.
- We on this call are staff; we do not make decisions. The independent quasi-judicial (almost like judge and jury) Commission is the decision-maker. We present our information; intervenors and the licensee also provide their information, and the Commission considers it all before making a decision. All public and Indigenous community concerns are considered. All hearings are public and webcast unless information is confidential.
- *Map of office locations.* CNSC headquarters is in Ottawa, and there are offices throughout Canada and in nuclear power plants.
- We value Indigenous Knowledge (IK); we are dedicated to ongoing engagement; we don't promote the nuclear industry, jobs or economics, or industry.
- What's regulated? Uranium mines and mills, nuclear fabrication and processing, nuclear power plants and waste management facilities.
- *Diagram of fuel cycle:* operating mines and mills (all in Saskatchewan), refining, fuel fabrication, fuel assembly for the CANDU reactor. The mill product, or yellowcake, is shipped in 45-gallon drums. Refining and conversion increases the uranium concentration and removes impurities. The conversion product is compressed into fuel bundles, which go into fuel assemblies that are used in nuclear power plants to generate heat that converts water to steam to drive the turbines that produce electricity.
- In Saskatchewan, we jointly regulate with the province throughout the mine life cycle. The CNSC does not regulate exploration; exploration is regulated by the province as the owner of Crown land. They grant mineral rights and surface rights. The CNSC is there from the beginning of a development until decommissioning is complete, the transition phase monitoring has been done, and the site is shown to be safe and stable to the satisfaction of provincial agencies and CNSC. Then the proponent can apply to transition into the Saskatchewan Institutional Control Program (IC). Once transferred, we no longer regulate that site. This has happened in Saskatchewan at the Beaverlodge project, most recently in 2020, with more expected.
- **Regulatory framework:** CNSC's enabling legislation is the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA) and its regulations, then come licences and Licence Condition Handbooks. The handbooks outline licence

requirements and refer to regulatory documents, giving guidance and “must do’s” for the licensees, along with criteria they have to follow.

- Uranium companies that want to construct and operate a mine have the option to complete the Environmental Assessment (EA) and licensing process at the same time, and NexGen is doing both at the same time. The present focus is on the EA, but they have also submitted an initial licence application, with more information to be provided over time. They have been submitting program documents for staff to review.

For any licence application, CNSC staff conduct an environmental review and a technical assessment of the application and supporting documents. The technical assessments determine the adequacy of programs, design information, radiation protection measures etc. There is engagement and consultation throughout the process.

- **Organization of licence application information:** The main document is the Mining Facility Licensing Manual (MFLM), which includes a general description of the project, the components, the policy; that refers to the program and documents the company has developed. Underneath that are the procedures and work constructions. Normally when staff are reviewing an initial project we don't dive down that far, but we do that as part of the inspection process. There's also supporting information such as engineering studies and hazard assessments for example.
- **Compliance verification:** The CNSC achieves its mandate by licensing facilities and providing regulatory oversight through verification, enforcement and reporting on activities. This includes onsite inspection, desktop reviews, technical assessments, reviews of licensees' programs and ongoing exchange of information. We cater our compliance verification program according to the level of risk.
- We generate annual and 10-year inspection plans for the operating sites. We use Safety and Control Areas as a way to break down a project, with three main groupings: Management, facility and equipment management, and core processes. *Chart showing current inspection frequency.* We focus mostly on management systems (because that affects the entire operation), conventional health and safety, environmental protection, and radiation protection. CNSC schedules dedicated inspections to look at those areas every three years minimum, and we also include those in our general inspections. Other safety and control areas we look at every five years; the really low-risk ones we do every 10 years. Generally, for the operating sites we do six inspections a year. We shift our inspection program according to the state of the operation, reducing inspections during care and maintenance, increasing for a newer project or if there's an issue.
- During COVID 19 we closed our office for the foreseeable future, but our regulatory oversight never stopped for the sites. We continued to look at documentation and follow up on incidents or events, and we continue with inspections.

We paused inspections in March 2020 and resumed (virtually for now) in June 2020. If needed we can justify onsite presence if we follow safety requirements; for example, I went to Beaverlodge this fall. We also monitor the licensees' COVID precautions to make sure the public is safe. All Commission proceedings are also taking place virtually.

#### **Cassandra – Indigenous Engagement**

- The Participant Funding Program (PFP) is available at various stages of the licensing process, including environmental reviews and public hearings. Funding decisions are made based on recommendations from an independent Funding Review Committee (FRC). This is a panel of external experts who review applications and recommend approval and amounts, and any objectives that have to be met. A recent funding opportunity was given to members of the public, Indigenous people and other stakeholders to review NexGen's Draft EIS for the Rook I Project. The FRC met in November to review nine applications, and an announcement is expected soon.

- CNSC is responsible for meeting the Crown's Duty to Consult (DTC) with Indigenous peoples and upholding the honour of the Crown. We are aware that Indigenous peoples may have concerns with the nuclear sector and that it's important to seek opportunities to work together to ensure safe and effective regulation of nuclear energy and materials. We always commit to go beyond the DTC consultation, by pursuing ongoing informative and collaborative interactions with Indigenous groups and organizations who have interests regarding the regulation of nuclear activities and facilities within their traditional territories.
- CNSC has a requirement for licensees regarding Indigenous engagement. We stress to licensees the importance of engaging with Indigenous communities. REGDOC 3.2.2 on Indigenous engagement is a document that provides guidance on how licensees should engage and how often. We monitor licensees' engagement efforts and ensure they are working with you in ways that you feel are effective. That does not take away from our DTC as an agent of the Crown.
- It's very important to include IK in our processes like EAs. We like to see IK studies, or traditional land use studies. The CNSC also ensures the opportunity for Indigenous communities to provide IK within our own processes. This helps us better understand the potential effects of the project on potential or established aboriginal and treaty rights and ensures mitigation and accommodation are considered to address potential impacts and determine the significance of adverse effects. We have been including IK in our processes for 2-3 years now, and we have developed internal processes to ensure that information provided by Indigenous communities is captured appropriately and is meaningful. We also shared our IK policy framework with Indigenous communities in November 2020.

#### **Nicole – Environmental Assessment**

- **Environmental review process:** Environmental reviews are central to the CNSC's responsibility. The environmental effects of all nuclear facilities are assessed at every phase of their life cycle. There are many different types of environmental review, based on which laws and regulations apply to each project. Early in the process the CNSC staff determine which type of environmental review applies by reviewing the application and supporting documentation provided by the licensee. The Impact Assessment Act (IAA) is new federal legislation that came into effect in August 2019. Projects under the previous Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA 2012) will continue under that Act, including this project. There are provisions for that within the IAA.
- In all cases, the CNSC ensures the public has an opportunity to participate in environmental reviews, and we also ensure that Indigenous consultation and engagement activities are integrated in the review process to the extent possible. Federal and provincial agencies are involved and contribute their expertise in impact assessment and in the EA process are independent, transparent and evidence based.
- We're now in the second step for the Rook I project. We are waiting for NexGen to submit their Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the CNSC, which will kick off the technical review. Once we are happy with the final EIS (which takes a lot of back and forth), we would draft an EA report. Then there would be a hearing on the EA, then an EA decision and a licensing decision. If the decision is positive, we would have ongoing oversight, monitoring and compliance through the entire life cycle.
- Main environmental components studied as part of an assessment would include components from the physical environment (air quality, surface and ground water, soils); the biological (fish and fish habitat, terrestrial habitat, birds, wildlife, species at risk); and human (current land use such as fishing, hunting, trapping, gathering, archaeological sites and sites of cultural significance). All of these components are assessed in the EA to determine whether or not there's a potential impact from the proposed project.

- The technical review under CEAA 2012 focuses on potential significant adverse environmental effects on fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, aquatic species at risk and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as health, heritage, land and historical/archaeological factors important to Indigenous peoples.
- The proposed project is an underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula.
- The project is currently undergoing a CEAA 2012 EA, as well as a licensing assessment under the NSCA and a provincial EA.

We are coordinating the provincial and federal EAs where possible, trying to do certain things together to cut down on repeat information going out for review. We are waiting on the Draft EIS, expected in the third quarter of 2021, that will kick off the federal/provincial technical review. The documents will be posted and there will be a public and Indigenous comment period.

That review process would go back and forth with information requests from us and responses from NexGen, continuing until CNSC is satisfied that all information requests have been adequately addressed.

Other federal reviewers include Environment Canada, Climate Change Canada, Health Canada, perhaps Parks Canada and Natural Resources Canada. There are also provincial reviewers. Once there is a Final EIS document, CNSC staff will draft a CEAA 2012 EA report.

We will be looking for input from Indigenous groups, even to the point where we're co-drafting sections of the EA report if groups are interested in doing so. Lots of opportunities will come up for collaboration on different reviews and having you being part of the EA process.

Then it would go to a Commission hearing for an EA decision, then a licensing decision. There will be public hearings where you can also present.

#### **Richard: Radiation protection.**

- We can have a radiation specialist do a Radiation 101 presentation if there's an interest.
- We have specific Radiation Protection Regulations that detail what requirements the licensees must meet in their radiation protection program. Doses received by persons must be As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA), so not just about being below limits, but keeping the doses as low as reasonably achievable and continuous improvement. The Radiation Protection Program requirements include management of work practices, personnel qualifications and training programs; occupational and public exposure control. Licensees also need to plan for unusual situations and how to respond to them.
- Radiation Protection Programs are submitted by the licensees when they apply for a license, when there's an update to the program, or when there's a license renewal. CNSC assesses the program using a risk-informed approach, to make sure it meets the requirements, is appropriate for the licensed activity and the radiological hazards, and is consistent with international and industry best practices. Compliance activities such as inspections and document reviews are also conducted to verify that the Radiation Protection Program is effective and protecting workers and the public.
- We look at the concept of the hierarchy of controls. An important consideration is first, can you eliminate the hazard – if not, can you reduce the hazard? If not, are there engineering controls such as providing barriers to protect the workers? Then we look at administrative controls – the way people work or how long they work in an area. We look at personal protective equipment (PPE) as the last line of defense.
- Radiation is based on the principles of time, distance, shielding. If you increase the distance between the person and the radiation source, you reduce the exposure. Think of it as the distance from a lamp – the further you are from that beam of light, the more the light is dispersed. If you reduce the amount of time you're exposed to radiation, it reduces the dose received. Shielding – different materials can block radiation. Concrete is used in uranium mills to shield workers.

- Dosimetry monitoring is an important part of the Radiation Protection Program, to measure radiation doses.  
There are different ways to measure doses. Doses to the public near the mine site can be done by indirect monitoring through environmental measurements and pathways analysis. The dose to workers is done by direct monitoring using personal dosimetry dosimeters, and also indirect monitoring to measure amounts in the air. Radiation monitoring results and dosimeter information is provided to the CNSC, and every worker is provided with their dosimetry data.
- *Graph to illustrate the ALARA principle:* There are regulatory limits and action levels. It's about keeping doses low. Action levels provide an early warning that something is not as expected, and that action is required to make sure the regulatory limit is never reached.  
For uranium mining and milling, the maximum allowable dose is 50 millisieverts (mSv) per year or a 5-year average of 100 mSv. Action levels are well below those numbers.
- *Graph of action levels received:* These show actual doses in the five Saskatchewan operating sites; the average annual individual dose is less than 3% of the limit. In 2019, the highest dose was 0.93 mSv at McClean Lake. They are very low compared to the limit.
- *Graph of maximum individual doses.* Also, quite a bit lower than the regulatory limit. The CNSC does an annual report card on each site outlining their environmental and radiation performance.
- Examples of radiation doses in a year from various sources. Natural background for Canada is about 1.8 mSv, depending on where you live. You can also receive doses from activities such as flying, dental and medical x-rays. The radiation dose that may cause symptoms is 1000 mSv; the maximum dose for nuclear energy workers is 50 mSv per year and an average of 20 mSv per year for a five-year cumulative total of 100 mSv. Actual doses received by uranium mine workers are closer to that public dose limit of 1 mSv.
- Radiation has always been present and is all around us. We are exposed to natural and artificial sources of radiation in our everyday lives. Radiation can cause harm but can be used in positive ways through medical applications. The CNSC is responsible to regulate nuclear energy to protect Canadians and the environment.

### Questions/comments on CNSC presentation

**Merle:** A presentation like that to the community would help quite a bit.

**Norma:** Presentations must be visual; it's so much easier for our people to understand. I like some of your graphs but there are so many (difficult) words. We need to break it down and put it in plain English to explain to our community, especially our Elders. Adam/Troy/Karina did a really good job when we had our Elders at the cabin because they brought pictures, and they explained to the Elders what happens when the uranium comes out, where it goes, how it's processed. It was all visual and the elders had an easier time understanding it.

The presentation you've done this afternoon is easy for us to understand, but it's hard for us to bring to the community. We need to explain to our community members and our Elders what the environmental review process is, how it's done, why it's done, where it goes – is there a place for them to turn to if they have questions. We need to explain the Indigenous engagement process and the environmental review process, what it means and how they can participate. We need to have a visual for our community. It's much easier to understand with graphs, like in today's presentation. When you're doing a presentation to a community, have more visual content. It makes it easier to explain, especially in our language.

**Merle:** That's why I want a copy. I could probably assist in presenting to make it a lot more understandable. We could break it down into plain English, explain some of the words to them, and let them know CNSC is not a part of NexGen.

**Richard:** We have the ability to do a Radiation 101; it gets more hands on where you're using monitoring equipment and showing different types of radiation. It helps having props. There's the potential for us to do that to make it more understandable.

**Merle:** I worked at Cigar Lake for a few years; for the last three years I did the initial radiation training. One of the barriers was that some northerners didn't speak English well. I always explained to them in Dene. They're afraid to ask during the training; I would tell them to come see me and I would take the time to explain. I would explain protons, neutrons, alpha, beta, gamma, etc. If you can show them a diagram of unstable atoms shooting off, they would understand what you mean by radiation.

**Norma:** We're lucky to have someone who has worked in the uranium industry for many years; he brings a lot to the table. If you were to give him something like that, it would be a lot easier for him to explain to our people what the process is and what the CNSC stands for, their policies and procedures. We have some experience in uranium mining, and Cluff Lake always comes back to haunt us. It's been brought up over and over by Elders and community members, because they didn't understand, but if we have this presentation to present to our people, they'd have a much better idea of what is there and why it's there, it's there to protect them – it will be so much easier for us to explain.

**Nicole:** We have some really good You Tube visual presentations on Radiation 101 and who is the CNSC and what we do. They're not translated to Dene, but if it would be easy to show something like that and speak to it if some people don't understand English. I will forward those links – they are made for the public to understand, and they're very visual. We also have subject matter experts who could speak to the community and they do have visual things.

**Merle:** Thank you.

**Karina:** NexGen also has some background information on uranium and radiation that might be helpful. We have shared it with you previously.

**Merle:** In Dillon they say uranium automatically means cancer. They don't understand monitoring. They see the smoke (steam) from nuclear power plants and think it is radiation – they have a different perception of radiation. They don't understand the monitoring process and the steps we're taking. Let them know it's safe and we're monitoring and handling it properly.

**Adam:** Merle translates at community meetings and gives a good idea of what we're saying in Dene. It's been worth its weight in gold. I can't thank Merle, Brian and the guys enough. At Vermette Lake we brought pictures and posters; Marci and her team have printed off posters and we will get them to you. Merle can go through them with the community members.

#### **Next Steps: Karina:**

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- Thanks to CNSC for taking the time. We appreciate Richard, Nicole, Cassandre and Ryan joining us today.
- Is there anything we can do to improve our meetings, particularly the virtual meetings?

**Brian:** We'll have to go over that with our JWG and Chief and Council and answer that question that later.

**Norma:** Because of COVID 19, our office is not open. There's probably five of us in here most of the day. It's hard for most of our people to be on virtual – our Elder is fishing right now – others including council members are trapping, fishing and preparing for winter, so they're pretty busy. We've had cases of COVID 19 in our community, in our school, so it's very hectic some days. We've been preparing since March 2020. It's hard to have only five people running things. We do forward our links to the meeting but some are too busy doing other things – we have security issues also. It's a small community, but a tough process.

**Adam:** I commend you and your team on how you have handled the pandemic – your community has been held in high regard and kept the cases low. Well done.

**Karina:** I echo that – I've seen some nice social media posts about Buffalo River supporting neighboring communities as they were hit hard with COVID 19.

**Norma:** Since March 2020, we were adamant we were going to try to prevent the virus. I commend my pandemic team – Merle is on there and Brian helps when he can, and I have other members in charge of certain areas. We have all the PPE we need; the school maintenance guy is awesome – when two teachers were infected, he got splash guards, masks and wipes, water stations – I am very impressed with my team.

**Karina:** I appreciate there are lots of busy schedules. I don't expect it to get any easier to coordinate meetings. I'd like to set up a regular monthly meeting, on the same date and time every month. Adam will reach out through Brian to get some dates det.

We will circulate minutes to everyone on the call for correction or clarification.

### Round table

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**Adam:** Thanks for coming – it was a meaningful engagement meeting. It was great to have the CNSC here to do a great presentation – much appreciated.

**Norma:** Thanks to CNSC for doing the presentation, and to NexGen for working with us on the JWG from Day 1. NexGen has followed through on 99% of our requests for presentations and information. As a JWG member and a Buffalo River member, I thank NexGen for the whole process and where we are at now. I'm happy with the process and the consultation.

**Merle:** It's all good – we have come this far working together and everything is great. I hope we continue to work together like this. Thanks to the CNSC – I hope we can get this moving and signed as soon as possible. Everything looks great.

**Brian:** On behalf of BRDN Chief and Council and the JWG, I liked the CNSC presentation – it was good information for our people to hear and find out more about. I'm looking forward to working more with NexGen.

**Nicole:** Thanks again; if you have questions about the environmental or licensing process do not hesitate to contact us directly. We are always open for meetings, discussions or phone chats. An email is coming with links to some videos.

**Richard:** Thanks for the opportunity. Regarding people equating uranium with cancer, we have an epidemiologist who could speak to that, either in a JWG meeting or in the community.

**Cassandra:** Thanks for the break! And for inviting us – nice meeting all of you virtually. Happy Friday, have a great weekend!

**Ryan:** I'm excited to be involved with the group and look forward to meeting you in the future. Education is key – there's lots to learn and lots to do.

**Jennifer:** Thanks for the opportunity to participate. It's really useful to explain the regulatory processes, probably multiple times. They're not easy to understand.

**Don:** Thanks everyone – Richard and the CNSC staff, but particularly Norma, Merle, Marcus and Brian. We really appreciate the suggestions from Norma and Merle about how to make presentations more user-friendly in communities.

**Marcus:** *(via text message)*. Thanks for having me on the JWG. For a year now it's been a really good experience. Thanks everyone in the meeting.

**Marci:** I echo everyone's input and thoughts. Great presentation, and great to get everybody together again. I'm looking forward to more of these meetings.

**Melissa:** Thanks for letting me be a part of this; thanks to the CNSC for presenting.

**Karina:** It's been really great. If we're done early on a Friday, that's perfect!

**Adam:** Thanks to the CNSC for a great presentation.





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Canada



# CANADIAN NUCLEAR SAFETY COMMISSION

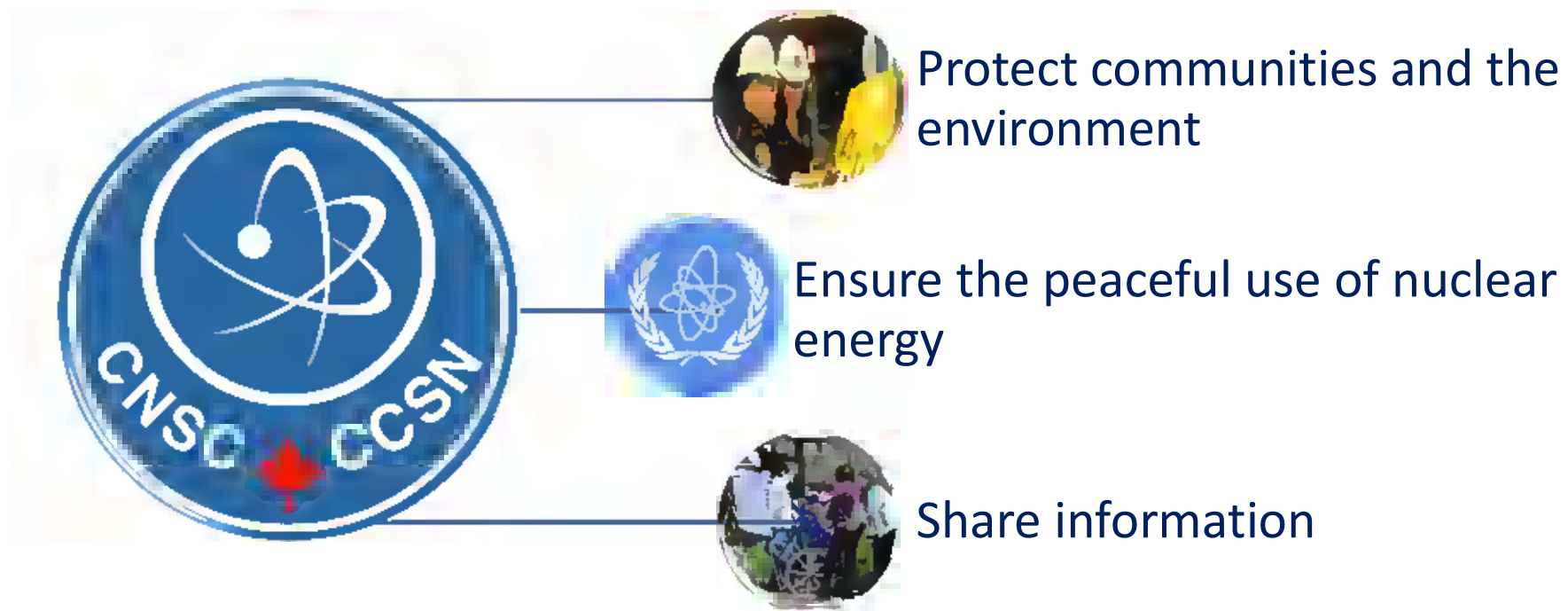


E-Doc# 6253769

December 2020



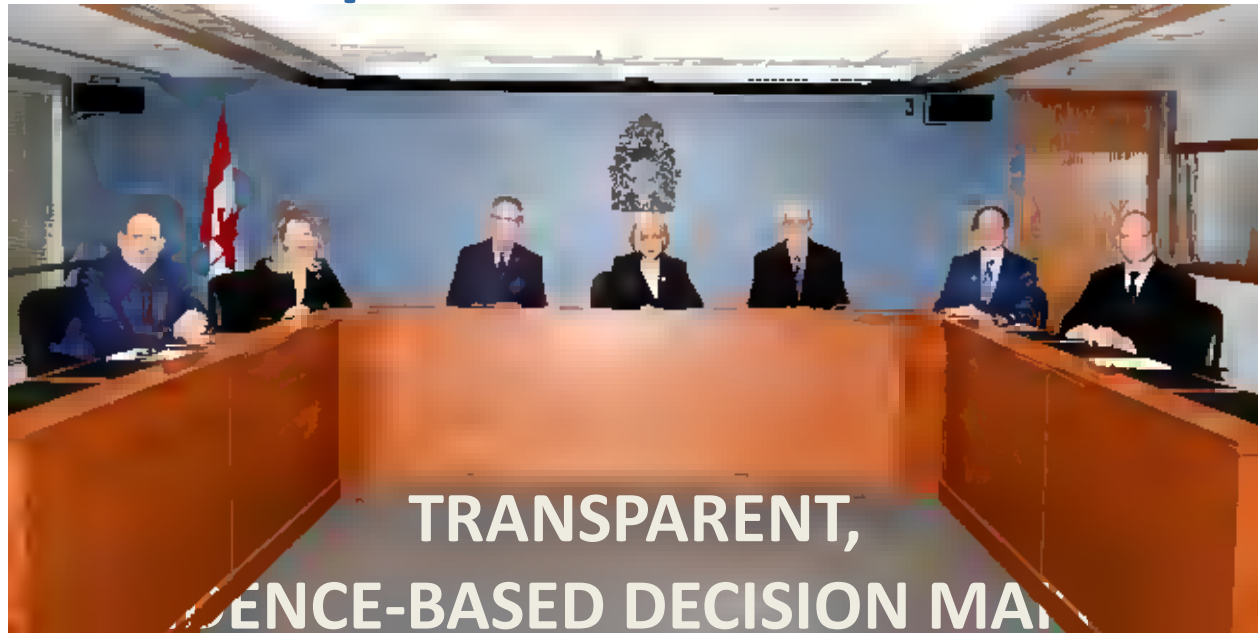
# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)



Canada's Nuclear Regulator



# Independent Commission



- Quasi-judicial administrative tribunal
- Agent of the Government of Canada (the Crown)
- Reports to Parliament
- Considers the public and Indigenous communities' concerns and knowledge in decisions
- Makes decisions based on evidence



Canadian Nuclear  
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# CNSC Staff Located Throughout Canada

Headquarters (HQ) and laboratory in Ottawa

Four site offices at power plants

One site office at Chalk River

Four regional offices





## CNSC – What We Do (and Don't Do)



- Rigorous review of all applications. A licence is only issued if a facility is safe
- Acts as Crown Consultation Coordinator
- Participates in Environmental Monitoring and assessing impacts on the environment
- Values Indigenous knowledge
- Dedicated to on-going engagement and relationship building with Indigenous communities



- Develop energy policy
- Own, manage, construct or operate facilities
- Promote the nuclear industry
- Share revenues from industry
- Employment
- Handle legacy issues
- Determine Indigenous rights
- Choose facility site locations



# CNSC Regulates all Nuclear Related Facilities and Activities

## The Fuel Cycle:

- Uranium mines and mills
- Uranium fuel fabrication and processing
- Nuclear power plants
- Waste management facilities

## Other Facilities and Activities:

- Nuclear substance processing
- Industrial and medical applications
- Nuclear research and educational activities
- Export/import control



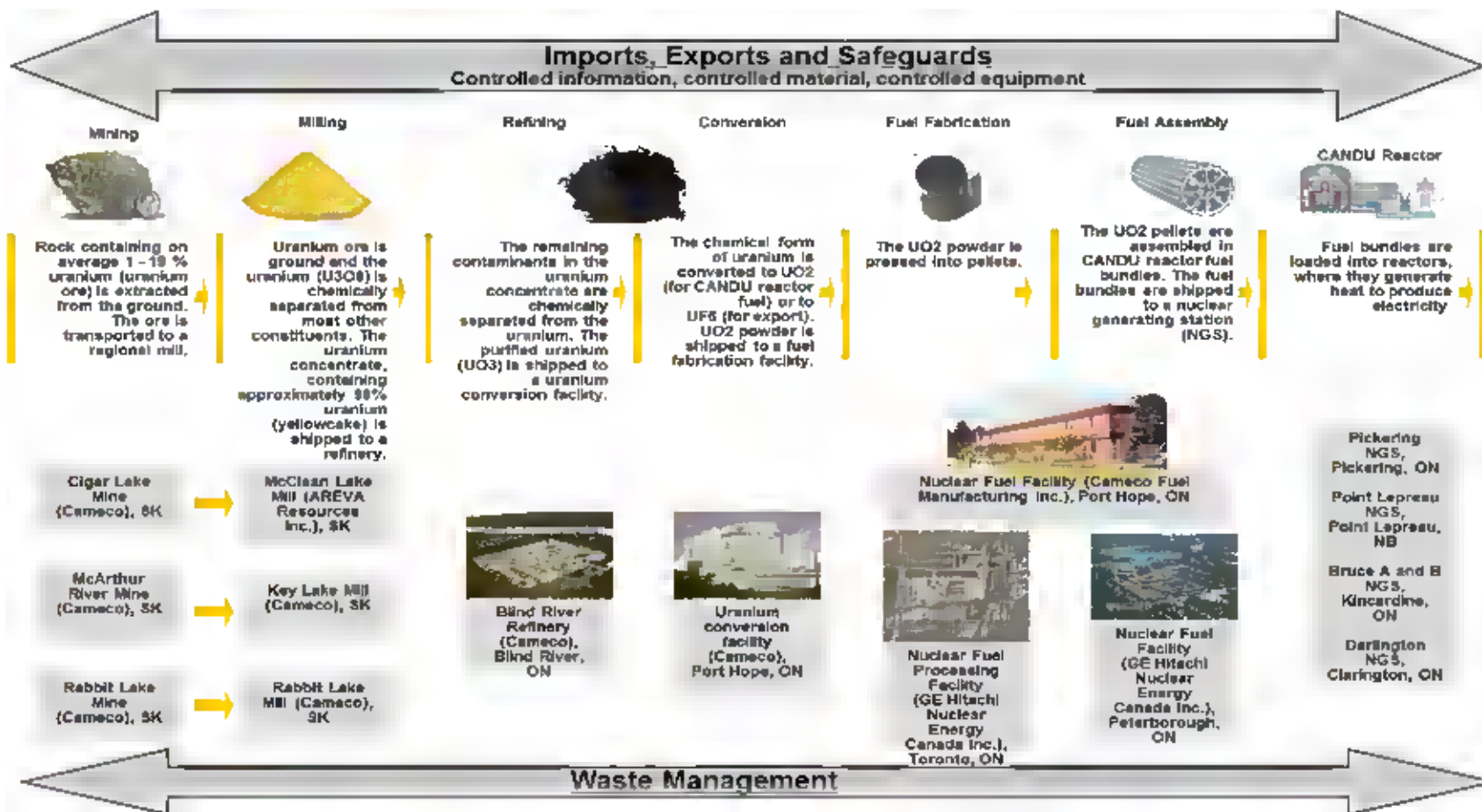
McArthur River Mine, Saskatchewan



Darlington Nuclear Generating Station,  
Ontario

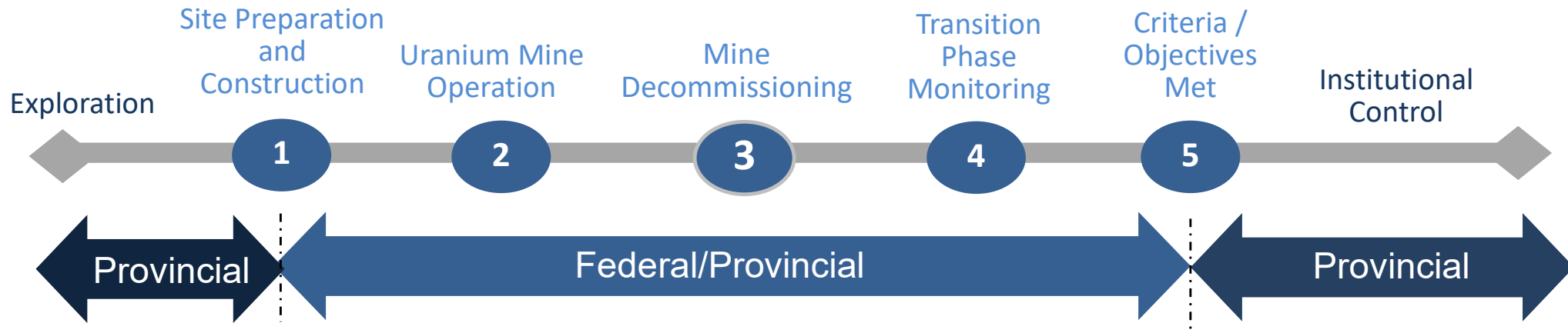


# Fuel Cycle Facilities and Activities





# Saskatchewan Uranium Mines and Mills: Life Cycle



Responsibility is transferred to the Province upon transfer to the Institutional Control Program





# Regulatory Framework

## ***Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA)***

- Enables legislation

## **Regulations**

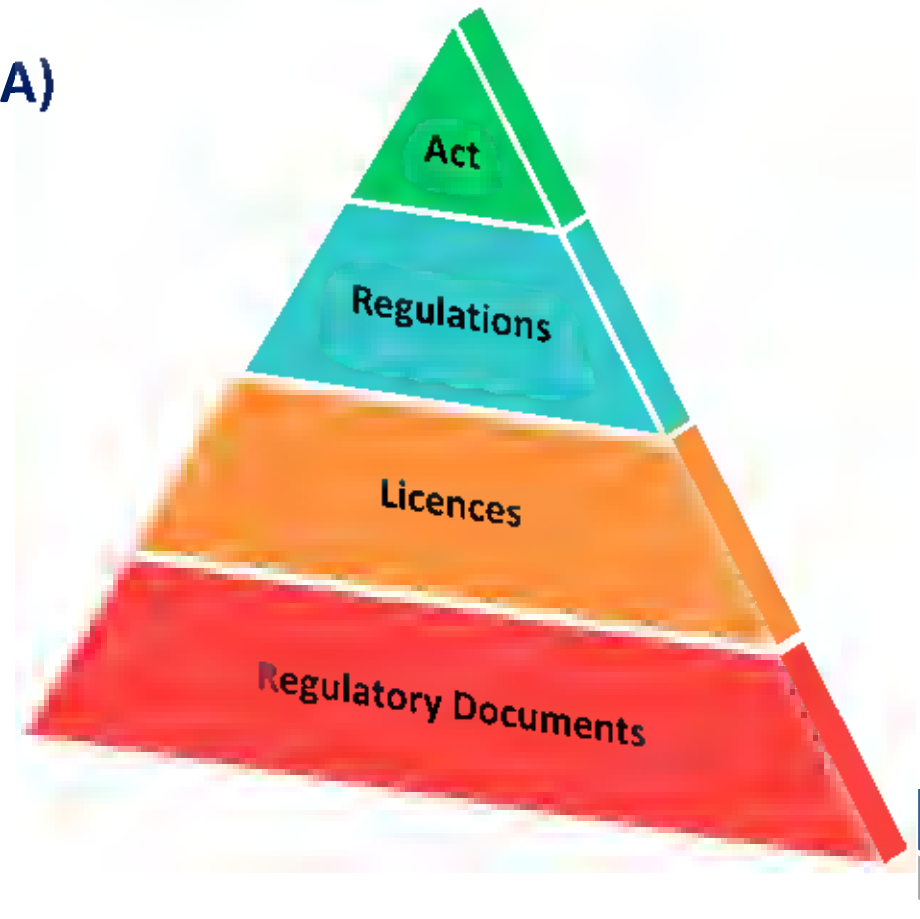
- High-level requirements

## **Licences, Licence Conditions Handbooks, Certificates**

- Facility and/or activity specific requirements

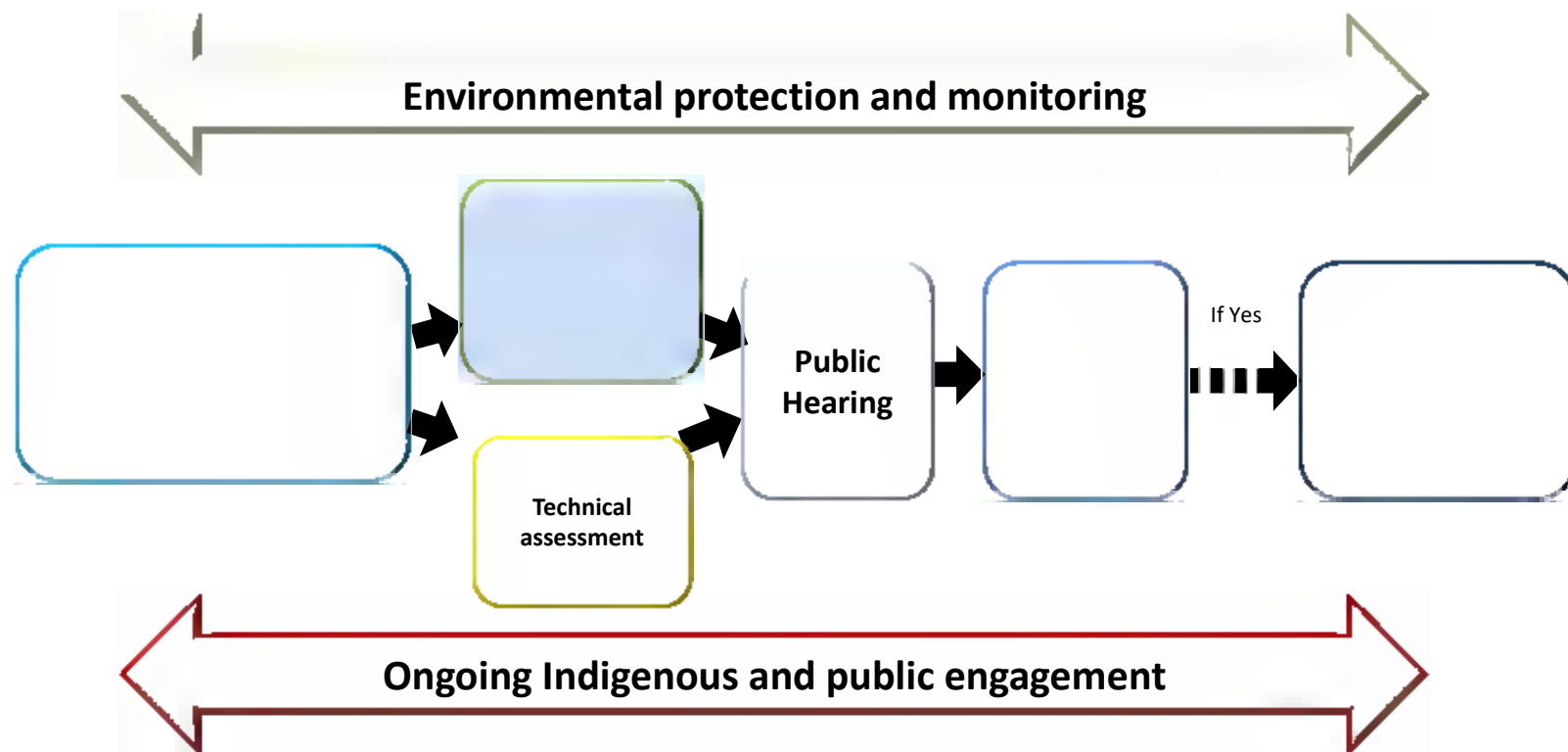
## **Regulatory Documentation**

- Include requirements and guidance



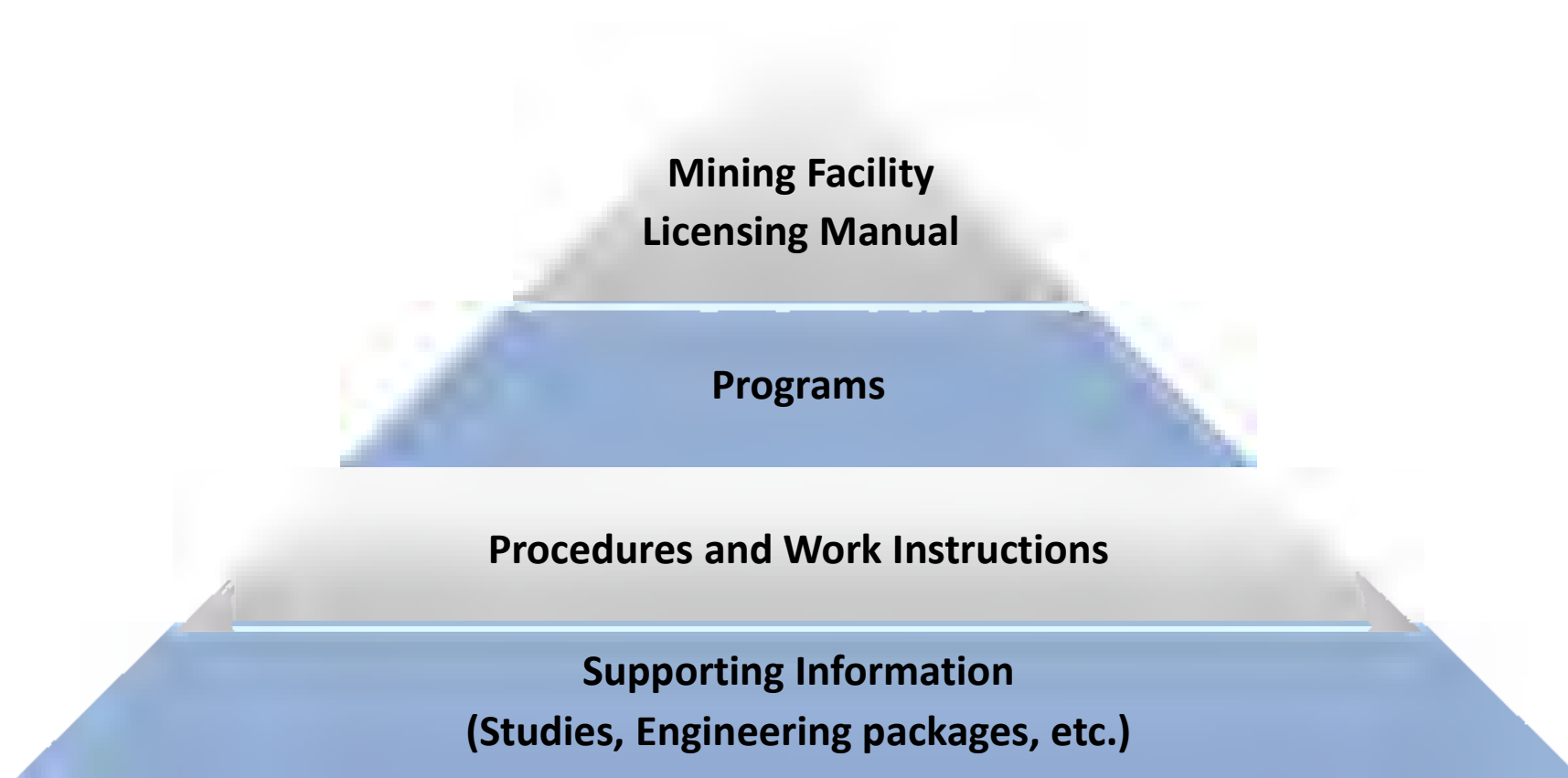


# CNSC's Licensing Process





# Organization of Licence Application Information





# Compliance Verification

## Inspections

- Planned
- Reactive

## Technical reviews by CNSC staff

- Programs
- Activities
- Events

## Licensee reports

- Annual
- Periodic

Changes to the compliance verification program are made on an ongoing basis in response to events, facility modifications and changes in performance

Oversight based on risk-informed approach



## Compliance Verification

- Risk-informed 10-year inspection plan, covering all safety and control areas (SCAs)
- Plan for focused and general inspections for all operational facilities

Every three years	Every five years	Once per 10 years
Management system	Human performance management	Safeguards and non-proliferation
Conventional health and safety	Operating performance	Packaging and transport
Environmental protection	Safety analysis	Security
Radiation protection	Physical design	
	Fitness for service	
	Emergency management	
	Waste management	



## Compliance Verification During COVID-19

- CNSC offices temporarily closed with staff working from home
- Inspections paused in March 2020 and resumed in June 2020
  - Other aspects of compliance verification continued throughout this period
- Inspections conducted virtually (interviews, photos, document reviews) for remainder of 2020 and early 2021
- Onsite inspections as required (Beaverlodge September/October 2020)
- Licensee and CNSC staff following COVID-19 precautions
- Technical reviews and licensing process ongoing
- Commission proceedings taking place virtually

CNSC oversight continues through COVID-19



## Open and Transparent Regulator

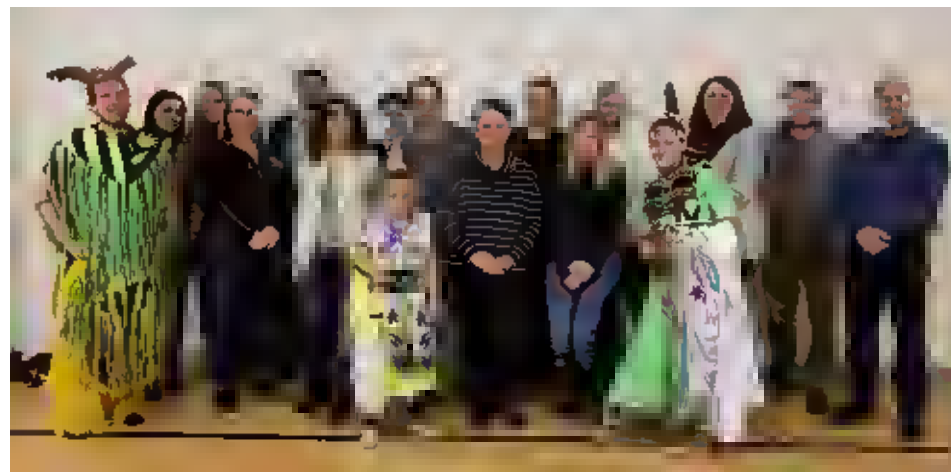
- Community outreach activities
- Participant Funding Program (PFP)
- Responsible for building long-term positive relationships and consulting with Indigenous Peoples
- Public and Indigenous groups invited to participate in Commission proceedings, Environmental Assessments and licensing reviews
- Regulatory, environmental, and nuclear safety information published on CNSC's website and shared on social media



CNSC is committed to building trust

## CNSC's Commitment to Indigenous Peoples

- Learn about and address Indigenous communities' issues and concerns in meaningful and productive ways
- Support Indigenous communities' participation in CNSC regulatory processes
- Strengthen CNSC's relationships with Indigenous groups and develop on-going, respectful, and open dialogue



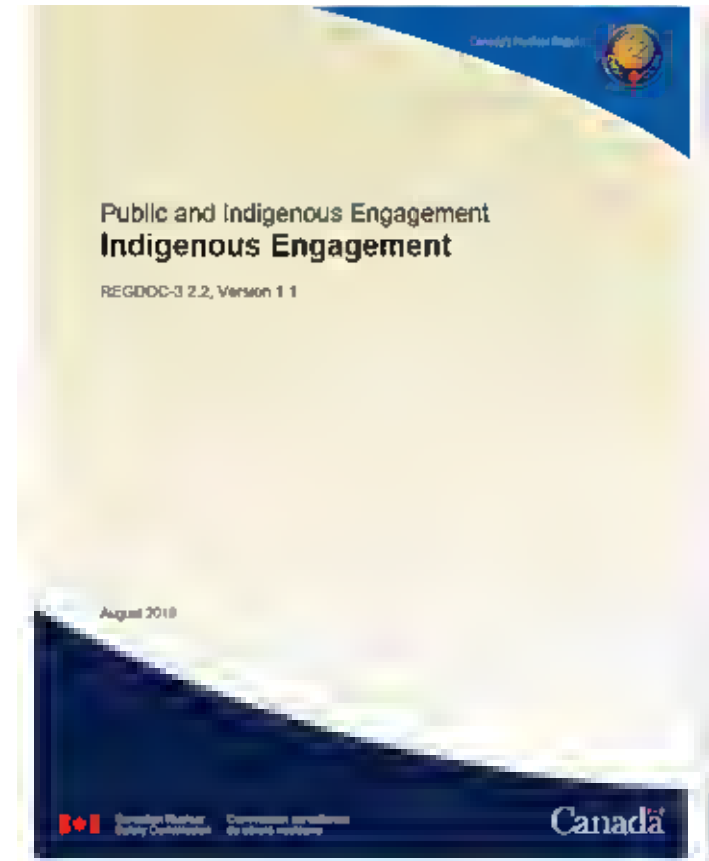
December 2018, CNSC staff met with AOPFN staff and youth for mutual learning and relationship-building.





## CNSC's Requirements for Licensee Indigenous Engagement

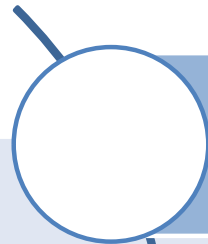
- The CNSC verifies licensees engage with Indigenous communities and contribute to meeting the duty to consult
- REGDOC-3.2.2, *Indigenous Engagement* sets out requirements and provides guidance for CNSC licensees with respect to Indigenous engagement activities
- REGDOC-3.2.2 does not absolve the CNSC of its duty to consult and does not formally delegate the duty on to licensees



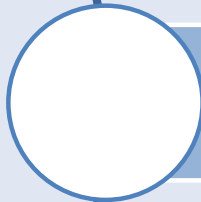


# Importance of Indigenous Participation in the EA Process

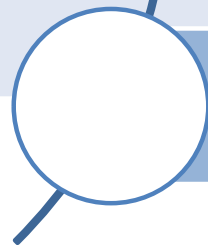
***Incorporate  
traditional  
knowledge***



Understand the effects and potential impacts of the project on potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty Rights



Ensure mitigation and accommodation is considered to address effects and potential impacts



Determine significance of adverse effects

***The CNSC looks at potential adverse impacts on potential or established Indigenous and/or treaty rights***



# Environmental Review Process

Environmental Reviews are central to the CNSC's responsibilities

- Impact Assessments under the Impact Assessment Act (IAA)
- Ongoing Environmental Assessments (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA 2012)
- Environmental protection reviews under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*
- *REGDOC 2.9.1, Environmental Protection: Environmental Policy, Assessments and Protection Measures* (2017) (under review)





## Environmental Assessment Process

- Opportunities for public and Indigenous consultation are continuous
- Federal and provincial agencies are involved and contribute their expertise in Impact Assessments and Environmental Assessments
- Decisions are independent, transparent and evidence-based

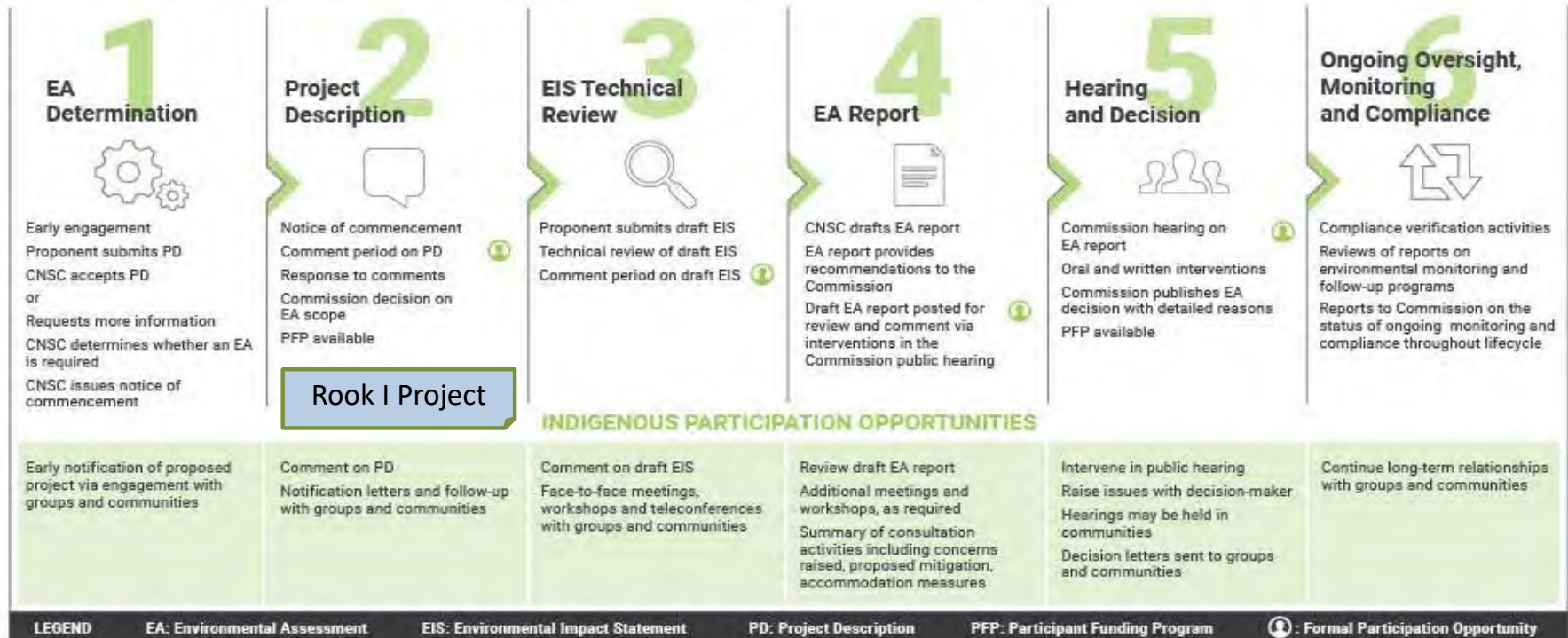


# Environmental Assessment Process

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

## Environmental Assessment Process under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, 2012

CNSC engages with Indigenous  
groups and communities  
throughout the EA process





# Components of the Environment

These are the usual environmental components that need to be studied as part of an environmental assessment

- Air, noise
- Surface water
- Ground water
- Terrain and soils

Physical Environment



- Fish and fish habitat
- Terrestrial habitats
- Birds and other wildlife
- Species at risk

Biological Environment



- Plant gathering
- Plant or animal harvesting
- Hunting, trapping
- Fishing, bait fishing
- Teaching sites
- Cultural ceremonies and sites
- Archaeological sites
- Cabins and tourism outposts
- Swimming/recreation

Human Environment





## CEAA 2012 Technical Review

The CNSC's technical review under CEAA 2012 focuses on **potential significant adverse environmental effects** to the following:

Fish and Fish Habitat

Migratory Birds

Aquatic Species at Risk

Environment due to  
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

### Indigenous peoples

- Health and socio-economic conditions
- Physical and Cultural Heritage
- Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes
- Historical, archaeological, paleontological, or architectural sites/structures





## NexGen Rook I Project

- Proposed underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula
- Located in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan
- Approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan



Image source: NexGen





# NexGen Rook I Project

## Current Status

- Undergoing CEAA 2012 environmental (and NSCA 2000 licensing) assessments
- A provincial EA is also required and being coordinated where possible
- NexGen preparing draft environmental impact statement (EIS) – anticipated submission Q3 2021

## Next Steps

- CNSC and federal/provincial technical review of draft EIS
- Comment period for the public and Indigenous peoples on draft EIS
- CEAA EA Report and licensing Commission Member Document drafted by CNSC
- Commission to render EA and licensing decisions following public hearings



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# Radiation Protection

# Radiation Protection Regulations

The *Radiation Protection Regulations* require that all licensees implement a radiation protection program which ensures:

- Doses received by persons are as low as reasonable achievable (ALARA)
- Management control over work practices
- Personnel qualification and training
- Control of occupational and public exposure to radiation
- Planning for unusual situations





## Radiation Protection Programs

- Radiation protection programs are submitted by licensees when applying for a licence
- Using a risk informed approach, CNSC staff assess the program to ensure that it:
  - meets regulatory requirements
  - is appropriate for the licensed activity and the associated radiological hazards
  - is consistent with international and industry best practices
- Compliance activities are conducted to verify that the radiation protection program is effectively implemented to protect workers and the public

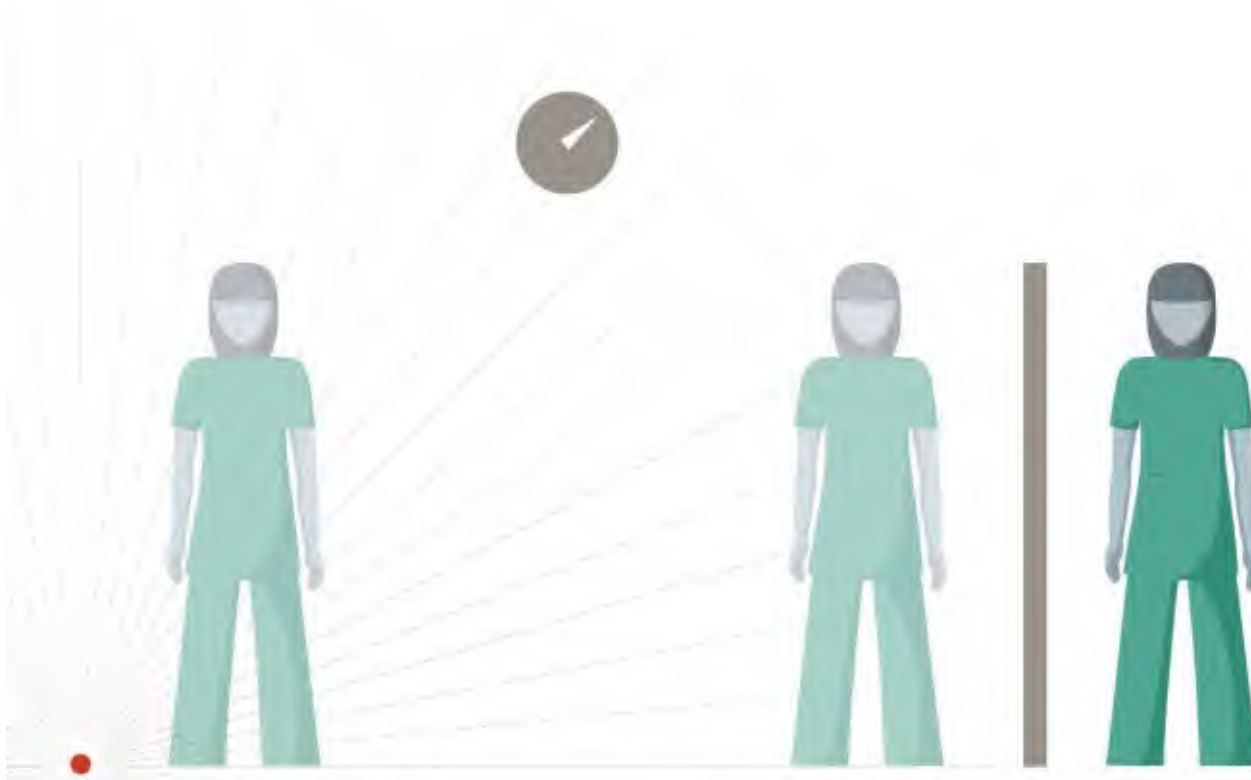


## Radiation Protection Safety and Control Area

- The safety and control framework is a useful means of organizing our work and assessing/reporting performance
- The Radiation Protection (RP) SCA includes the specific areas:
  - application of ALARA
  - worker dose control
  - RP program performance
  - radiological hazard control
  - estimated dose to the public



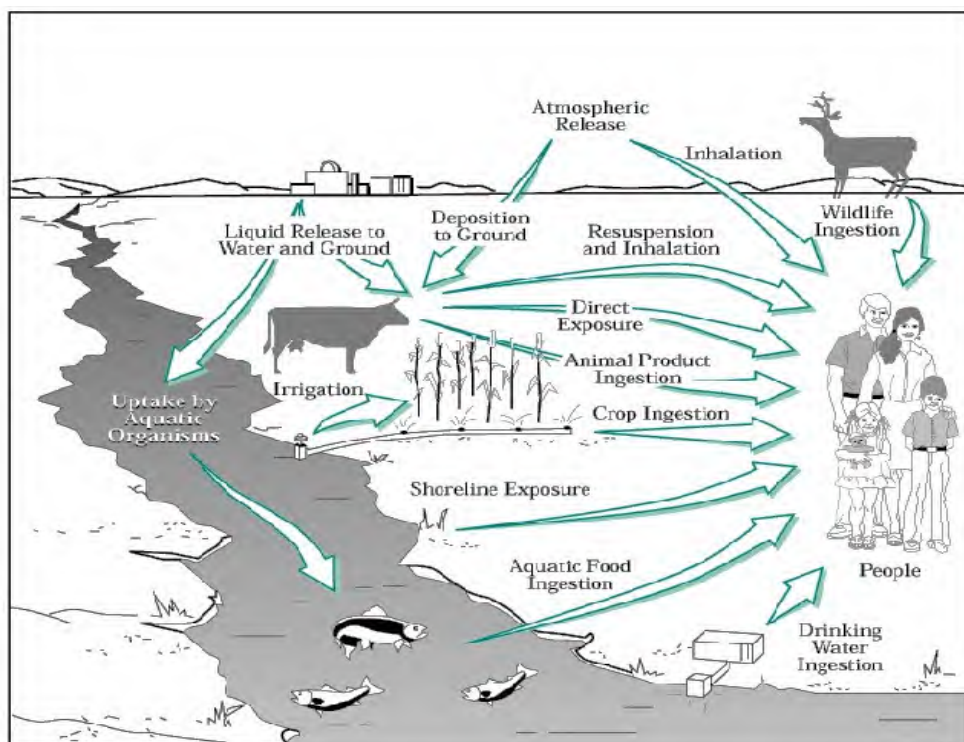
# Radiation Protection





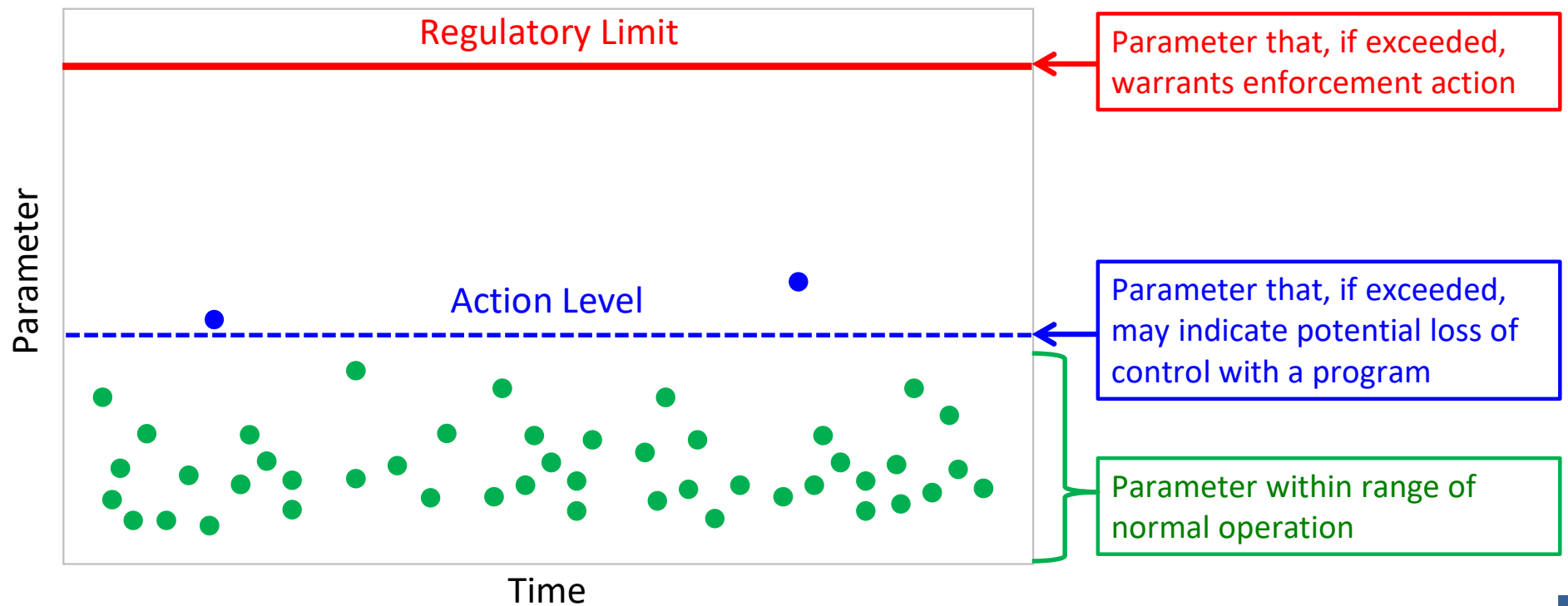
# Dosimetry

The measurement and calculation of radiation doses





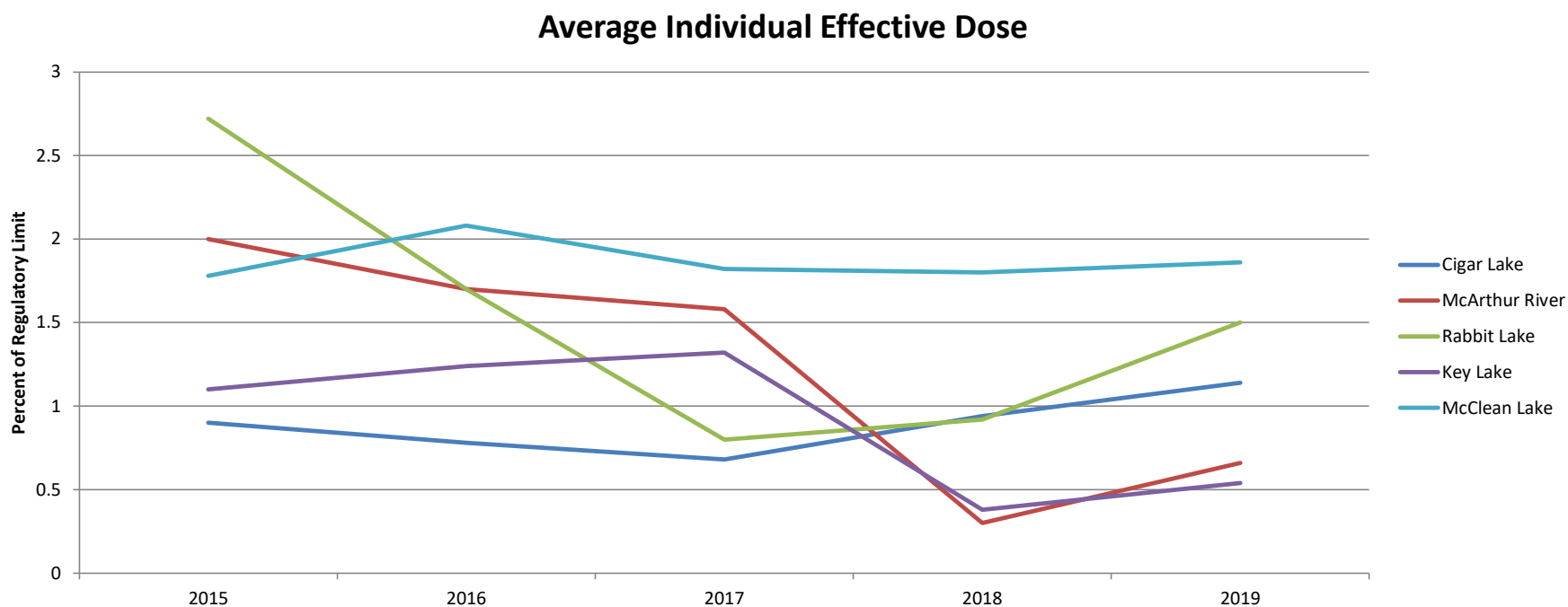
# Regulatory Limits and Action Levels





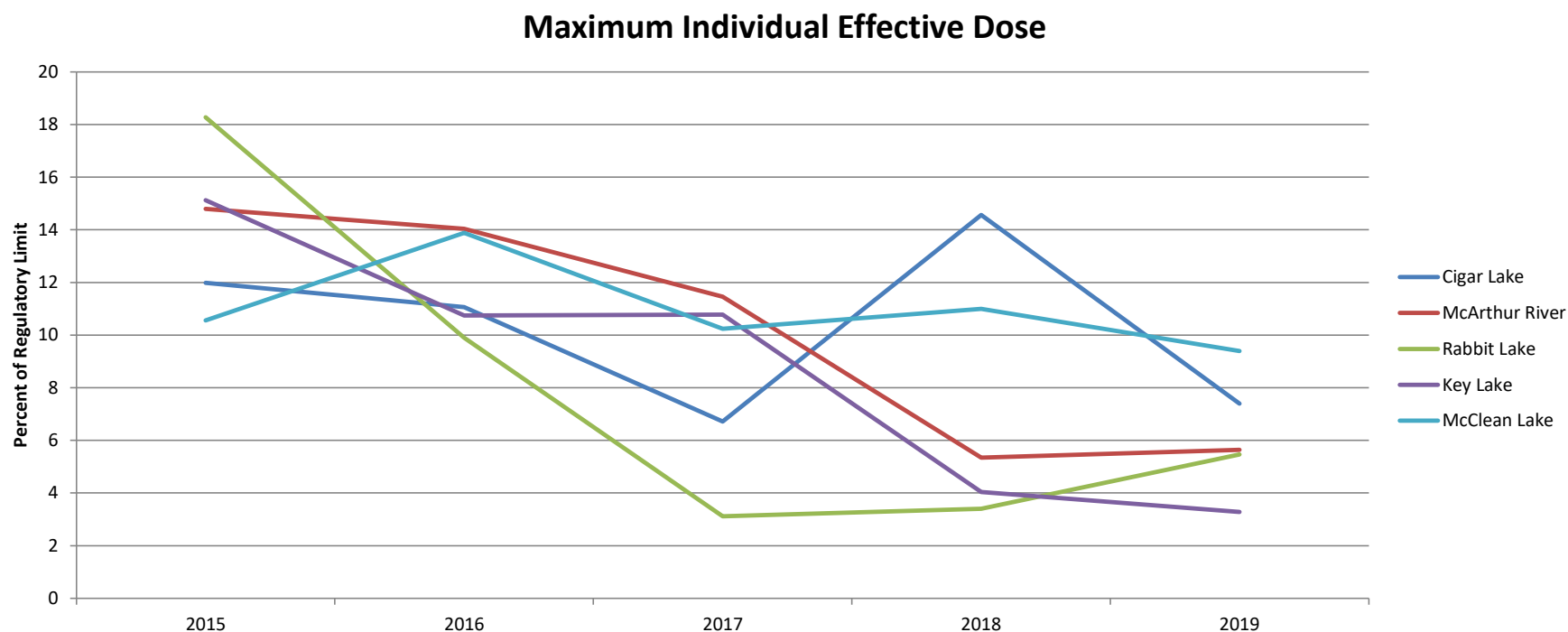


# Radiation Protection: Average Individual Effective Dose



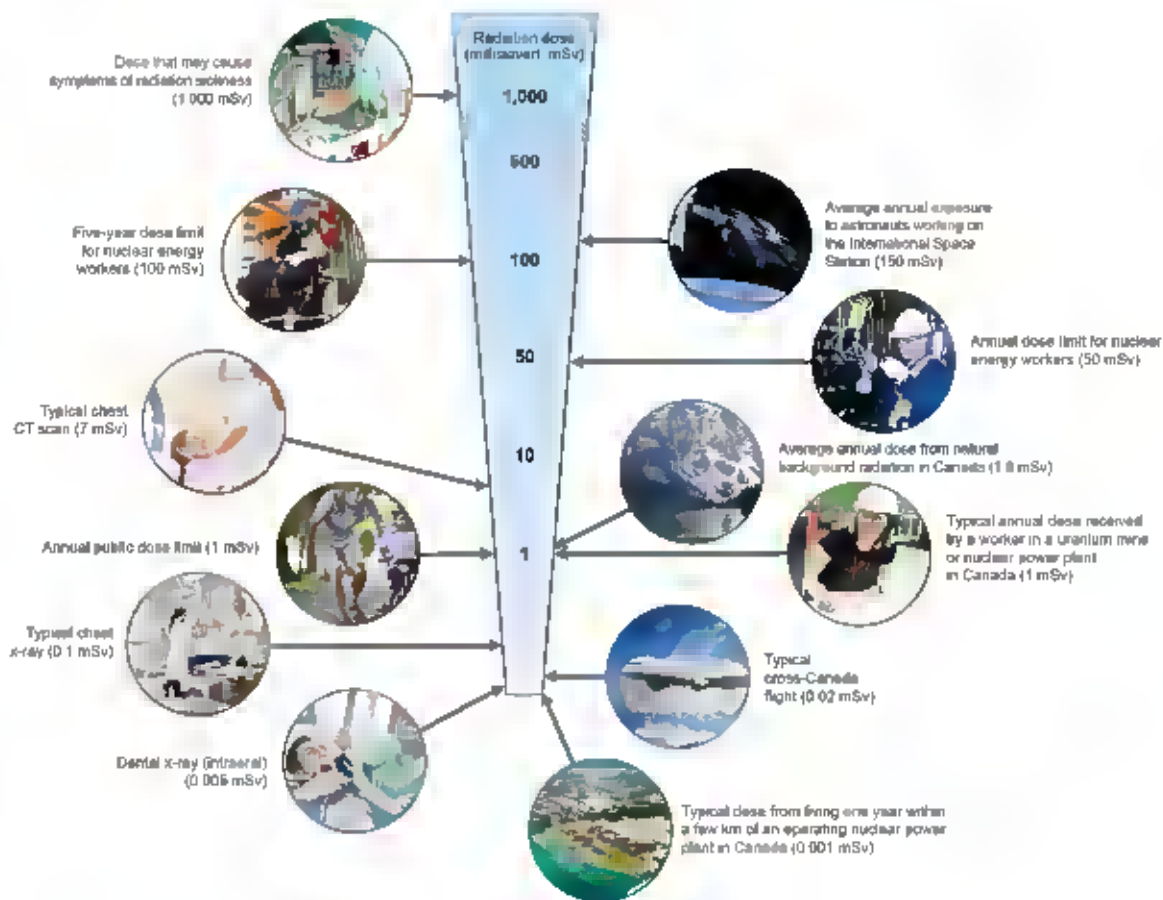


# Radiation Protection: Maximum Individual Effective Dose





# Radiation Dose Examples





## Radiation Protection Summary

- Radiation has always been present and is all around us
- We are exposed to natural and artificial sources of radiation
- Radiation has the ability to cause harm, but can also be used in positive ways (particularly medical)
- The CNSC is responsible for regulating the use of nuclear energy to protect Canadians and the environment



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Canada

Thank You! Questions?



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**From:** [Levine, Adam \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca)  
**Cc:** [Zenobi, Adam \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Froess, Ryan \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** FW: NexGen Rook 1 Participant Funding Opportunity  
**Attachments:** [CNSC Signed.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2021-02-16 12:02:49 PM

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Great thanks so much Norma! My colleague Adam Zenobi will work on having the agreement signed on our end and then we will send it back to you for your records.

Adam

---

**From:** Norma Catarat <[norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 16, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.levine@canada.ca](mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: NexGen Rook 1 Participant Funding Opportunity

Good Morning Adam

Attach signed agreement

Please let me know if you need more information

**From:** [Froess, Ryan \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Elmercampbell35@gmail.com](#); [norma.catarat@outlook.com](#);  
[Nicole Frigault \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#), ([nicole.frigault@canada.ca](#)); [Richard Snider2 \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#),  
([richard.snider2@canada.ca](#)); [Cassandre Roy-Drainville \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#), ([cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](#)); [Adam Levine \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#), ([adam.levine@canada.ca](#));  
**Subject:** NexGen Rook 1 - Project Update Meeting  
**Sent:** 2021-04-22 1:13:00 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Campbell and Mrs. Catarat,

I hope things are well with you and your family and those in your community.

I wanted to reach out and see if Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) had any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) on the NexGen Rook 1 EA process? I believe our last meeting with the BRDN Working Group was on December of 2020 where the CNSC staff delivered a presentation and introduced the BRDN Joint Working Group (JWG) to the CNSC regulatory process for the project. During that meeting there was some great discussion between the BRDN JWG and the CNSC on possibly presenting a similar slide deck to the broader community so they understand the role of the CNSC as an independent regulator. Unfortunately, at the moment we cannot come to your community to have JWG or community meetings but there are opportunities to deliver such presentations virtually or on other topics if there is interest to BRDN.

For example the CNSC (Dr. Rachel Lane) and the Province of Saskatchewan (Dr. James Irvine) will be delivering a Zoom presentation on the Health Impacts and Monitoring of Uranium Mining in Saskatchewan to the Birch Narrows Dene Nation Working Group in early May. They will be touching on many topics that may be of interest as both have been in the roles working in this area for many years and are very knowledgeable on these subjects. Is there is any interest from the BRDN Working Group to have us present the same presentation? Alternatively we can bring forward other topics and bring in technical experts that work with the CNSC to deliver presentations that are of interest to BRDN and the community.

As an Indigenous Nation with interest in this project, the CNSC is also interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the NexGen Rook 1 project including but not limited too the following:

- any potential adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential and/or established Indigenous and/or treaty rights;
- how specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated;
- advise the CNSC of how your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown (the CNSC) as part of the regulatory review process for the NexGen project moves forward.

In closing, the CNSC is interested in meeting with BRDN to provide an update on the NexGen Rook 1 project and open to meeting to have further discussions on these topics and setting up more formal and regular meetings between the CNSC and BRDN moving forward as part of the consultation and engagement process.

Please feel free to reach out at any time via email or give me a call (see my number below) and we would be happy to set up a meeting develop a plan for next steps on the project and EA process. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Policy Advisor, Policy, Aboriginal, and International Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@canada.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892

Conseiller Principal des Politiques, Division des Politiques et des Affaires autochtones et Internationales  
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# NexGen Community Update

07/14/2021

- **Signs Impact Benefit Agreement with Buffalo River Dene Nation,**
- **Signs Mutual Benefit Agreement with Birch Narrows Dene Nation,**
- **Appoints Community Based Project Liaison Manager, and**
- **The Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan Dismisses MN-S Application,**

VANCOUVER, BC , July 14, 2021 /CNW/ - NexGen Energy Ltd. ("NexGen" or the "Company") (TSX: NXE) (NYSE MKT: NXE) is pleased to announce the signing of an Impact Benefit Agreement ("IBA") with the Buffalo River Dene Nation ("BRDN"), and the signing of a Mutual Benefit Agreement ("MBA") with the Birch Narrows Dene Nation ("BNDN"), covering all phases of the Rook I Project ("Rook I" or the "Project"), which hosts the 100% owned Arrow uranium deposit.

The Rook I Project is located within the traditional territory of BRDN and BNDN. Both the IBA and MBA define the environmental, cultural, economic, employment and other benefits to be provided to the BRDN and BNDN by NexGen in respect of the Project and confirm the consent and support of both BRDN and BNDN for the Project throughout its complete lifecycle, including reclamation. The Agreements were negotiated and developed out of the Study Agreements signed in 2019. The Study Agreements formalized engagement with the communities to identify potential impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights and socio-economic interests, and identify potential avoidance and accommodation measures in relation to the Project whilst acknowledging the duty to consult remains with the Crown. Note, the Agreements do not abrogate, extinguish, or constitute the abandonment of any existing Aboriginal, inherent, or treaty rights of the BRDN and BNDN recognized and affirmed pursuant to Section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982. Importantly, the Agreements are entered into in recognition of the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of the BRDN and the BNDN.

**Chief Elmer Campbell of Buffalo River Dene Nation, commented:** "The jobs and business opportunities that our members will be able to obtain with the Project incorporating elite environmental and cultural practices is very exciting. Our community and NexGen have built a meaningful relationship over the past six years based on trust, respect and confidence. The Agreement reflects those key principles. We look



forward to the advancement of the Project throughout all phases of its lifecycle."

**Chief Jonathan Sylvester of Birch Narrows Dene Nation commented:** "I am pleased to announce that we have signed an MBA with NexGen. The Project is still going through the regulatory process to determine its safety and we are participating in that process. On meeting the regulatory requirements, our community stands to benefit with environmental monitoring, jobs, business opportunities, and payments to support community priorities. NexGen has been working with us in a respectful way."

Furthermore, Chief Jonathan Sylvester released a video with his message to BNDN regarding the MBA. The video is available here: [BNDN MBA Video](#)

**Eric Sylvestre , Birch Narrows Dene Nation Economic Development Officer, commented:** "We are pleased to be involved in a project that creates opportunities for our community while still protecting the environment. Past projects from industry passed us by. This represents a major opportunity for us."

**Leigh Curyer, Chief Executive Officer of NexGen, commented:** "The signing of the Agreements reflects the meaningful respect, trust and commitment developed over the past six years between NexGen and the communities of BRDN and BNDN. The Agreements formalize NexGen's commitment to work in partnership with all local communities, with the mutual objective to responsibly develop the Rook I Project. The genuine commitment to their communities displayed by Chief Campbell and Chief Sylvester, along with their respective Councils and teams, and NexGen's approach to sustainable development of the Rook I project, is reflected in the signing of these industry leading Agreements. We look forward to immediately advancing the exciting elements of these Agreements and our genuine approach to all communities in the Local Project Area."

#### **[Appointment of Robert St. Pierre to Project Liaison Manager](#)**

Further, NexGen is pleased to announce that in support of NexGen's commitment to local communities, Robert St. Pierre will be joining the team as Project Liaison Manager based out of the Company's office in La Loche . Robert brings a wealth of experience as past President, Local Métis 39, and having served as the mayor of La Loche from 2016 to 2020. NexGen has had the privilege of working closely with Robert since 2016, and his deep commitment to the advancement of local communities will support bringing prosperity and meaningful benefits to the communities where we operate.

#### **[The Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan Dismisses MN-S Application](#)**

[Skip to main content](#)

On July 12, 2021, the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan dismissed an Application filed by the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan ("MN-S") in which the MN-S sought an interlocutory injunction against NexGen to prevent the Project from proceeding with the environmental assessment process through the planned submission of the Environmental Impact Statement.

NexGen continues to progress the development of a sustainable and responsible Project, that in turn has the power to create sustainable long-term benefit and opportunity for all local communities in the Project Area over multiple generations.

**Troy Boisjoli, Vice-President, Exploration and Community, commented:** "Since 2013, we have been working with all of the communities local to the Project, as evidenced by the successful development and implementation of meaningful community programs focused on education, health and wellness, and economic capacity building. NexGen has and always will be committed to providing significant sustainable benefits and opportunities in a respectful and responsible manner. Effective partnerships developed with local communities is a key aspect of that commitment, and we continue to welcome constructive negotiations with the MN-S to deliver substantial benefits to the members of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan-Northern Region II across all phases of the Project."

## About NexGen

NexGen is a British Columbia corporation with a focus on developing the Rook I Project located in the southwestern Athabasca Basin, Saskatchewan, Canada into production. Rook I hosts the Arrow Deposit with a Measured Mineral Resources of 209.6 M lbs of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> contained in 2.18 M tonnes grading 4.35% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, Indicated Mineral Resources of 47.1 M lbs of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> contained in 1.57 M tonnes grading 1.36% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, and Inferred Mineral Resources of 80.7 M lbs of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> contained in 4.40 M tonnes grading 0.83% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>. Arrow's development is supported by a NI 43-101 compliant Feasibility Study which outlines industry leading environmental performance and economics.

NexGen has a highly experienced team of uranium industry professionals with a successful track record in the discovery of uranium deposits and in developing projects through discovery to production. The Company is the recipient of the 2018 PDAC Bill Dennis Award for Canadian mineral discovery and the 2019 PDAC Environmental and Social Responsibility Award.

## Forward-Looking Information

*The information contained herein contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and "forward-looking information" within the meaning of*

[Skip to main content](#)

applicable Canadian securities legislation. "Forward-looking information" includes, but is not limited to, statements with respect to the activities, events or developments that the Company expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future. Generally, but not always, forward-looking information and statements can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates", or "believes" or the negative connotation thereof or variations of such words and phrases or state that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved" or the negative connotation thereof. Forward looking information in this press release includes, but is not limited to, statements regarding use of proceeds.

Forward-looking information and statements are based on the then current expectations, beliefs, assumptions, estimates and forecasts about NexGen's business and the industry and markets in which it operates. Forward-looking information and statements are made based upon numerous assumptions, including among others, that the proposed financing transaction will be completed, the results of planned exploration activities are as anticipated, the price of uranium, the cost of planned exploration activities, that financing will be available if and when needed and on reasonable terms, that third party contractors, equipment, supplies and governmental and other approvals required to conduct NexGen's planned exploration activities will be available on reasonable terms and in a timely manner and that general business and economic conditions will not change in a material adverse manner. Although the assumptions made by the Company in providing forward looking information or making forward looking statements are considered reasonable by management at the time, there can be no assurance that such assumptions will prove to be accurate.

Forward-looking information and statements also involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors, which may cause actual results, performances and achievements of NexGen to differ materially from any projections of results, performances and achievements of NexGen expressed or implied by such forward-looking information or statements, including, among others, negative operating cash flow and dependence on third party financing, uncertainty of the availability of additional financing, impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including related to the length, severity and spread of the pandemic and measures taken by governmental authorities and public health officials in respect of the pandemic, the risk that pending assay results will not confirm previously announced preliminary results, imprecision of mineral resource estimates, the appeal of alternate sources of energy and sustained low uranium prices, aboriginal title and consultation issues, exploration risks, reliance upon key management and other personnel, deficiencies in the Company's title to its properties, uninsurable risks, failure to manage conflicts of interest, failure to obtain or maintain required permits and licenses, changes in laws, regulations and policy, competition for resources and financing, and other factors discussed or referred to in the Company's Annual Information Form dated March 19, 2021 under "Risk Factors".



*Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking information or implied by forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended.*

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*There can be no assurance that forward-looking information and statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated, estimated or intended. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or reissue forward-looking information as a result of new information or events except as required by applicable securities laws.*

• View original content: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/nexgen-community-update-301333388.html>

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• View original content: <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/July2021/14/c1482.html>



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Harpoon

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SW3

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**From:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**To:** [Elmercampbell35@gmail.com](mailto:Elmercampbell35@gmail.com); [norma.catarat@outlook.com](mailto:norma.catarat@outlook.com);  
**Subject:** NexGen Rook 1 - CNSC/BRDN  
**Sent:** 2021-10-07 4:23:00 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Campbell and Mrs. Catarat,

I hope things are well in Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) and the warm fall weather is treating you well! I am following up with BRDN with hopes we can set-up some meetings your Nation on the NexGen Rook 1 project. As you are likely aware NexGen's Rook 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is planning on being submitted to the regulator's (CNSC and the Province ) in December of 2021. BRDN was awarded Participant Funding by the CNSC to participate in the review of this document and we welcome this opportunity to work together or answer any questions you may have on this process.

As Canada's Nuclear regulator we would be happy to provide the community, the BRDN Working Group and/or leadership with any information of who the CNSC is, what we do and how we regulate nuclear projects in Canada. We are also open to other answering any other questions or providing presentations on other topics of that be of interest to BRDN. Unfortunately, at the moment we cannot come to your community to have JWG or community meetings but there are opportunities to deliver such presentations virtually or on other topics if there is interest to BRDN. For example the CNSC (Dr. Rachel Lane) and the Province of Saskatchewan (Dr. James Irvine) delivered a virtual presentation on the Health Impacts and Monitoring of Uranium Mining in Saskatchewan to the Birch Narrows Dene Nation Working Group in spring. They touched on many topics that may be of interest as both have been in the roles working in this area for many years and are very knowledgeable on these subjects.

As an Indigenous Nation with interest in this project, the CNSC is also interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the NexGen Rook 1 project including but not limited too the following:

- any potential adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential and/or established Indigenous and/or treaty rights;
- how specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated;
- advise the CNSC of how your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown (the CNSC) as part of the regulatory review process for the NexGen project moving forward.

In closing, the CNSC is interested in meeting with BRDN to provide an update on the NexGen Rook 1 project and open to meeting to have further discussions on these topics and setting up more formal and regular meetings between the CNSC and BRDN moving forward as part of the consultation and engagement process.

Please feel free to reach out at any time via email or give me a call (see my number below) as we would be happy to set up a meeting develop a plan for next steps on the project and help explain our role in the Environmental Assessment process. Looking forward to hearing from you and Norma it looks like I may see you tomorrow!

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892



**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca)  
**Cc:** [Froess, Ryan](#); [Wylie, Doug](#); [O'Neill, Shannon](#);  
**Subject:** Nexgen Energy Proposed Rook I Project - Proposed Consultation Approach and Upcoming EIS Submission  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#6729780-v5-BRDN\\_Rook\\_I\\_Letter\\_FIRT\\_EIS\\_phase.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2022-03-11 3:10:59 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Chief Catarat,

Attached, please find a letter outlining a proposed consultation approach between CNSC and BRDN on the remaining steps of the regulatory review process, including the Environmental Assessment (EA), for the proposed NexGen Rook I Project.

As outlined in the attached letter, NexGen is on track to submit their draft EIS to the CNSC at the end of March 2022, therefore we, CNSC staff, are interested in learning your interest in being part of the Federal Indigenous Review Team for the draft EIS technical review.

Please review the proposed consultation process outlined in the attached letter, and if possible, we would ask that BRDN **provide any feedback back to me by April 8, 2022.**

We are also happy to meet at your convenience to chat and to answer any questions you might have. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail or telephone any time.

Best Regards,  
Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657





**March 11, 2022**

CIAR NO.: 80171

e-Doc: 6729780

Chief Norma Catarat  
[norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca)  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Dillion, Saskatchewan  
S0M 0S0

**Subject: Proposed Consultation Approach with Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) for the Regulatory Review Process for Nexgen Energy Proposed Rook I Project**

Dear Chief Catarat:

The purpose of this letter is for the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to share a proposed consultation approach with BRDN on the regulatory review process, including the Environmental Assessment (EA), for the proposed Rook I Project.

Building on the ongoing consultation, relationship building, and engagement that started in 2019 between BRDN and the CNSC in relation to this Project, the consultation approach proposed by CNSC staff is outlined in Appendix 1 and the subsequent Table 1 of this letter, which detail the suggested consultation activities for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process for the Project. Key regulatory steps for consultation, as outlined in this table, include the participation as part of the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) for the review of NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the development of the draft EA Report, the development of a Rights Impact Assessment, inclusion of relevant BRDN knowledge, and participation in the public Commission hearing process.

The activities outlined in the proposed consultation approach are flexible, and CNSC staff would like to invite BRDN to discuss how we could collaborate over the remainder of the regulatory review process if BRDN chooses. Some potential topics for discussion may include:

- Participation as part of the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) for the EIS review
- collaborative approach to developing sections of the EA Report, specifically related to information on BRDN, knowledge, land use, concerns, and rights
- development of a mutually agreeable consultation protocol or Terms of Reference
- other topics or activities of interest and proposed by the BRDN (leadership meetings, community outreach, visits, and education.)

BRDN was awarded Participant Funding on January 15, 2021 to review and provide comment on the Draft EIS and engage with the CNSC on the first phase of the NexGen Rook 1 EA. The CNSC will also be offering additional funding opportunity for the public and Indigenous Nations and communities to review and provide comment on the for the Final EA. Should the BRDN require additional funding to support ongoing engagement in the process with the CNSC, requests or applications for additional funding through the CNSC's Participant Funding Program (PFP) will be considered by the CNSC on a case-by-case basis.

### Current Status and Next Steps

Once NexGen submits their draft EIS (expected in end of March 2022) to CNSC, CNSC staff will conduct a completeness check of the submission to determine whether the information provided is sufficient for conducting the next stage of the process. Should the completeness check be successful, the 90-day technical review of the Draft EIS would commence, of which 8 weeks would be allocated to the FIRT to perform their review. A walkthrough meeting will be scheduled at the very beginning of the technical review period, to allow NexGen to present to the FIRT EIS and supporting documentation. CNSC staff would be happy to organize a meeting with BRDN as soon as we have a more information on a potential submission date for the draft EIS.

A public review period of the draft EIS will also take place at the same time as the FIRT EIS review. Therefore, this is another place for BRDN to submit any comments and/or concerns you might have with the proposed project.

CNSC staff are committed to being flexible and to collaborating with BRDN to ensure that consultation for the Project is meaningful, addresses BRDN concerns, and upholds the honour of the Crown, and also takes into account the need for additional flexibility at this time, as a result of the current pandemic situation related to COVID-19 across Canada. To discuss any matters related to the regulatory review process of the Project, please contact me directly by phone at 343-542-7657, or by email at [nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca).

Please review the proposed consultation process for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process of the Rook I Project (Appendix 1) and if possible, we would ask that BRDN **provide any feedback to Nicole Frigault by April 8, 2022**

The CNSC looks forward to continuing to build a long-term collaborative relationship with BRDN and working together throughout the regulatory review process for the proposed NexGen Rook I Project.

Yours sincerely,

Frigault,  
Nicole

Digitally signed by Frigault, Nicole  
DN: c=CA, o=GC, ou=CNSC-CCSN,  
CN="Frigault, Nicole"  
Reason: I am the author of this document  
Location: your signing location here  
Date: 2022-03-11 14:50:55  
Foxit PhantomPDF Version: 9.7.1

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: (1) Proposed consultation process with BRDN for the regulatory review process of the proposed Rook I Project

**References:**

- [1] CNSC, Regulatory Guide, *REGDOC- 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement*, Version 1.2, February, 2022  
<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-documents/published/html/regdoc3-2-2-ver1.1/index.cfm>
- [2] CNSC, *Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement*, May 2016,  
<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>

## Appendix 1

### Proposed Consultation Process with BRDN for the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process of the proposed Rook I Project

#### 1. Introduction

These proposed next steps in the consultation process, which started in 2019, are intended to guide federal Crown consultation activities with BRDN during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process of the Rook I Project (the Project). They communicate the federal Crown's objectives for consultation, the proposed structure for integrating consultation into the regulatory review process, and the proposed activities in which the CNSC and BRDN can work together to address BRDN's concerns regarding the Project. This document is intended to be a "living document" that can be updated as necessary during the regulatory review process, as a result of ongoing discussions between the CNSC and BRDN.

#### 2. Federal Crown's Consultation Objectives

- To continue to build a positive and productive working relationship with BRDN during the regulatory review process.
- To communicate with BRDN about the Project and developments during the regulatory review process in a timely manner.
- To establish how BRDN would like to be consulted during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process and establish a flexible and responsive consultation approach.
- To work with BRDN to:
  1. identify potential environmental effects of the Project, including those on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, health and socio-economic conditions, and heritage resources
  2. identify adverse impacts of the Project on your community's potential or established rights
  3. ensure options for avoiding, mitigating, or accommodating adverse impacts are considered
- To work with BRDN and the proponent to respond to specific questions and requests regarding issues raised related to the Project.
- To listen to and understand the concerns raised, and consider the feedback, perspectives, and issues raised by BRDN in order to inform decision-making.

We invite BRDN to share their consultation objectives with the CNSC and would be happy to set a meeting to answer any questions or concerns you may have on the Federal Crown's (CNSC) consultation objectives.

### 3. Integrating Consultation into the Regulatory Review Process

Table 1. provides a description of the main remaining steps in the regulatory review process and a description of how the federal Crown (the CNSC) proposes to integrate consultation activities into those steps. This table describes what BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the CNSC, on behalf of the Federal Crown, and what BRDN could share (if they choose) and be involved to the regulatory review process.

**Table 1. Integrating Consultation into the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Regulatory Review Step</b>	<b>Description of Activities<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))</b>	<b>Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate</b>
Project Description Review and Scoping Decision <i>(Completed in May 2019)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity for the BRDN to provide comments on the Project Description – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter from CNSC notifying BRDN of the project and project description review process – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>PPF offering – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>Early information sharing and offers to have consultation meetings – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments on the project description – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from a template developed by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) (CEAA references the BC First Nations Environmental Assessment Technical Working Group Toolkit Workshop as a basis for this document).

<sup>2</sup> NexGen's activities during this step of the regulatory review process are not specifically steps of the regulatory review process, but these are expectations of NexGen, by CNSC staff.

<p>Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Review (2022)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for BRDN to participate in the FIRT is to bring specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to their community to the EIS technical review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scope of the technical review by a representative of an Indigenous group on the FIRT would be to review sections of the EIS and supporting documents (e.g. the Indigenous Engagement Report) that contain information or relate directly to impacts on the representative's community or nation.</li> <li>• BRDN would provide CNSC staff with Information Requests (IRs) where they found the EIS to be insufficient for the purposes of moving forward with the technical review. CNSC staff will inform the proponent and identify any information required in the form of IRs.</li> <li>• The CNSC would have final say as to which IRs are in or out of scope. Out-of-scope IRs can be addressed in other ways (forwarding directly to the proponent; through the public comment period, etc.)</li> <li>• Upon receiving responses to IRs, CNSC staff would perform a completeness check. Should the response package be deemed complete, the IR responses would proceed to the FIRT for technical review.</li> <li>• This cycle of IR review would continue until all IR responses have been deemed acceptable by the FIRT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide comments on the draft EIS</li> <li>• Participate in technical discussions with CNSC staff / the proponent to address BRDN outstanding comments and concerns.</li> </ul>
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Regulatory Review Step	Description of Activities <sup>2</sup>	What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))	Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate
<p>Development of draft EA Report</p> <p><i>(Future phase – tentative 2023)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EA Report presents the CNSC staff's views on the findings of the EA, including conclusions and recommendations regarding the adverse environmental effects that are likely to result from the project, appropriate measures that would mitigate those effects, the significance of residual effects after implementation of the mitigation measures, as well as the components of the follow-up program.</li> <li>The EA Report also includes a summary of consultation with Indigenous peoples, potential impacts to potential or established rights of Indigenous peoples, views and concerns expressed by Indigenous Nations and communities and the Crown's response to those concerns, and potential mitigation and/or accommodation measures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to collaboratively develop sections of the draft EA Report specific to BRDN such as TKLU information, potential impacts of the Project on BRDN rights and traditional uses, and concerns expressed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A collaborative drafting process refers to CNSC staff writing these draft sections and providing to BRDN for review and comment.</li> <li>The objective is to obtain mutually agreed upon text, between CNSC staff and BRDN (as noted in the next step, where BRDN has diverging views with CNSC staff's analysis and findings, these will be reflected in the EA Report, and we also invite BRDN to capture this information in their written and/or oral intervention to the Commission).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Opportunity for direct discussions between BRDN and the Crown (e.g. teleconferences and/or meetings with Chief and Council, community open houses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and provide comment on sections of the draft EA Report specific to BRDN.</li> </ul>



Regulatory Review Step	Description of Activities <sup>2</sup>	What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))	Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate
<p>EA Report and Licensing CMD Review</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>Commission Public Hearings</p> <p><i>(Future phase – TBD)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNSC staff will submit and make publicly available, for review, the draft EA Report and licensing CMD in advance of public hearings (timing to be determined by CNSC the Commission Registry).</li> <li>The licensing CMD presents CNSC staff's findings, recommendations and conclusions from the technical review of NexGen's licence application and supporting documentation.</li> <li>The Commission will hold public hearings with opportunities for public and Indigenous groups to submit oral and/or written interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to review draft EA Report and licensing CMD to inform oral and/or written intervention.</li> <li>Opportunity for direct discussions between BRDN and the Crown (e.g. teleconferences and/or meetings with Chief and Council, community open houses) in advance of the public Commission hearings.</li> <li>PFP offering for Review of Final EA and opportunity for public and Indigenous groups to submit oral and/or written interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present BRDN views to the Commission by providing information orally and/or in writing.</li> <li>It is recommended that any diverging views with CNSC staff's analysis and findings in the EA Report be captured in BRDN written and/or oral intervention to the Commission, if required.</li> </ul>

Regulatory Review Step	Description of Activities <sup>2</sup>	What BRDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))	Information BRDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BRDN may want to participate
Commission's EA and Licensing Decisions  <i>(Future phase – TBD)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Commission considers the EA Report and interventions from the public and Indigenous groups and determines whether, taking into account the mitigation measures proposed, the Project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects and if the duty to consult was met.</li> <li>Should the Commission issue an EA decision statement allowing the Project to proceed, the Commission will also include legally binding conditions with which NexGen must comply to implement appropriate mitigation measures and a follow-up program.</li> <li>Should the Commission issue an EA decision statement that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, the Commission considers licensing CMD and interventions from the public and Indigenous groups, in making a licensing decision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notification and sharing of the Commission's Detailed Record of Decisions (EA and licensing).</li> <li>Meetings with BRDN to discuss the Commission's decision and next steps for ongoing engagement and collaboration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback on preferred approach to ongoing engagement, information sharing, and collaboration.</li> </ul>

---

**From:** [Rory Duncan](#)  
**To:** ['Norma Catarat'; Rook1 Project - Projet Rook1](#);  
**Subject:** NexGen Rook I Project  
**Attachments:** [BRDN Rook I Support Letter.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2022-10-06 1:33:27 PM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Nicole,

I'm sending this email on behalf of Norma Catarat, Chief of Buffalo River Dene Nation. Please see attached for a letter outlining BRDN's support for NexGen's Rook I project. It is an exciting project that would bring many benefits to the community.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact myself. If there are opportunities for further engagement that we can be a part of, to move this project along, we'd love to hear about them.

Thanks,

**Rory Duncan P.Eng. MBA**  
**Buffalo Professional Services**  
123F-2553 Grasswood Road  
Saskatoon, SK, S7T 1C8  
(306) 381-4417  
[RoryD@BuffaloPS.com](mailto:RoryD@BuffaloPS.com)



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Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Band No 398  
Box 40  
Dillon, Sask S0M 0S0

October 4, 2022

To Nicole Frigault,

The following is a letter of support from the Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) to be included in the formal federal draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) public review for NexGen's Rook I Project.

BRDN and NexGen have a long history of engagement and collaboration together, with relationships being developed with BRDN community and leadership as far back as 2016. From engagement during exploration, through the Study Agreement (SA), and most recently the implementation of the Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) for the Rook I Project, NexGen has been diligent in their engagement activities. They have ensured that all programs were well defined and well communicated, and consistently demonstrate their commitment to working in partnership with BRDN to continue to develop and support community programs and initiatives that focus on culture, education, career training, and building economic capacity for long term community benefits.

### **Study Agreement**

Among the many engagement initiatives that NexGen has undertaken, the establishment of the SA between NexGen and BRDN commenced in September of 2019, and serves as an impactful demonstration of NexGen's commitment to engaging with the local Indigenous communities. The SA, fully funded by NexGen, defined a collaborative approach to identifying potential impacts of the proposed development and operations of the mine, as well as identifying potential avoidance and accommodation measures in relation to the Rook I Project. As part of the SA, a Joint Working Group (JWG) was established to support the inclusion of BRDN's traditional knowledge throughout the EA process. These meetings created a balanced and transparent approach to engaging on technical aspects as well as providing the opportunity for our people to educate NexGen on our ways of life and how important our culture and the lands are to us. This was never more apparent early on than when NexGen accepted an invitation to have a JWG meeting at our Elders lodge in Vermette Lake in January of 2020. Having the elders and our engagement team meet with NexGen in a special place like Vermette lake truly showed how committed both NexGen and BRDN are to environmental assurances and the cultural and traditional practices of our people. In addition to the JWG, the SA provided capacity support for our community to undertake an independent Traditional Land Use Study (TLU), that was used to support BRDN's traditional knowledge throughout the EA process, in addition to becoming a much needed asset for the Nation to capture and document the history of our people and our traditional lands.



### **Impact Benefit Agreement**

The important work that was done through the SA led the the signing of an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) between NexGen and BRDN on December 14, 2020. This agreement reflects trust, respect, and confidence between NexGen and BRDN, and is a major opportunity for our community now and for future generations. The IBA sets out how BRDN and NexGen will continue to work together to continue NexGen's proven commitment to the highest standards of environmental and social stewardship, including education, career training, and economic capacity building. Included among the IBA benefits to BRDN are mechanisms to maximize local employment, local contracts, and continued community investment in culture, education, and health and wellness, to ensure long-term positive developments to our community. From a broader perspective, this IBA acknowledges the importance of environmental protection – a fundamental principle to BRDN upon which the most diligent consideration is taken by BRDN leaders, council, and community members.

### **Rook I EIS**

With regard to the Rook I Project draft EIS, BRDN would like to formally acknowledge NexGen's collaborative and transparent approach to the EA process. Through established community meetings, working groups (including JWG's) and capacity support for technical consultants, BRDN was given the opportunity to provide feedback and recommendations in the drafting stages of the EIS, and this feedback is reflected in the Rook I Project EIS that was released by the CNSC for public review on July 13, 2022.

We are pleased with the strong collaboration and meaningful relationship that has been established between NexGen and BRDN. It is a relationship founded on our shared values of honesty, respect, and accountability, and we are confident that the foundational work that has been done since 2016 has resulted in a strong partnership that will set the stage for the responsible development of the Rook I Project, and generational benefits for our community. This approach not only addresses reconciliation but we have now have seen companies working in our traditional territory following this lead, creating more and more trust that the mining industry is genuinely wanting to listen to, and work with, Indigenous communities.

BRDN fully supports the Rook I EIS. It provides the confidence to BRDN that NexGen's commitment to environmental stewardship, community advancement, and the health and safety of our community, is genuine and already proven. We look forward to working in partnership with NexGen to secure a healthy and prosperous future for our community for generations to come.

Sincerely,  


Chief Norma Catarat

cc. NexGen

**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [Rory Duncan](#); [Merle Catarat](#); [Dallas Billette](#); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca);  
**Cc:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**Subject:** Presentations from today  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#6862452-v5-2022-09-13-Webinar\\_Presentation-Regulatory\\_Review\\_Process-Rook\\_I\\_and\\_Wheeler\\_River\\_EAs.pdf](#); [E-DOCS-#6893361-v1-BRND\\_CNCS\\_Meeting\\_-\\_October\\_2022\\_-\\_EIS\\_Phase\\_and\\_Issues\\_and\\_Concerns.pdf](#);  
**Sent:** 2022-10-27 6:29:05 PM

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<b>Follow Up Flag:</b>	Follow up
<b>Flag Status:</b>	Flagged

Good afternoon,

Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with us this afternoon.

As promised, attached are the two presentations that we touched on this afternoon. We are happy to meet you any time so please reach out any time if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657



Canadian Nuclear  
Commission

Commission canadienne  
de l'énergie nucléaire

Canada



# Walkthrough of CNSC Staff's Regulatory Review Process

## NexGen Rook I & Denison Wheeler River

Tuesday September 13, 2022

Email: [cnsccinfo.ccsn@cnsccinfo.gc.ca](mailto:cnsccinfo.ccsn@cnsccinfo.gc.ca)

# Presenters

2



**Dana Pandolfi**

Senior Project Officer,  
Uranium Mines and Mills  
Division



**Doug Wylie**

Environmental  
Assessment Officer,  
Environmental  
Assessment Division



**Jes Way**

Environmental  
Assessment Officer,  
Environmental  
Assessment Division



# Purpose and Outline

3



To provide an overview of CNSC's Regulatory Review Process

- Overview of CNSC
- Regulatory Review Process
  - Licensing Process
  - Environmental Assessment Process
- Project Updates for Rook I and Wheeler River
  - Current Status
  - Indigenous consultation
- Q&A session



# OVERVIEW OF THE CNSC



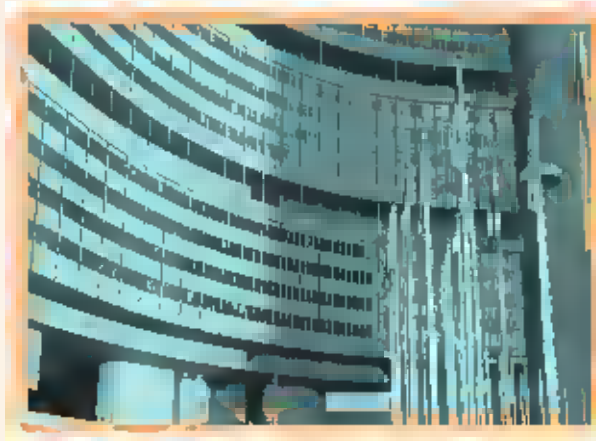
# CNSC Mandate

5



## REGULATE

the use of **nuclear energy** and **materials** to **protect health, safety, and security** and the **environment**



## IMPLEMENT

Canada's international commitments on the **peaceful use of nuclear energy**



## DISSEMINATE

**objective scientific, technical and regulatory** information to the public

# CNSC Regulates All Nuclear Facilities and Activities

6



# The CNSC Commission

7



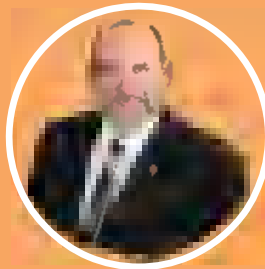
- Independent quasi-judicial tribunal and court of record with up to seven permanent members appointed by Governor-in-Council
- Supported by 800 + staff
- Commission decisions are reviewable only by the Federal Court
- Commission members are independent
- Profiles of all the commission members can be found here:
  - [Commission members - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#)



MS. RUMINA  
VELSHI



DR. TIMOTHY  
BERUBE



DR. SANDOR  
DEMETER



MR. RANDALL  
KAHGE



DR. MARCEL  
LACROIX



MS. INDRA  
MAHARAJ



DR. VICTORIA H  
REMENDA

# CNSC Staff

8



- ✓ Perform technical assessments and reviews
- ✓ Presents staff's assessment findings and recommendations to inform the Commissions' decisions
- ✓ If a licence is issued:
  - ✓ conduct compliance inspections and oversight of the licensee's facilities and activities
  - ✓ verify and enforce compliance with regulatory requirements
  - ✓ develop regulatory requirements and guidance
- ✓ Engage the public and Indigenous Peoples through outreach for life of project



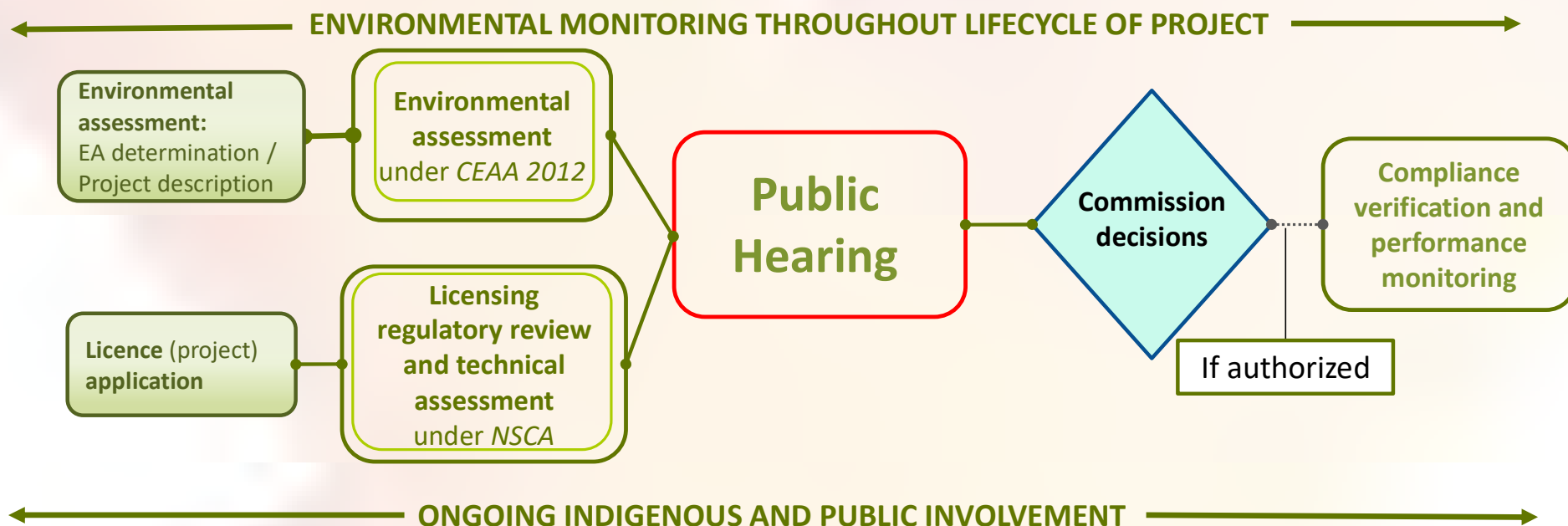


# REGULATORY REVIEW PROCESS





# Regulatory Review Process Overview





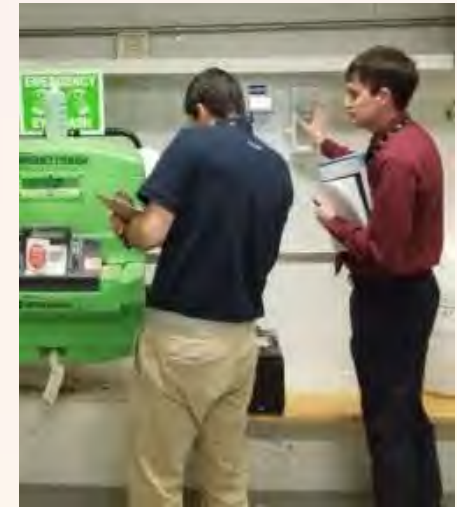


# REGULATORY REVIEW PROCESS - LICENSING



# Licensing and Compliance Processes

12



- ✓ CNSC staff assess all licensee submissions against applicable CNSC regulatory and guidance documents as well as CSA and IAEA requirements and guidance
- ✓ CNSC staff perform compliance verification inspections to ensure the licensee is meeting all regulatory requirements and to ensure that people and the environment are protected

# Licensing and Compliance - Responsibilities

13



## **CNSC Responsibilities:**

- ✓ Make independent, objective, science based and risk-informed decisions
- ✓ Set requirements
- ✓ Verify compliance



## **Licensee Responsibilities:**

- ✓ Manage regulated activities in a manner that protects health, safety, security and the environment, while respecting Canada's international obligations
- ✓ Responsible and accountable for the safe operation of facilities and activities

# Licensing - Safety and Control Areas



<b>Management</b>	Management system
	Human performance management
	Operating performance
<b>Facility and equipment</b>	Safety analysis
	Physical design
	Fitness for service
<b>Core control processes</b>	Radiation protection
	Conventional health and safety
	Environmental protection
	Emergency management and fire protection
	Waste management
	Security
	Safeguards and non-proliferation
	Packaging and transport

- Public information, community outreach, financial guarantees and Indigenous engagement activities are also considered throughout the licensing assessment.

**FNO**

@dana - not sure if we need the bolded text in the speaker notes? Feel free to delete to shorten up a bit? Just a suggestion!

Frigault, Nicole, 2022-09-09T14:52:50.836



## REGULATORY REVIEW PROCESS – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



# Environmental Assessment

16



- ✓ Environmental Reviews are central to the CNSC's responsibilities
- ✓ The Rook I and the Wheeler River projects are undergoing environmental assessments under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*
- ✓ Both projects are concurrently undergoing provincial environmental assessment

***Federal and provincial EA processes are being harmonized for efficiency where possible***

# Environmental Assessment

17



- ✓ Opportunities for public and Indigenous consultation are continuous
- ✓ Experts review the proponent's technical submissions against regulatory requirements
- ✓ Federal and provincial agencies are involved and contribute their expertise:
  - ✓ Environment and Climate Change Canada
  - ✓ Health Canada
  - ✓ Natural Resources Canada
- ✓ Decisions are independent, transparent and evidence-based



# CNSC EA Process (CEAA 2012)

18



## CNSC Environmental Assessment Process under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

Phase 1: EA Determination  2019	Phase 2: Project Description  Wheeler River We are here!	Phase 3: EIS Technical Review  Rook I We are Here!	Phase 4: EA Report	Phase 5: Hearing and Decision	Phase 6: Ongoing Oversight, Monitoring, and Compliance
Key Public and Indigenous Participation Opportunities					
Early notification of proposed project via engagement with public and Indigenous Nations and communities	Comment on Project Description  Notification letters and follow-up with Indigenous Nations and communities	Comment on draft Environmental Impact Statement  Informal activities (workshops, webinars, etc.)  Face-to-face meetings, workshops and teleconferences with Indigenous Nations and communities	Review of draft Environmental Assessment report  Additional meeting and workshops, as required  Summary of consultation activities including concerns raised, proposed mitigation, accommodation measures	Intervene in public hearing  Raise issues with decision-maker  Hearings may be held in communities  Decision posted  Decision letters sent to Indigenous Nations and communities	Continue long-term relationships with public and Indigenous Nations and communities

***Participant funding offered at various phases***



## PROJECT OVERVIEW AND UPDATES

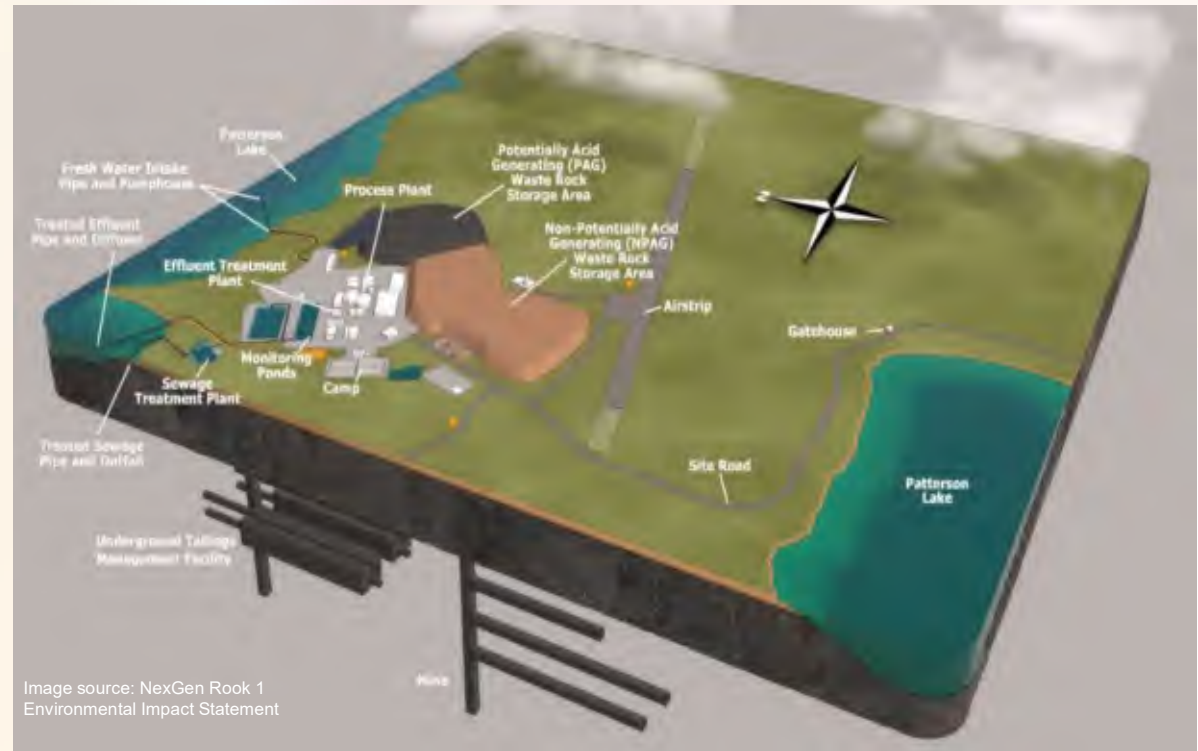


# Rook I Project Overview

20



NexGen is proposing to develop an underground uranium mine in the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan within the traditional Treaty 8 territory, the homeland of the Métis, and within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.



# Rook I Project - EA Update

21



- ✓ In 2019, NexGen submitted a project description
- ✓ In June 2022, NexGen submitted a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed project.
- ✓ The draft EIS and technical supporting documents are available for public comment on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry until October 12, 2022
- ✓ Concurrently, the federal and Indigenous review team are performing a technical review of the draft EIS

# Rook I Project – EA Next Steps

22



- ✓ All draft EIS comments due October 12, 2022
  - ✓ Comments sent back to proponent for responses
  - ✓ Iterative process until CNSC staff are satisfied that the EIS meets all requirements
- ✓ Once the draft EIS meets regulatory requirements, CNSC staff will proceed to the development of an Environmental Assessment report and the Commission Member Document

# Rook I Project – Licensing Update

23



- ✓ Undergoing licensing regulatory review since 2019
- ✓ CNSC and NexGen staff have held several technical themed meetings to discuss staff review concerns/comments and expectations since the receipt of the licence application
- ✓ NexGen has responded to hundreds of CNSC staff comments from technical assessments
- ▶ ✓ Ongoing reviews of revised documents and NexGen's responses to CNSC comments related to:
  - ✓ Underground Tailings Facility, Waste Rock Storage Area as well as Decommissioning and Reclamation Plans

# Wheeler River Project Overview

24



Denison is proposing to develop a in situ recovery uranium mine and processing plant.

The proposed site is located in the eastern Athabasca Basin, within the Treaty 10 territory, the homeland of the Métis, and the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.



# Wheeler River Project – EA Update

25



- ✓ In February 2019, Denison submitted a project description for the proposed Wheeler River project
  - ✓ A scoping decision was made in late 2019
- ✓ In March 2020, Denison informed the CNSC that they would be temporarily suspending the EA, due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- ✓ In November 2020, Denison notified the CNSC of the resumption of the EA, effective January 2021
- ✓ In December 2020, Denison provided a revised Project Description with a freeze wall design



# Wheeler River Project – EA Next Steps

26



- ✓ Following submission of the draft EIS, CNSC will perform 30 day conformity review to ensure the EIS package is complete, and then move on to the EIS technical Review
- ✓ The EIS technical review by the Federal Indigenous Review Team will be performed over 120 days
- ✓ The result of the EIS technical review will be information requests, to which Denison will be required to respond
- ✓ Concurrent to the EIS technical review will be a 90 day public comment period



# INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT



# Indigenous Engagement and Consultation

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As an agent of the Crown, CNSC consults with potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and communities to understand and address potential impacts to Indigenous and/or treaty rights from a project.



CNSC also requires proponents and licensees to engage with potentially affected Indigenous Nations and communities early in the development and throughout the life of their project.



# Indigenous Nations and Communities

29



CNSC staff continue to consult and engage with the following Indigenous Nations, communities and organizations and will do so throughout the regulatory review process for the proposed Rook I and Wheeler River Projects:

## **Rook I**

- Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
- Birch Narrows Dene Nation
- Black Lake Denesuline First Nation
- Buffalo River Dene Nation
- Clearwater River Dene Nation
- English River First Nation
- Fond-de-Lac Denesuline First Nation
- Meadow Lake Tribal Council
- Métis Nation of Saskatchewan
- Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office

## **Wheeler River**

- Birch Narrows Dene Nation
- Black Lake Denesuline First Nation
- Buffalo River Dene Nation
- English River First Nation
- Fond-de-Lac Denesuline First Nation
- Hatchet Lake First Nation
- Kineepik Métis Local
- Meadow Lake Tribal Council
- Métis Nation of Saskatchewan
- Prince Albert Grand Council
- Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office



STAY INVOLVED



# Participate and Be Heard

31



- **Rook I** draft EIS comment period ongoing
  - Documents can be found on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (CIAR, reference number [80171](#))
  - Written comments must be submitted by **October 12, 2022** to: [rook1@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:rook1@cnscccsn.gc.ca)
- **Wheeler River**
  - Anticipated submission in early fall
  - 90-day public comment period
  - Stay up to date on latest updates for the Wheeler River Project on the CIAR (reference number [80178](#))
  - Questions about the project can be emailed to: [wheelerriver@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:wheelerriver@cnscccsn.gc.ca)



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## Connect With Us

Join the conversation



[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)





Email: [cnsccinfo.ccsn@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:cnsccinfo.ccsn@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca)

Media: [mediarelations@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:mediarelations@cnscc-ccsn.gc.ca)

QUESTIONS?







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# CNSC/BRDN Meeting

## Room I – EIS Submission and Next Steps



October 26/27, 2022



## OUTLINE

- ✓ Overview of Rook I project
- ✓ EIS timeline
- ✓ Issues and concerns identified in EIS
- ✓ Next Steps



## Rook I Overview

- NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen) is proposing to develop an underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan
- The proposed Rook I mine would produce up to 14 million kg of  $U_3O_8$  annually for twenty-four years.
- Under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act, NexGen's proposal requires approval and licensing by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
- An environmental assessment (EA) conducted under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012

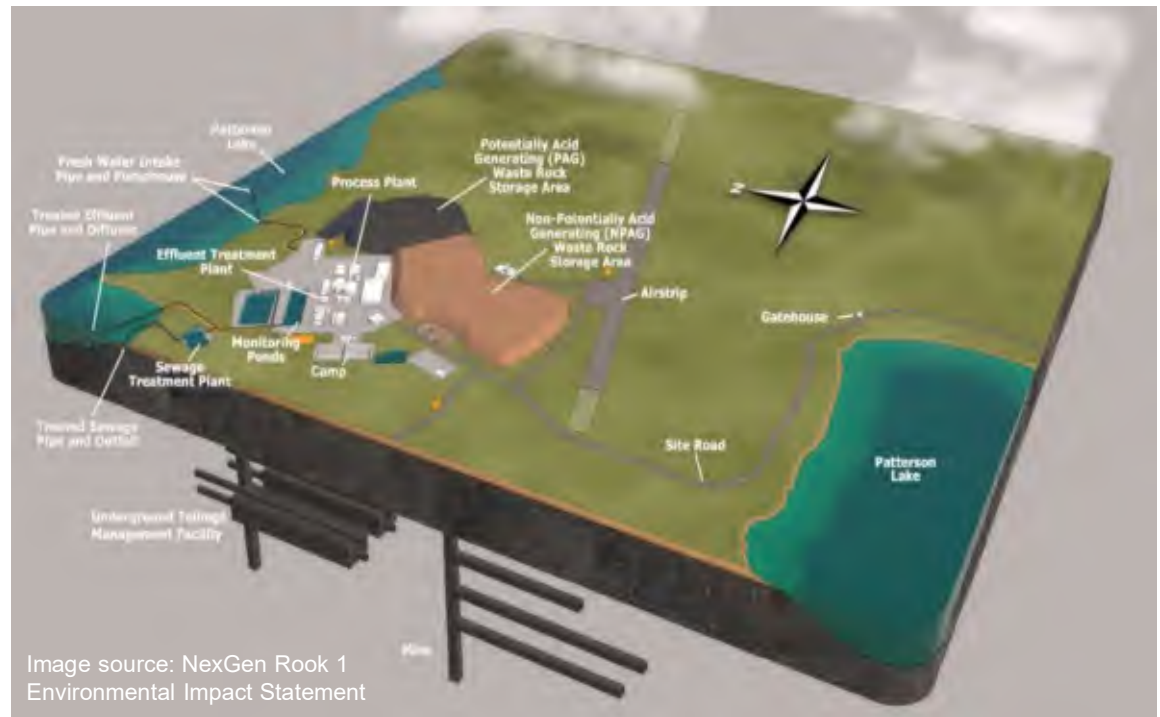
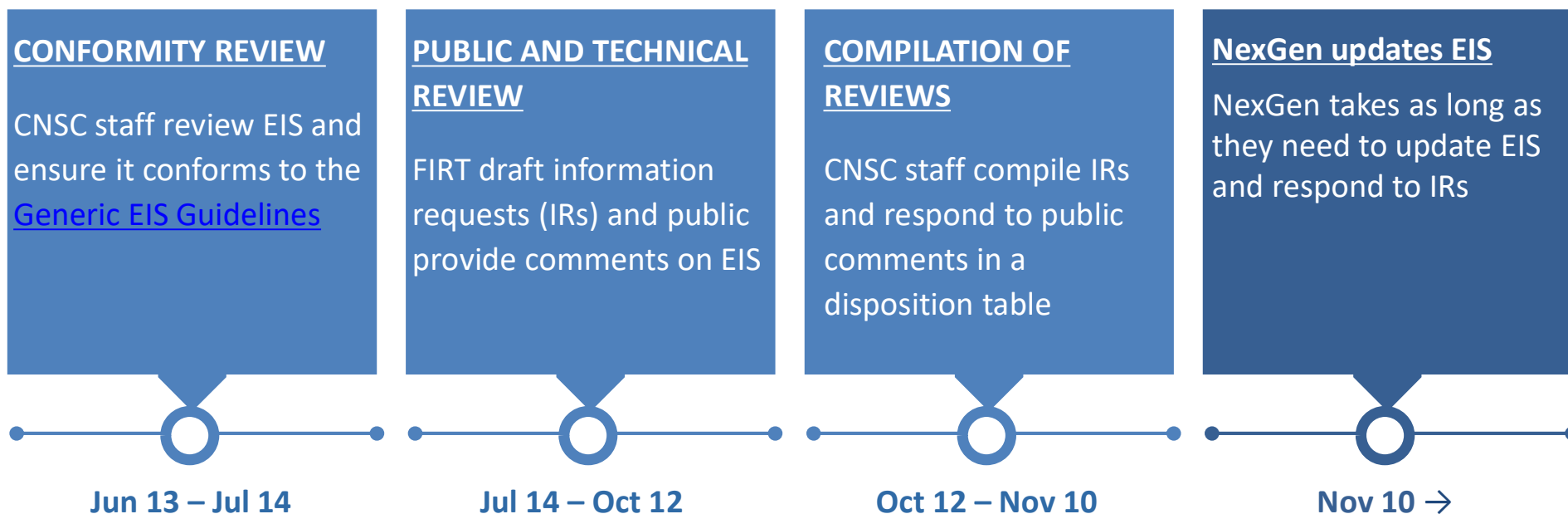


Image source: NexGen Rook 1  
Environmental Impact Statement



## EIS Process





## Issues and Concerns

- NexGen's EIS included the following issues and concerns expressed by BRDN:
  - Access limitations to lands and resources
  - Transmitting traditional knowledge
  - Cumulative effects
  - Safety of truck transportation
  - Environmental monitoring
  - Socio-economic concerns (substance abuse, family violence)



## Issues and Concerns cont..

- Project traffic on road conditions (including dust)
- Wildlife health and harvesting
- Water quality
- Noise, including vehicle traffic
- Safety to radiation exposure
- Harvest country foods
- Decline in fowl population



## Discussion

- Has NexGen adequately addressed these issues in the EIS?
- Is there any additional information you need from NexGen regarding these concerns?
- Are there any mitigation measures that you would recommend to address these concerns?
- How has this information been shared with the community?
- Are there any concerns not identified in the list above?



## Next Steps

- CNSC staff will compile the Information Requests (IRs) drafted by the federal and Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) and send them to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
- CNSC will post the public comment table as well as the FIRT comment table to the Registry on or shortly after submission to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Only the comments are posted to the Registry for now. NexGen responses are only posted once the EIS is deemed acceptable.
- NexGen will be required to update the EIS and respond to the IRs. This will take as long as needed.





Canadian Nuclear  
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# Connect With Us

Thank You! Questions?



[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



## **BRIEFING NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT**

### **Meeting with Chiefs of Clearwater River, Buffalo River, and Birch Narrows Dene Nations and CEO of NexGen Energy Ltd.**

**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST**

**Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission – President's Office - 280 Slater Street, Ottawa,  
Ontario.**

### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

President Velshi, Ramzi Jammal and Michael DeJong, will be meeting with the Chiefs of three Saskatchewan First Nations and the CEO of NexGen Energy. The meeting request came from NexGen and the Nations to meet with President Velshi to discuss the Rook 1 Project and how they are all working together on this project and supportive of it advancing.

Proposed Agenda (annotated):

1. Introductions
  - President Velshi to introduce herself as President and CEO of the CNSC and explain her role with regards to CNSC staff and President of the Commission tribunal and clarify that she is not able to discuss any specific matters that may be brought before the Commission
  - President Velshi can also start the meeting with a land acknowledgement:
  - President Velshi would like to acknowledge that the land on which we are gathered on today (Ottawa) is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg peoples and would also like to recognize that the NexGen Rook 1 Project is located in Treaty 8 territory and is within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.
2. Overview of the Rook 1 Uranium Project and Partnerships with Indigenous Nations
  - NexGen plans to provide an overview of the Rook 1 Project, work to date with Indigenous partners and how the project can support Canada playing a sustainable, long-term supply of Uranium well into the future. The three Chiefs may also want to provide an update on how working with NexGen has been to date on the Rook 1 project.
3. Overview of the CNSC's role and mandate
  - CNSC to provide a summary of our role and mandate as Canada's nuclear regulator.
4. Roundtable discussion
  - Recommend emphasizing that the CNSC is committed to building long-term relationships and engaging directly with Indigenous Nations and communities and their leadership and appreciate the Chiefs' efforts to engage with CNSC staff to date on this Project and others in their territories.
  - Recommend that President Velshi recuse herself for any potential detailed discussions with regards to the ongoing regulatory process for the NexGen project that may be before the Commission for decision in the coming months.

### **PARTICIPANTS**

- President Velshi (President and CEO – CNSC)
- Ramzi Jammal (EVP- ROB- CNSC)

- Michael DeJong (VP-RAB - CNSC)
- Chief Teddy Clark (Clearwater River Dene Nation)
- Chief Jonathon Sylvestre (Birch Narrows Dene Nation)
- Chief Norma Catarat (Buffalo River Dene Nation)
- Leigh Curyer (CEO - NexGen Energy Ltd.)
- Phillipe Bolduc (Wellington Advocacy Group)

## **KEY MESSAGES:**

### **Commitment to Meaningful Consultation and Relationships**

- The CNSC is appreciative of the three Chiefs taking time out of their busy schedules to come to Ottawa to meet and discuss their priorities and share their perspectives.
- The CNSC is fully committed to building strong, collaborative long-term relationships with Indigenous Nations and communities in the region (northwestern Saskatchewan). Reconciliation is a priority for the CNSC and the Government of Canada.
- The CNSC is proud of the positive relationships that we have developed with Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN), Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) and Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN). CNSC signed a Terms of Reference for consultation on the NexGen Environmental Assessment with Clearwater River Dene Nation in 2021.

### **The CNSC's Mandate and Role in Relation to the Rook 1 Project:**

- The CNSC's mandate is focused on health and safety by ensuring that there is no unreasonable risk for people and the environment with regards to nuclear energy and materials. The CNSC's mandate does not include economic considerations.
- The CNSC is responsible for making all licensing decisions under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA) and environmental assessment decisions under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) on nuclear facilities in Canada and conduct life-cycle oversight, regulation, and engagement with Indigenous Nations on all nuclear facilities.
- The CNSC is committed to conducting a thorough and efficient regulatory process for all nuclear projects, including the NexGen Rook 1 project. We will never compromise safety but will also not be an impediment to innovation and development that meets our regulatory requirements.

### **CNSC's Approach to Consultation on the Rook 1 Project:**

- The CNSC must ensure the proposed project meets all environmental and safety standards, and that the Duty to Consult and Accommodate is met before the Commission can make a decision.
- CNSC staff have been carrying out a thorough consultation and engagement process in relation to the NexGen Rook 1 project in line with best practices across the Government of Canada.
- CNSC staff were very happy to participate in meetings and visit your communities in June 2022

### **The President's Role as a Commission Member:**

- As the President of the Commission, I am not able to discuss in detail any matter that may before the Commission tribunal for a decision in the coming months. For any specific matters and details

regarding the ongoing regulatory process for the Rook 1 project I will have to recuse myself and my colleagues, VP- Ramzi Jammal and VP-Michael DeJong will continue the conversations.

## **BACKGROUND**

- NexGen Energy submitted their Project Description for the new uranium mine and mill site in 2019. The project is located in northwestern Saskatchewan approximately 130 km north of the closest community La Loche and is within Treaty 8 territory and homeland of the Métis in Northern Region 2 (see Annex B for map).
- The Rook I Project, a proposed new uranium mining and milling operation, is currently undergoing review by the CNSC pursuant to CEAA 2012 and by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (ENV) pursuant to the Environmental Assessment Act. The Project is also undergoing a licensing and technical review by the CNSC under the NSCA.

### **CNSC's Indigenous consultation and engagement:**

- The CNSC has a strong working relationship with a number of Indigenous Nations who are located within the region. In 2021 CNSC signed a Terms of Reference for consultation for the NexGen project with CRDN and the Métis Nation Saskatchewan (MN-S). CNSC staff have met regularly with representatives from CRDN, NexGen and other Indigenous Nations' and communities in the region since 2019. PFP was provided to both Nations to provide comments and work with CNSC.
- CNSC staff have met with BNDN and BRDN on a number of occasions including with leadership in their communities and have offered to meet as requested with these Nations throughout the EA process. PFP was provided to support these Nations as well to comment on NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and participate in the EA process.
- The CNSC/NexGen are also engaging and consulting with other Indigenous Nations and communities including the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resource Office (YNLR) and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN). PFP was also provided to these Nations to provide comments on Draft EIS and participate in the EA process.
- In June of 2022, CNSC staff (8) travelled to the region and the NexGen site and the three Nations (CRDN, BNDN and BRDN) during Treaty Days to meet with leadership and community members (Edoc# [6832731](#)). CNSC's staff completed outreach on our role as Canada's nuclear regulator, with a focus on regarding NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill project. CNSC staff participated in 5 separate open house information sessions in 4 different Indigenous communities, and the public alongside NexGen and the province of Saskatchewan's EA division.
- Topics of concern to date have included environmental protection, impacts on treaty rights, socio-economic impacts, cumulative impacts, economic partnerships. Other topics included the need for better roads in the area, youth activities, education and training for jobs from NexGen.
- Long-term legacy impacts are also a concern and people use the land for traditional uses now and into the future. They see the legacy sites (Beaverlodge, Gunnar, Lorado) and decommissioned sites of Cluff Lake and have concerns new projects will end up the same once decommissioned.

### **NexGen's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

- NexGen Draft EIS passed conformity review by CNSC staff on July 13, 2022, kicking off a 90 day technical review period. CNSC staff along with the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) completed their review and provided their technical information requests (IRs) in November of 2022 to NexGen's on the Draft EIS Edoc# [6916550](#)). The technical review resulted in 271 IRs as well as 40 Advice to Proponent comments.
- CNSC's last meeting with the three First Nations on the NexGen project was in October of 2022 when EAD/ISRD staff travelled to Saskatoon and met directly with leadership/engagement teams to discuss comments on the Draft EIS as well as the CNSC regulatory process
- All three Chiefs (CRDN, BRDN and BNDN) have each sent a letter to the CNSC signalling their support for the Rook 1 project to proceed to the CNSC. The letters have been posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (CIAR) [project page](#) alongside their comments on the Draft EIS.

### **NexGen's Proposed Temporary Airstrip**

- On April 26, 2022, CNSC staff were made aware of NexGen's plans from the Prairie and Northern Region of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), who received a designation request from the MN-S for a temporary airstrip on the NexGen property. A copy of the designation request was provided to CNSC staff.
  - As per section 5 of the CNSC-IAAC MOU, the Agency commits to consult with the CNSC prior to making recommendations to the Minister regarding any requests to designate projects that are received under the IAA.
- The Request for Designation was regarding NexGen's request to build a temporary airstrip as part of their Rook 1 Property – 2022 Site Program Application (Revision 1 – April 2022). This application was submitted to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment.
- Once CNSC staff were made aware of NexGen's plans, CNSC staff reached out to NexGen for further information. CNSC staff met separately with NexGen, IAAC, the province of SK EA division to gather information.
- CNSC staff reviewed the designation request from MN-S along with the additional information provided by NexGen and compared it to the proposed work detailed in the project description for the NexGen's Rook 1 project that is currently undergoing an EA under the CEAA 2012. Based on the information provided to the CNSC (and to the Province of SK), the proposed activities appeared to be very similar to the activities that are currently within the scope of the ongoing CEAA 2012 EA.
- CNSC therefore recommended that NexGen not proceed with the construction of a temporary airstrip until after provincial and federal environmental assessment decisions have been issued as an airstrip of similar size and location was scoped into the EA for the Rook 1 project. Aspects of the project scoped into the project description for the CEAA 2012 EA can not proceed until the EA decision is made by the Commission.
- Refer to E-doc # [6817614](#) for a copy of the Ministerial Decision and reply to MN-S stating that as per section 182 of the IAA, a project that is already undergoing a federal environmental assessment under CEAA 2012 will continue to be assessed under that Act.
- NexGen and the three Nations do not agree with the CNSC's recommendation with regards to the airstrip as they believe the construction of the airstrip and associated roads some facilities of the

site should be allowed to begin. The Nations and NexGen believe the proposed temporary airstrip will address health, safety, and environmental impacts by reducing the traffic on the highways.

### **NexGen's work with Indigenous Nations and communities**

- NexGen Energy has signed Impact Benefit Agreements (IBAs) with the three First Nations participating in the meeting (CRDN, BNDN and BRDN). NexGen has not signed IBA agreements with MN-S, ACFN or YNLR to date. As a result of these IBAs being signed, the three First Nations and NexGen have signalled to the CNSC that they would like to see the Rook 1 Project to move forward to construction and development as soon as possible.
- CNSC staff are not a party to the IBAs and are not aware of the specific details of each agreement, however, in general IBAs typically define the environmental, cultural, economic, employment and other benefits to be provided to the Nations by proponents in respect of the Project, and to confirm the consent and support for the Project throughout its complete lifecycle, including reclamation with these Nations.
- The three First Nations are supportive of the project proceeding as quickly and safely as possible and working directly with NexGen to gain economic opportunities that would benefit the First Nation and community members and the broader region.

### **DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

- As the life cycle regulator for the Rook 1 Project the CNSC is committed to the relationships with the Indigenous Nations and communities in the region, hearing their concerns and addressing them, conducting a thorough and efficient regulatory process for the Project that meets all applicable regulatory requirements and expectations, including the Duty to Consult and Accommodate.
- It is important to emphasize, that although the CNSC is pleased to hear that the Nations have signed agreements with NexGen and would like to see the project move forward as soon as possible, that the CNSC's is an independent regulatory body and must follow our legal statutes and mandate under the NSCA and CEAA 2012 for all proposed nuclear projects. Decisions are made based on all available facts, including those gathered through Commission hearings and interventions including those by the public and Indigenous Nations and communities.
- The CNSC encourages all Nations to continue to be engaged in the regulatory and consultation process with CNSC staff and to participate in the Commission hearing process for the Rook 1 project when it is scheduled. We look forward to our ongoing work with NexGen and the three First Nations moving forward.

ANNEXES (2):

ANNEX A: BACKGROUND ON ATTENDEES

ANNEX B: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INDIGENOUS AND TREATY RIGHTS

**Prepared by:** Ryan Froess, Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous Consultation, ISRD, SPD

**Prepared by:** Sydney Nickolet, Policy Officer, Indigenous Consultation, ISRD, SPD

**Reviewed by:** Adam Levine, Team Leader-Indigenous Consultation and Participant Funding, ISRD

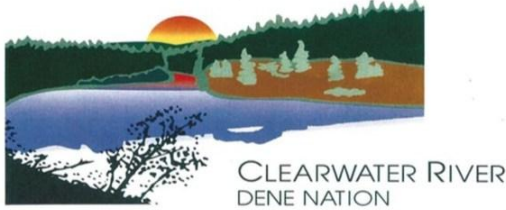
**Reviewed by:** Clare Cattryse, Director, ISRD, SPD

**Approved by:** Keith Dewar, Director General, SPD

**Date:** 20/01/2023

## Annex A: Background on Attendees

### Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN):



The Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) is a Dene First Nations band government in the boreal forest area of northern Saskatchewan, Canada is also the closest First Nation community to the Rook 1 Project and a signatory of Treaty 8. It maintains offices in the village of Clearwater River situated on the eastern shore of Lac La Loche. The CRDN reserve of Clearwater River shares its southern border with the village of La Loche.

The CRDN has a long-established presence in north-western Saskatchewan and northeastern Alberta. The CRDN is a Dene speaking community. As of September 2013, there were 1,875 registered members with 804 members living on-reserve and 1,071 members living off-reserve. CRDN is also represented by Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located within the treaty and traditional territories of CRDN; the Project is located approximately 120km from the main Clearwater reserve, near La Loche. NexGen has been engaging with CRDN since May 2014 and signed an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) with NexGen in April of 2022.



Chief Teddy Clark of CRDN and his daughter Traya

CRDN Chief and Council: Teddy Clark (Chief re-elected in 2021), Brenda Janvier (Councillor), Roy Sean Cheecham (Councillor), Randy Janvier (Councillor), Sandy Herman (Councillor), Clifford Laprise (Councillor), Janelle Kokan (Band Manager)



### **Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN):**



Buffalo River Dene Nation is a Dene speaking nation situated approximately 84 kilometres northwest of Ile a La Crosse, SK on the western shore of Peter Pond Lake near Dillon, SK and is a signatory to Treaty 10. The Nation is approximately 8,259 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 1,233 with an on-reserve population of 640 members. The village of Dillon is the administrative headquarters of the Buffalo River Dene First Nations band government and is accessed by Highway 925 from Highway 155. The Nation is also affiliated with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC) and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN).

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located approximately 190 km from the main BRDN reserve and is within BRDN's traditional territory. NexGen has been engaging with BRDN since February of 2017 and signed an Impact Benefit Agreement with BRDN in 2021.

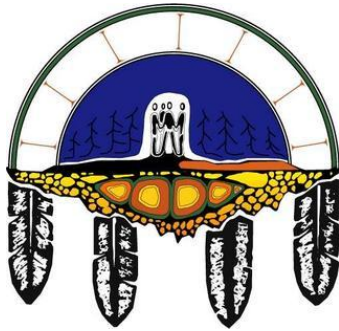


Chief Norma Catarat of BRDN

BRDN Chief and Council: Norma Catarat (Chief), Louise Chanalquay (Councillor), Dallas Billette (Councillor), Merle Catarat (Councillor), Colin Catarat (Councillor), Terrence Byhette (Councillor)

As a mother and a grandmother of five, Norma Catarat knows the importance of supporting members to grow a strong future. Catarat's priorities include supports for families, economic development, education and health services. Catarat is ready to work with Council to generate more resources for the community. She was elected as Chief in February 2022.

### **Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN):**



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), a Dene speaking nation, is situated in northern Saskatchewan north of Buffalo Narrows on Wasekamio Lake and is a signatory to Treaty 10. The Nation is approximately 2,693 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 807 members with an on-reserve population of 431 members. The Nation has year-round road access. BNDN is affiliated with Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located approximately 130 km from the main Birch Narrows reserve and in BNDN's traditional territory. NexGen has been engaging with BNDN February of 2017.

BNDN Chief and Council: Jonathon Sylvestre (Chief re-elected in 2022), Trevor Moberly (Councillor), Conrad Sylvestre (Councillor), Robert Sylvestre (Councillor), Kimberly Sylvestre (Councillor), Douglas Barks (Band Manager)

Chief Jonathon Sylvestre represents the Meadow Lake Tribal Council. He is the Chief of BNDN. Previous to being Chief, he was a Councillor for 4 years and before that, Recreation Director for his community. Chief Sylvestre has lived in Birch Narrows for his entire life. He completed high school is La Loche, and Arts & Science at the Northlands College in Buffalo Narrows, as well as beginning his career in health care, before representing his community became his job. Chief Sylvestre enjoys the outdoors, camping, travel and reading.

### **NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen):**

NexGen Energy is a Canadian company focused on optimally developing the Rook I Project into the largest low cost producing uranium mine globally, incorporating the highest levels of environmental and social governance. The Company has a strong portfolio of highly prospective projects, including the Company's 100% owned Rook I property that is the host to the high-grade Arrow Deposit (discovered February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014), South Arrow (discovered July 2017), Harpoon (discovered August 2016), Bow (discovered March 2015) and the Cannon area (discovered April 2016). NexGen is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia, with an operations office in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



CEO of NexGen Leigh R. Curyer

The Rook I Project is a proposed new uranium mining and milling operation owned and operated by NexGen, a Canadian uranium development company. The Project is located adjacent to Patterson Lake in the southern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, 80 km south of the former Cluff Lake mine site, and 640 km northwest of Saskatoon. The scope of the Licence Application is intended to cover the construction and commissioning of all underground and surface structures, systems, and components with ore to support future operations, which includes the production of up to 31 million pounds (14 million kilograms) of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> per annum. The NexGen Rook 1 project is currently undergoing a Federal Environmental Assessment under CEAA 2012 and a licensing review under the NSCA, both led by the CNSC, as well as a Provincial EA led by the Province of Saskatchewan.

Leigh R. Curyer has over 20 years' experience in the resources and corporate sector. Mr. Curyer is the founder, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NexGen Energy Ltd. and was previously the Head of Corporate Development Accord Nuclear Resource Management assessing uranium projects worldwide for First Reserve Corporation, a global energy focused private equity and infrastructure investment firm. Prior to Accord, he was Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of Southern Cross Resources (now Uranium One).

Mr. Curyer's uranium project assessment experience has been focused on assets located in Canada, Australia, USA, Africa, Central Asia and Europe, incorporating operating mines, advanced development projects and exploration prospects.

## **Wellington Advocacy:**



Phillippe Bolduc

Wellington Advocacy is a national full-service public affairs team with decades of combined professional experience serving as senior advisors in Canada's highest political offices.

Wellington Advocacy creates comprehensive plans to get people noticed. This includes leveraging their unique relationships and backgrounds to develop a story, reach more people and execute fresh engagement strategies. Their services include government and stakeholder relations, campaign services, digital advocacy, strategic communications and executive coaching, and international development.

Fluently bilingual, Philippe Bolduc brings a strong background in legislative processes and the Canadian regulatory environment. Drawn from his many years as a senior advisor and Chief of Staff on Parliament Hill, his experience includes familiarity with the Cabinet process, communications and issues management. Phil has deep political relationships in both the political and public service realms across Canada. As an expert in parliamentary procedure, Phil brings an understanding to the way things work in Ottawa that few have.

## Annex B: Additional information on Indigenous/Treaty rights

### **Treaty 8 (1899):**

The Rook 1 Project falls within the territory of Treaty No. 8 (signed in 1899) which covers approximately 841,487 square kilometres in the Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta, and the northwest quadrant of Saskatchewan. Treaty 8 is home to 39 First Nations, including three nations in Saskatchewan, 24 nations in Alberta, 6 nations in Northwest Territories, and 6 in British Columbia.

There are three signatories to Treaty 8 in Saskatchewan and one in Alberta that CNSC staff are consulting with on the NexGen Rook 1 project:

#### **Clearwater River Dene Nation (located approximately 120 km from Project site)**

Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation (located approximately 370 km from Project site) and represented by the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resources Office.

Black Lake Denesuline First Nation (located approximately 380 km from Project site) and represented by the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resources Office.

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (located in Northeastern Alberta)

### **Treaty 10 (1906):**

There are seven signatories to Treaty 10. While the Rook 1 Project is not located in Treaty 10 territory it is in close proximity to some of the signatory Nations (see figure 2) and therefore CNSC has identified three Treaty 10 Nations as having a potential interest in the Rook 1 Project, due to their proximity to the project and claimed traditional territories.

English River First Nation (located approximately 130 km from the Project site)

**Birch Narrows First Nation (located approximately 135 km from the Project site)**

**Buffalo River Dene Nation (located approximately 190 km from the Project site)**

Treaty 10 covers 220,000 square kilometres including the northeast quadrant of Saskatchewan to the border with Manitoba, north to the border with Northwest Territories, south to central Saskatchewan and west into Alberta.

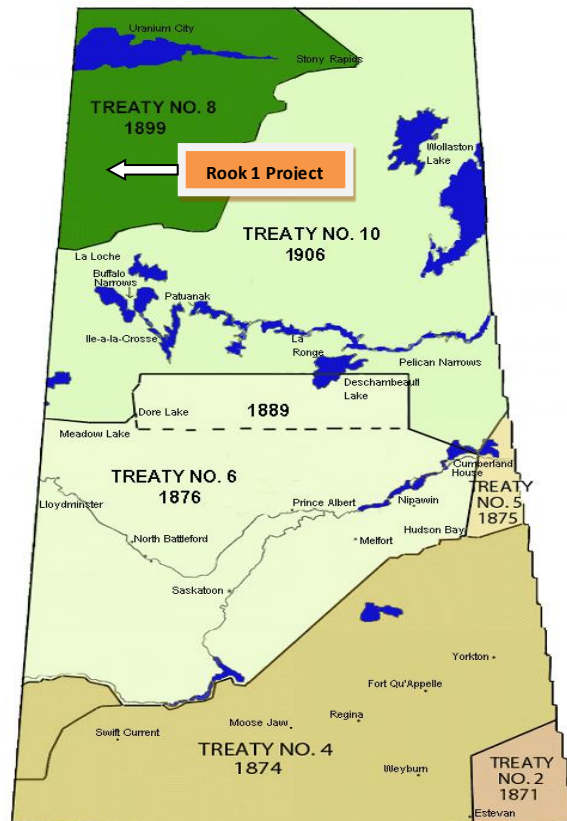
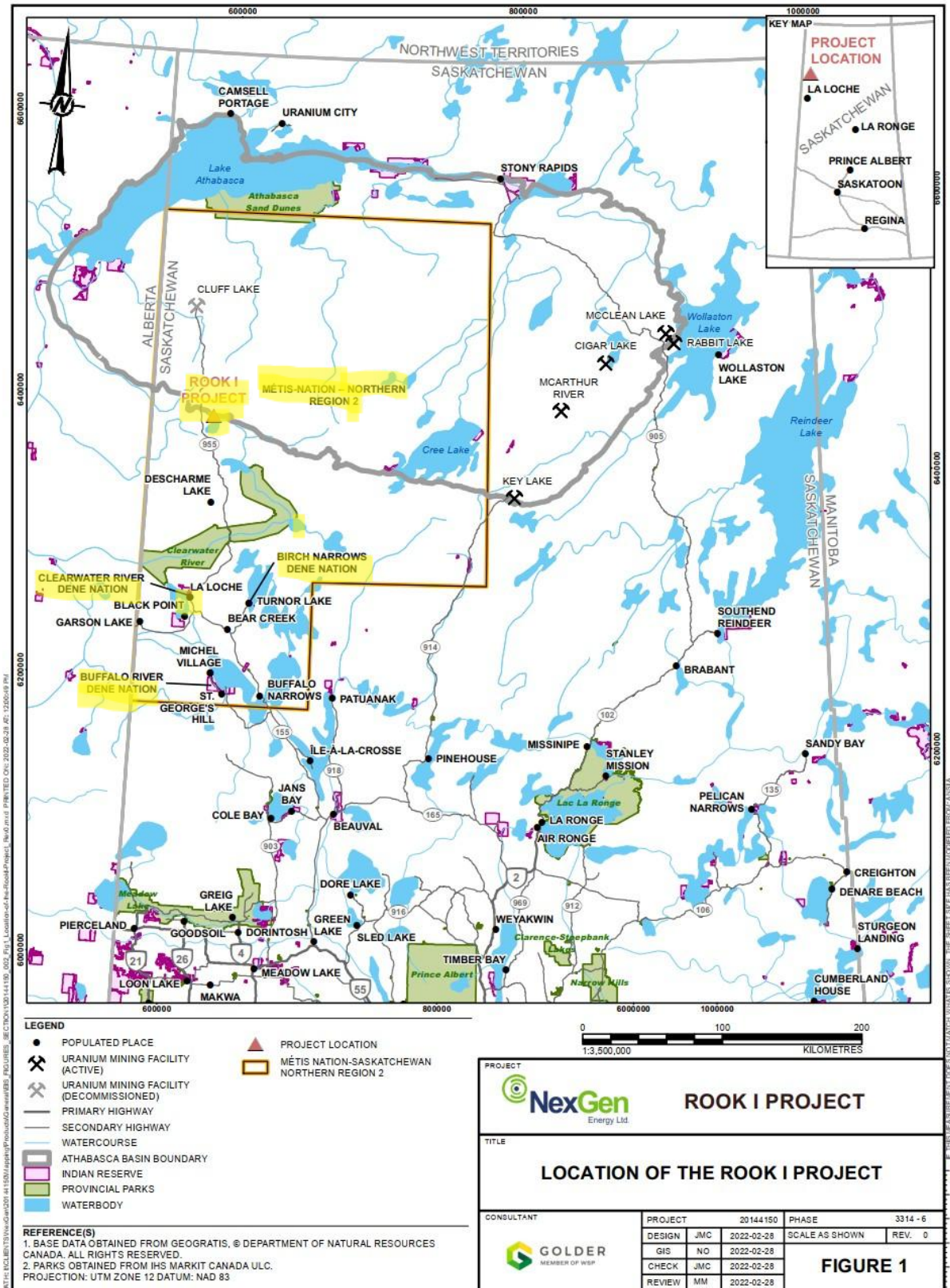


Figure 2. Treaty map of Saskatchewan and Rook 1 Project





# Domestic Outreach Report / Rapport sur les relations externes nationales

To / À : CNSC.F ExecutiveTeamMembers / MembresdelÉquipedirection F.CCSN

Cc. Engagement / Engagement (CNSC/CCSN)

**Date of activity/Date de l'activité:** June 12 to June 16, 2023

**Title of activity/Titre de l'activité:** CNSC Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour 2023

**Location (city and province)/ Lieu (ville et province):** Communities/Nations located in the Saskatchewan North Western Athabasca Basin (Buffalo Narrows, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, La Loche, Clearwater River Dene Nation, Turnor Lake, Birch Narrows Dene Nation, Dillon, Buffalo River Dene Nation)

**CNSC representative (s) + (directorate)/ Représentant(s) de la CCSN et direction:** Dana Pandolfi and Brenda Duhaime (DNCFR), Ryan Froess and Katherine Manickum (SPD), Doug Wylie and Nicole Frigault (DERPA)

**Other representative (s) + (name of organization)/ Autre(s) représentant(s) et nom de l'organisation:** Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen)., Fission Energy

## **Objective/ Objectif:**

The objective of the trip was for CNSC staff to travel to communities in the Western Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan to take part in open houses, hosted by NexGen. The trip's goal was to foster relationship building in the region and to answer questions about the CNSC's Licensing and Environmental Assessment processes and how nuclear projects are regulated in Canada.

## **Highlights/ Faits saillants:**

Participating in this tour for the second year in a row allowed staff to demonstrate CNSC's ongoing commitment for meaningful engagement with the Indigenous Nations and communities in the region. For staff that participated in the 2022 tour, this experience helped to build on relationships established last year. For staff that were visiting the communities for the first time, the outreach trip provided invaluable experience in relationship building, knowledge exchange, and improving their understanding of the NexGen project and its potential impact on the Indigenous communities in the area.

CNSC staff were also able to interact with leadership, such as band council members, and elders in more informal settings of the open houses. These interactions provided additional opportunities to build relationships and better understand leaderships' perspectives on the NexGen project.

For many CNSC staff, there is little opportunity to engage "face-to-face" with community members from these remote locations. This trip allowed CNSC staff to see the communities firsthand and better understand the sort of challenges faced and also gave community members opportunities to ask questions and better understand what CNSC does as a life-cycle regulator.

Orano's Cluff Lake site was raised by several community members. One Elder (pictured below) explained his experience and fears from his time working at Cluff Lake, and how he would like to see the NexGen



site and explain to his community the differences between the projects.

Improved roads, training/job opportunities, protection of the environment, and questions about what CNSC does as a regulator were the most common topics of discussion. Other topics heard throughout the community information sessions included economic reconciliation, health and safety concerns and involvement and inclusion of the communities early in the project's life cycle.

**Presentation(s) (e-Doc#)/ Présentation(s) – numéro e-Doc:** [7041981](#)

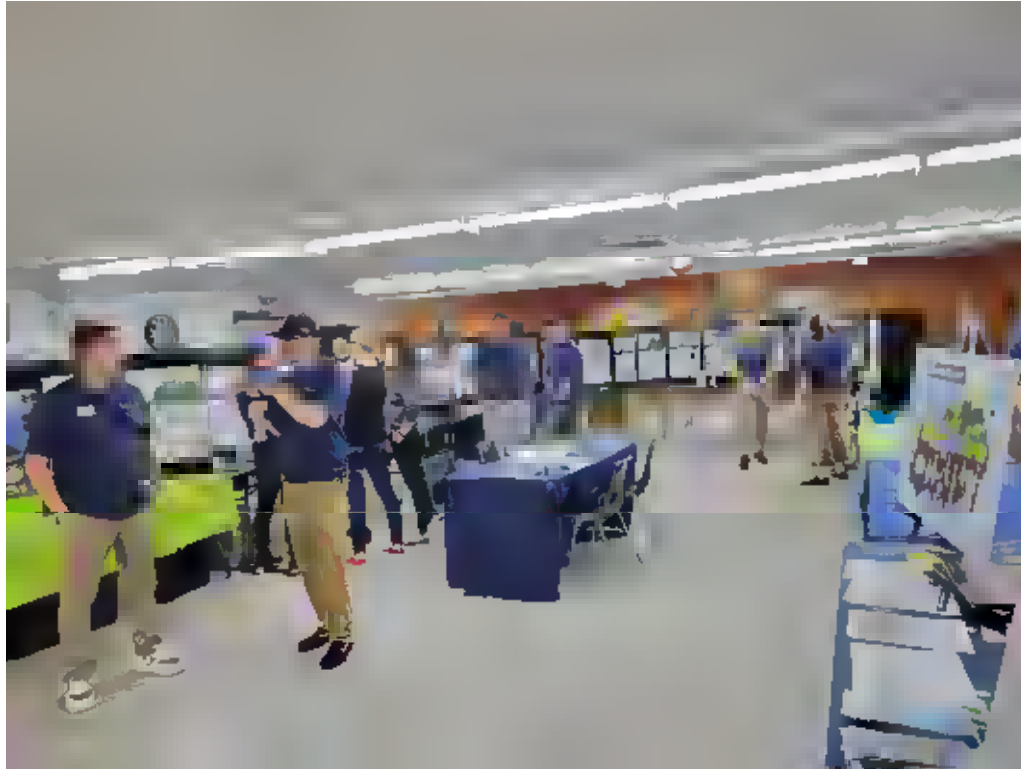
**Lessons Learned:**

Based on the experience gained from participating in this outreach tour for the last two years, CNSC staff would recommend considering the following for future outreach tours:

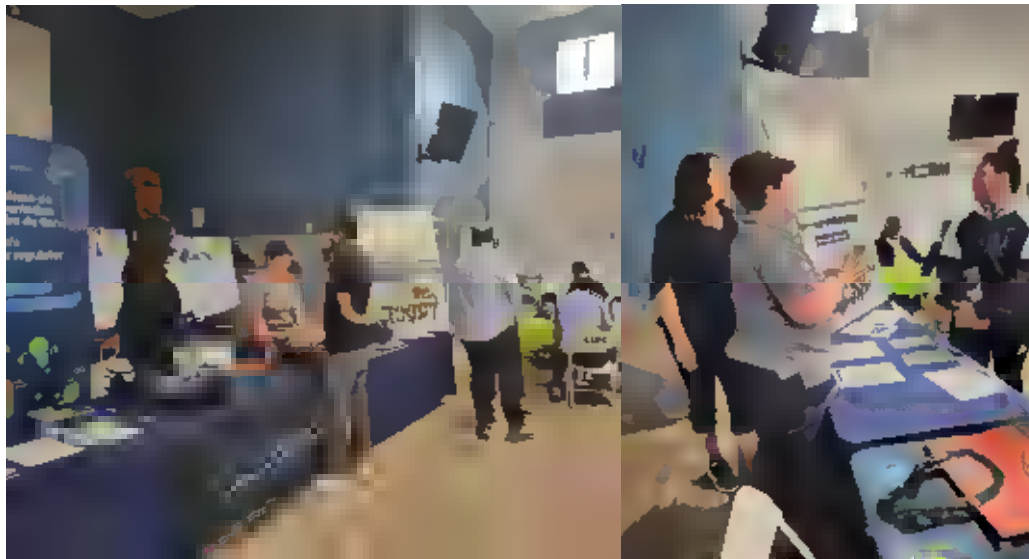
- Consider planning the tour for earlier in the year when schools are still in session. CNSC staff could work with schools to provide educational activities or presentations to engage youth in the communities.
- Consider changing the time of day for the community events. This year most engagement sessions were held on weekdays, during working hours, which may have decreased the number of community members able to attend. Suggest holding community outreach events in the late afternoon / evening with a community dinner. This would also allow CNSC staff to plan leadership meetings and visit schools during work/school hours.
- Consider having CNSC lead the organization of the community tours so that there can be more of a focus on building the CNSC relationship with the communities and on CNSC regulatory activities.
- Consider providing CNSC branded clothing (i.e. shirts, baseball hats, etc) and name tags to CNSC staff performing outreach. CNSC staff are often confused with the proponent/licensee at these events and uniformity in clothing could help clarify this or at least establish some differentiation. Furthermore, using the Government of Canada logo would further help clarify CNSC is apart of the federal government.

**Photos:**

**CNSC and NexGen staff preparing for engagement session at Buffalo Narrows Friendship Centre.**



**CNSC staff discussing with community members at La Loche Friendship Centre.**



CNSC booth at Turnor Lake/Birch Narrows Community Centre outreach event.



CNSC staff with an Elder at Buffalo River Dene Nation outreach event.



Opening ceremonies at the Clearwater River Dene Nation Treaty Days.



**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [Froess, Ryan](#); [Boser, Sydney](#);  
**Subject:** FW: BRDN support letter Room 1  
**Attachments:** [BRDN Support Letter to NexGen Rook - CNSC.pdf](#); [BRDN Support Letter to NexGen Rook - CNSC.pdf](#);  
**Sent:** 2023-11-03 12:57:19 PM

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<b>Follow Up Flag:</b>	Follow up
<b>Flag Status:</b>	Flagged
FYI	

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**From:** Norma Catarat <[norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca)>  
**Sent:** November 3, 2023 11:44 AM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Leigh Curyer <[lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Luke Moger <[lmoger@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:lmoger@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** Dallas Billette <[dallas.billette@brdn.ca](mailto:dallas.billette@brdn.ca)>; Collin Catarat <[collin.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:collin.catarat@brdn.ca)>; [terrance.byhette@brdn.ca](mailto:terrance.byhette@brdn.ca);  
[louiechinalquay1957@gmail.com](mailto:louiechinalquay1957@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** BRDN support letter Room 1

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
---

Good morning Nicole

Please see attached a support letter for the NEXGEN Rook 1 project.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [Norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:Norma.catarat@brdn.ca) Or 306 514 2081.

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# BUFFALO RIVER DENE NATION

Buffalo River Dene Nation  
Box 40, Dillon, SK  
S0M 0S0

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
**RE: Rook I Project – Issues and Concerns Validation**

Dear Nicole,

On behalf of the Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) please consider this letter as notice that the BRDN and NexGen have collaboratively identified, discussed, and resolved the issues and concerns identified by BRDN with respect to the Rook I Project (Project). The manner in which NexGen has responded to our issues and concerns raised during Rook I Project (Project) development and environmental assessment (EA) process is accepted by the BRDN.

The Environmental Committee, established under the Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) signed by BRDN and NexGen in 2020 and consisting of both BRDN and NexGen representatives, held a series of meetings related to validating the issues and concerns identified by BRDN. As part of this process, NexGen provided a consolidated list of issues and concerns, along with their responses and proposed key accommodations and mitigations that either have been or will be implemented to resolve the issues and concerns. An in-person meeting was held on 16 August 2023 to complete the final validation of the consolidated list of issues and concerns, responses provided by NexGen, and mutually agreed upon key mitigations and accommodations. The final issues and concerns documentation resulting from this validation workshop is attached to this cover letter, and we understand that this documentation will also be provided within NexGen's Final EIS submission to the CNSC.

It is BRDN's understanding that the CNSC requires confirmation of the process undertaken by BRDN and NexGen to identify, discuss, and resolve key issues and concerns in relation to the Project as part of Federal EA requirements. The BRDN is satisfied that NexGen has addressed or responded to all of BRDN's issues and concerns in a manner acceptable to the BRDN community. We confirm that all issues and concerns that can be addressed at this time have been resolved, and for issues and concerns that can only be addressed during the Project lifespan, NexGen and BRDN have developed the necessary approaches and methods to resolve these concerns at the appropriate time in the

P.O. Box 40, Dillon, Saskatchewan, Canada S0M 0S0  
Phone 306-282-2033 Fax 306-282-2113

future. Accordingly, through this letter, we formally acknowledge and confirm to the CNSC that the way in which NexGen has addressed or responded to the BRDN's key issues and concerns has been accepted by BRDN.

March 10,



Chief Norma Catarat

Buffalo River Dene Nation

Cc: BRDN Council Elect

Elmer Campbell, BRDN Implementation Coordinator – NexGen/BRDN - IBA

Dallas Billette, BRDN Regulatory Lead – NexGen/BRDN - IBA

Brian Benjamin, BRDN Environmental Committee Member – NexGen/BRDN - IBA

Leigh Curyer, President of NexGen

Adam Engdahl, Vice President – Community, NexGen

Luke Moger, Vice President – Environment, Permitting & Licensing, NexGen

Melissa Scansen, NexGen Regulatory Lead – NexGen/BRDN - IBA

**From:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**To:** [Dallas Billette](#); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca);  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Boser, Sydney](#); [Wylie, Doug](#);  
**Subject:** CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with BRDN  
**Sent:** 2024-01-19 12:53:00 PM

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<b>Follow Up Flag:</b>	Follow up
<b>Flag Status:</b>	Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Catarat and Dallas,

Happy New year and I hope things are well in the Buffalo River Dene Nation !

The CNSC is hoping to meet with up with BRDN with respect to providing an update on the NexGen Rook 1 EIS. We were hoping to set up a short meeting to provide an update on the regulatory aspects of the project, discuss next steps and timelines, and also answer any outstanding questions BRDN may have for CNSC moving forward.

When speaking with NexGen earlier this week it was our understanding that BRDN may be in Saskatoon to hold a environment committee meeting in mid February and we were wondering if this may be good opportunity to connect when are in town to meet to provide an update and answer any questions the BRDN may have on the project. Hoping we can find a time to connect with BRDN EC and will wait to hear back from you on what days and times might work or feel free to give me call if you prefer to discuss some options.

Thanks and looking forward to connecting and have a great weekend!

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892



**From:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**To:** [Dallas Billette](#); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca);  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Boser, Sydney](#); [Wylie, Doug](#);  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with BRDN  
**Sent:** 2024-02-05 6:03:00 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Catarat and Dallas,

I am following up to my email from January 19, 2024 to see if there is interest from BRDN Environment Committee to meet with CNSC staff to discuss the NexGen Project Environmental Assessment. As you are likely aware NexGen has re-submitted their Draft EIS and CNSC has nearly completed our technical review and will be responding to NexGen in the coming weeks.

If BRDN is interested in meeting with CNSC staff on the NexGen Project please let us know and we would be happy to meet and discuss next steps in more detail. If we do not hear back from BRDN in coming weeks/month CNSC will still continue to provide all technical updates including important timelines/milestones moving forward to the Nation as requested and open to meet in the future if there is interest.

Feel free to give me a call if you prefer.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2024 11:54 AM  
**To:** Dallas Billette <[dallas.billette@brdn.ca](mailto:dallas.billette@brdn.ca)>; [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca)  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC- NexGen EIS update and touch base with BRDN

Good afternoon Chief Catarat and Dallas,

Happy New year and I hope things are well in the Buffalo River Dene Nation !

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Thanks and looking forward to connecting and have a great weekend!

Ryan Froess  
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Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

**From:** [Boser, Sydney](#)  
**To:** [Keegan McGrath](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Rory Duncan](#); [John Glover](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); [Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [simon.pollard@bnddi.ca](mailto:simon.pollard@bnddi.ca); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca);  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Froess, Ryan](#);  
**Subject:** BNDN, BRDN & CNSC Meeting on NexGen - Summary Notes May 21st  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#7032579-v2-ISCF-Contribution-Funding-Application-Form\\_EN.PDF](#); [BNDN & BRDN CNSC Meeting Notes - May 21st 2024.docx](#);  
**Sent:** 2024-05-23 12:09:21 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning,

Thank you everyone for taking the time to meet with us earlier this week on the NexGen project. Above I have attached the notes from our meeting – please let me know if you have any comments on the notes and I will make those changes. I have also attached our funding application for anyone who may be interested. For Stream 1 funding the deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup> and then Stream 3 doesn't have a deadline so it could be submitted at anytime.

Here is the link to the Provincial EA Approval for NexGen - [provincial EA ministerial approval](#) and then under Condition #13, it talks about the road maintenance and upgrades that NexGen must enter into prior to the construction of the project.

Once NexGen EIS is deemed acceptable and we have moved into the 90-day technical review, CNSC will reach out to begin setting up a meeting for early September to discuss the review more in-depth and bring in our technical experts to answer any questions.

Looking forward to our future discussions and potentially seeing some of you next week in community!

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis  
Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

### **BNDN, BRDN & CNSC Meeting**

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
Virtual

<b>CNSC Attendees</b>	<b>BNDN &amp; BRDN Attendees</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sydney Nickolet</li><li>• Nicole Frigault</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keegan McGrath</li><li>• Trevor Moberly</li><li>• Rory Duncan</li><li>• Simon Pollard</li><li>• John Glover</li><li>• Terrie Campbell</li><li>• Chief Norma Catarat</li><li>• Chief Jonathon Sylvestre</li></ul>

#### **Agenda**

- 1) Status Update on the NexGen Rook I Project
- 2) CNSC Fall Tour

#### **Meeting Notes**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Status Update on the NexGen Rook I Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC hasn't gotten the official package information for the EIS but is planning for it to come in at some point today from NexGen. This package will include NexGen's responses to outstanding information requests (IR's), an updated revised EIS and technical supporting documents, as well as a Commitments Report that will outline all mitigation measures, follow up measures, as well as all commitments that have been made to Indigenous Nations and communities.</li><li>• Upon receipt of NexGen's submission, CNSC staff will carry out a 30-day completeness check on the information to ensure there is enough information to carry out a technical review, and once the submission passes the completeness check, a 90-day Federal Indigenous review team (FIRT) technical review will commence.</li><li>• The FIRT is made up of several different subject matter experts (SMEs) from a variety of federal departments including Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Health Canada (HC) as well as members of the Clearwater River Dene Nation, and Métis Nation Saskatchewan.</li><li>• There are several outstanding IRs that are in relation to a variety of things including effluent discharge, protection of surface water and groundwater, air quality, worker health and safety, protection of species at risk – including Caribou, as well as protection of wetlands, to name a few. NexGen will need to address all of these outstanding IRs to the satisfaction of the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) prior to the EIS being accepted as Final and prior to proceeding to preparing for a public commission hearing.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BNDN and BRDN would like to set up a technical meeting with the SME's to hear from them and their review on the EIS once the technical review is wrapping up. CNSC can set up this meeting for mid-August to early-September to give BNDN and BRDN an update on the technical review and answer any questions that may arise. This would be a longer meeting where we would walk through the IRs and outstanding comments raised by SME's.</li> <li>• BNDN and BRDN will be asking NexGen for the EIS document once ready after the 30-day completeness check. CNSC will also post the documents on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry <a href="#">project page</a> once it passes the completeness check.</li> <li>• BNDN asked about how the cumulative effects from the proposed Fission project have been / will be taken into account and considered in the Rook I EA – being that there is now more information available on the proposed Fission project than what would have been available at the time the Rook EIS was first drafted. CNSC will take this question back to the SME's who have reviewed both projects and CNSC staff suggested that BNDN also raise this directly to NexGen for them to be consistent in models with Fission to reduce cumulative impacts in the Region.</li> <li>• BNDN mentioned that they have concerns with all industry happening in their territory. "Anything that grows under the sun is concerning."</li> <li>• BNDN mentioned that the communities want this done right and want the environment protected. There are IBA's signed and there is talk of communities wanting it to move faster but BNDN wants to state that they have all the time in the world and want this to be done right and the proper protocols in place before the project moves to the next stage.</li> <li>• BNDN sent a letter to NexGen with a request to meet with NexGen executive on multiple items and will brief CNSC afterwards.</li> <li>• BRDN asked about road quality and how CNSC looks at that in terms of cumulative effects. This is a concern for BRDN as the roads are not safe and will have a lot of traffic on them with both projects advancing.</li> </ul>
<b>CNSC Fall Tour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNSC is planning a potential west side tour which would be CNSC lead for the fall of 2024. This would be an opportunity for CNSC to get into the region and provide the communities with updates on who the CNSC is, get into the schools and answer any questions the community may have.</li> <li>• CNSC is looking at early October for this – potentially the week of October 7<sup>th</sup> but CNSC will work with the communities to ensure it is a week that works for them.</li> <li>• CNSC would look to hold evening sessions with a supper which would include a presentation and an open house style booths. We would also plan to get into the schools in the afternoons.</li> <li>• BNDN and BRDN are interested in this and can support CNSC on planning this event.</li> <li>• CNSC will also be in the communities next week for the NexGen community information sessions where we will have a booth set up to discuss the project and answer any questions.</li> </ul>

### Action Item Summary

Responsible Party	Action Item
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will share the Stream 3 funding application with BNDN and BRDN (complete)</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will set up a meeting later this summer on the NexGen Rook I project to discuss the technical comments with the subject matter experts with BNDN and BRDN</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will share information and links on road quality in relation to provincial requirements with BNDN and BRDN (complete)</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will work with BNDN and BRDN representatives on the fall tour to narrow down dates</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will look into if BNDN and BRDN could include a representative on the FIRT for the NexGen project</li></ul>



Subject  
Objet

NexGen Northern Community Tour – Trip Report for UMMD, ERD & ISRD: Northern Saskatchewan – May 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Location:** Dillon, Turnor Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche and Clearwater River in Northern Saskatchewan

**Dates:** Monday May 27<sup>th</sup>-Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**CNSC Participants:** Dana Pandolfi, Senior Project Officer, UMMD; Maria Healy, Project Officer, UMMD; Shannon O'Neill, Environmental Review Officer, ERD; Sydney Nickolet, Policy Officer, ISRD and Rachel Lane, Radiation and Health Science Specialist, HSECD

**Event:** NexGen Northern Community Tour

**Background:** CNSC staff from UMMD, ERD, HSECD and ISRD attended the NexGen Northern Community Tour from Monday May 27<sup>th</sup> until Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup> in multiple northern Saskatchewan communities including Turnor Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, and Clearwater River. This is the third year that CNSC has accompanied NexGen on this community tour where CNSC set up a booth in 5 different northern communities to talk about who we are, our role on the NexGen project as well as answer any questions that community members have about the CNSC. Due to the Fission Patterson Lake South (PLS) project being located across the lake from the NexGen Rook I project, CNSC was also able to speak to community members and share information regarding both projects. The display booth included outreach materials and information pamphlets.

### Highlights:

- NexGen invited the high school students to participate in the events which allowed for many youth to attend the CNSC booth. Approximately 100 community members visited the booth over the course of the three days.
- NexGen also invited different northern educational supports to also set up a booth in all communities where they were able to support students on applying for post secondary education and employment after high school.
- Many of the questions posed by community members consisted of our role and of nuclear activities in Canada, timelines for the NexGen project, protection of the environment and monitoring. We also heard concerns regarding the NexGen and Fission projects being right door next to each other and cumulative effects we may see developing due close proximity of the proposed projects. Lastly, there were also concerns regarding the length of the approval process, and many community members were supportive of NexGen moving forward for economic reasons.
- CNSC staff were also able to provide information about the difference between CNSC's role with respect to the NexGen federal environmental assessment and the Fission provincial environmental assessment.

### Lessons Learned:

- At this event, most of our outreach materials were very popular with the community members. For example, the fishing lures and camping mugs were very popular at this event. However, most people were struggling to carry around all the swag from each booth in their hands. In the future and if available, CNSC should order the CNSC branded bags for outreach events to make it easier for booth attendees to receive a bit of everything including the hand outs. Creative Services should ensure that CNSC branded bags are always in stock.
- Having some type of game at the booth in order to limit the amount of swag that is given out would also be beneficial (i.e., a prize wheel or plinko style game).
- The CNSC's booth would be more eye-catching if it involved more dimension (such as acrylic stands for pamphlets and displays for outreach materials).

### Next Steps:

- It is recommended that CNSC staff continue attending the NexGen Northern Community Tour every year as it is a great opportunity to talk with members directly in their community and to hear about concerns and questions relating to the NexGen and Fission projects.
- CNSC is planning a regulator-led community tour for the fall of 2024 where we are planning to visit the same communities, give a presentation in the schools and provide a supper and community meeting in the evenings. Ideally, this would be done in coordination with the Province of Saskatchewan.



Figure 1: CNSC team at the booth in Turnor Lake, SK





# CNSC Overview and Updates on Proposed the NexGen and Fission Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

Buffalo River Dene Nation

August 23, 2024

Saskatoon



Ryan Froess, Sydney Nickolet,  
Nicole Frigault and Shannon  
O'Neill







BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Mission

- Regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect the health, safety, and security of Canadians and protection of the environment
- Implements Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy
- Disseminates objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public





BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

# Independent Commission



**DR. TIMOTHY  
BERUBE**



**MS. ANDREA  
HARDIE**



**MR. JERRY  
HOPWOOD**



**DR. MARCEL  
LACROIX**



**DR. VICTORIA  
REMENDA**



**PRESIDENT  
PIERRE  
TREMBLAY**



**VACANCY**

- Agent of the Government of Canada (the Crown)
- Independent of Government - Reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources Canada
- Considers the public and Indigenous communities' concerns and knowledge in decisions
- Decisions reviewable by Federal Court

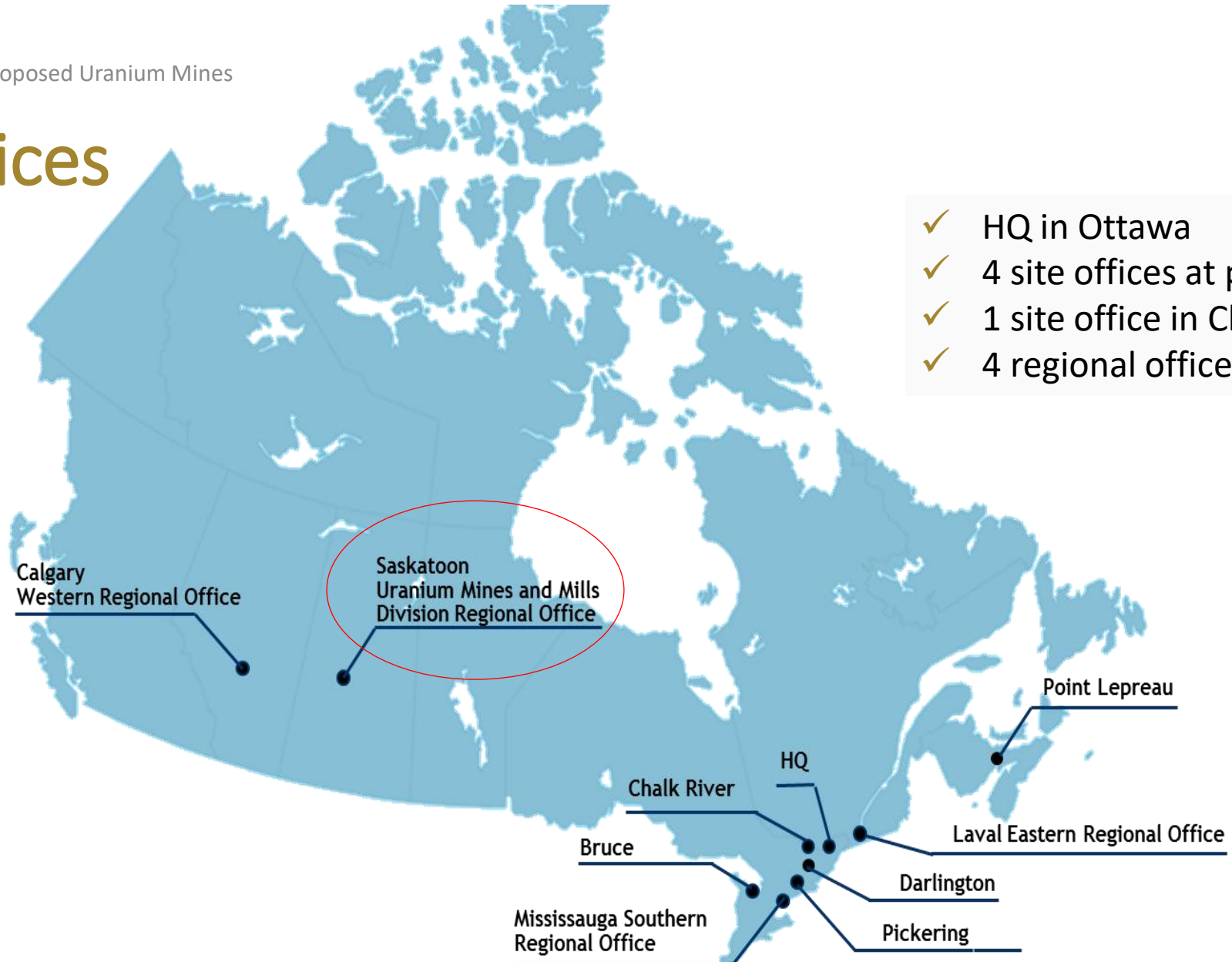


BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mines

# CNSC Offices

- ✓ HQ in Ottawa
- ✓ 4 site offices at power reactors
- ✓ 1 site office in Chalk River
- ✓ 4 regional offices







BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

# CNSC Regulates all Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities and Activities



## Mining



Rock containing on average 1 - 19 % uranium (uranium ore) is extracted from the ground. The ore is transported to a regional mill.

## Milling



Uranium ore is ground and the uranium ( $U_3O_8$ ) is chemically separated from most other constituents. The uranium concentrate, containing approximately 98% uranium (yellowcake) is shipped to a refinery.

## Refining



The remaining contaminants in the uranium concentrate are chemically separated from the uranium. The purified uranium ( $UO_3$ ) is shipped to a uranium conversion facility.

## Conversion

The chemical form of uranium is converted to  $UO_2$  (for CANDU reactor fuel) or to  $UF_6$  (for export).  $UO_2$  powder is shipped to a fuel fabrication facility.

## Fuel Fabrication



The  $UO_2$  powder is pressed into pellets.

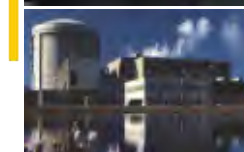
## Fuel Assembly



The  $UO_2$  pellets are assembled in CANDU reactor fuel bundles. The fuel bundles are shipped to a nuclear generating station (NGS).



Fuel bundles are loaded into reactors, where they generate heat to produce electricity.



Pickering NGS,  
Pickering, ON

Point Lepreau NGS,  
Point Lepreau, NB

Bruce A and B NGS,  
Kincardine, ON

Darlington NGS,  
Clarington, ON

Cigar Lake Mine  
(Cameco), SK

McClellan Mine/Mill  
(ORANO), SK

McArthur River Mine  
(Cameco), SK

Key Lake Mill  
(Cameco), SK

Rabbit Lake Mine  
(Cameco), SK

Rabbit Lake Mill  
(Cameco), SK



Blind River Refinery  
(Cameco),  
Blind River, ON



Uranium conversion facility  
(Cameco),  
Port Hope, ON



Nuclear Fuel Facility (Cameco Fuel Manufacturing Inc.), Port Hope, ON



Nuclear Fuel Facility (BWXT Inc.) Toronto, ON



Nuclear Fuel Facility (BWXT Inc.) Peterborough, ON

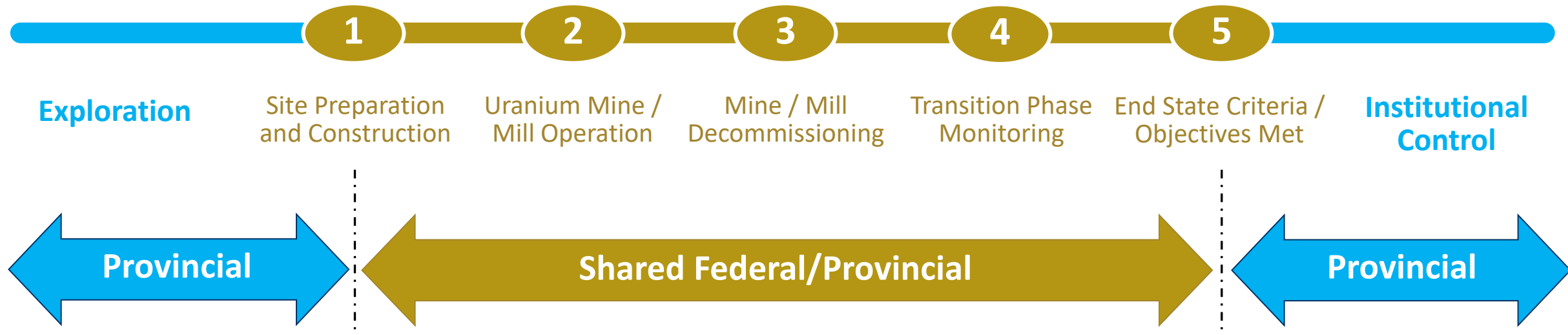




BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

# Uranium Mines and Mills Regulatory Lifecycle



*Responsibility returns to the province at end of project life*



BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

# What We Do, What We Don't

- Commission and staff work for Canadians, we are an **independent** regulator
- Staff **review** applications and Commission **issues** licences
- Commission's decisions based on **best available information** (*i.e., science and Indigenous Knowledge*)
- Staff **verify safety and compliance** – take action if needed



- We are **not** industry, nor are we the Province
- We do **not** select sites
- We do **not** own, manage, construct or operate projects
- We **don't** regulate exploration
- We do **not** promote the nuclear industry





BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

## Engagement

# CNSC's Indigenous Engagement Activities

- CNSC is a lifecycle regulator and is working to build long-term relationships with Indigenous Nations and communities near existing/proposed nuclear facilities

## Examples of Recent Engagement Activities:

- Community information sessions – CNSC 101
- CNSC staff visits to culture camps and Treaty Day celebrations
- Collaboration on environmental monitoring programs
- Committed to working with Indigenous Nations and communities to establish regular and ongoing engagement and consultation for projects.



CNSC Outreach & Consultation at the KML Culture Camp  
Learning How to Fillet a Fish - September 2022

Source: CNSC

CMD 25-H12.B-C1-Page 0796





BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

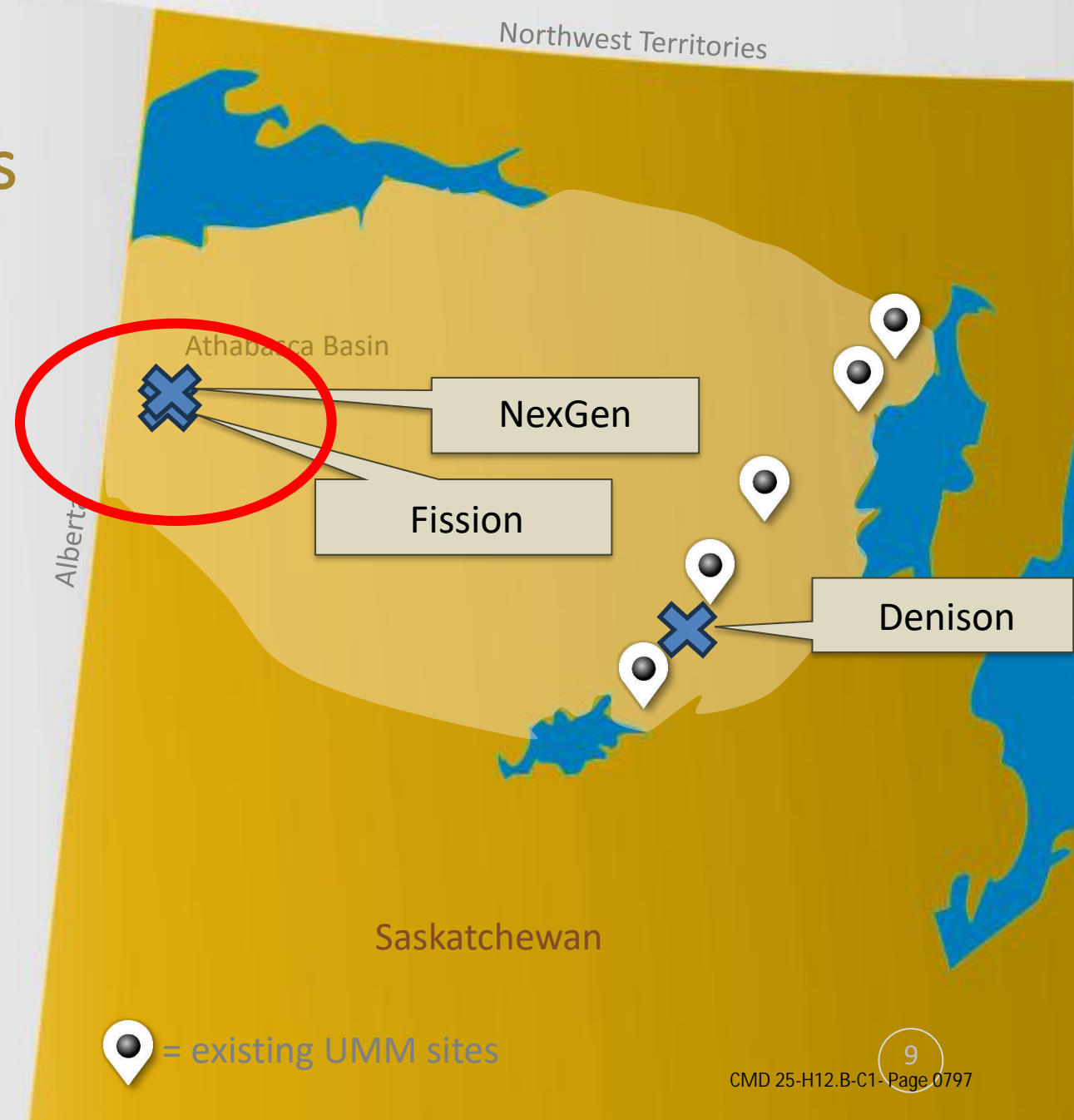
# Proposed new Uranium Mines and Mills

- **NexGen's Rook-I project**

- licence application received in 2019
- CNSC-led Environmental Assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012* (CEAA 2012)

- **Fission's Patterson Lake South project**

- Provincial-led EA under Saskatchewan's Environmental Assessment Act – at the request of the Province of Saskatchewan, the CNSC is acting as a federal expert
- Licence application received in 2023



= existing UMM sites





BRDN – August 2024

## Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

## Proposed Projects

# Rook-I Project (NexGen)

- Proposed underground uranium mine and uranium mill on Patterson Lake
  - Proposes underground tailings management
- Initial regulatory applications in 2019
  - CNSC-led Environmental Assessment
  - Application for CNSC licence to construct a mine, mill
  - Applications for Provincial approvals
- Ongoing reviews of NexGen's documents, responses to comments

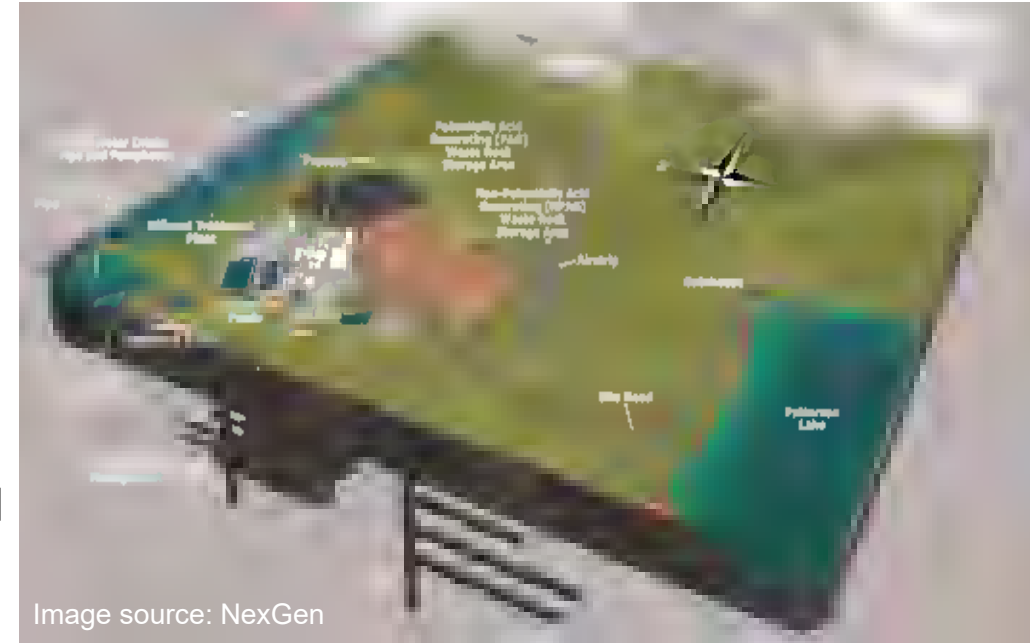


Image source: NexGen

***Commission decisions required before mine/mill construction can begin***



BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

## Proposed Projects

## Rook-I Project (NexGen)

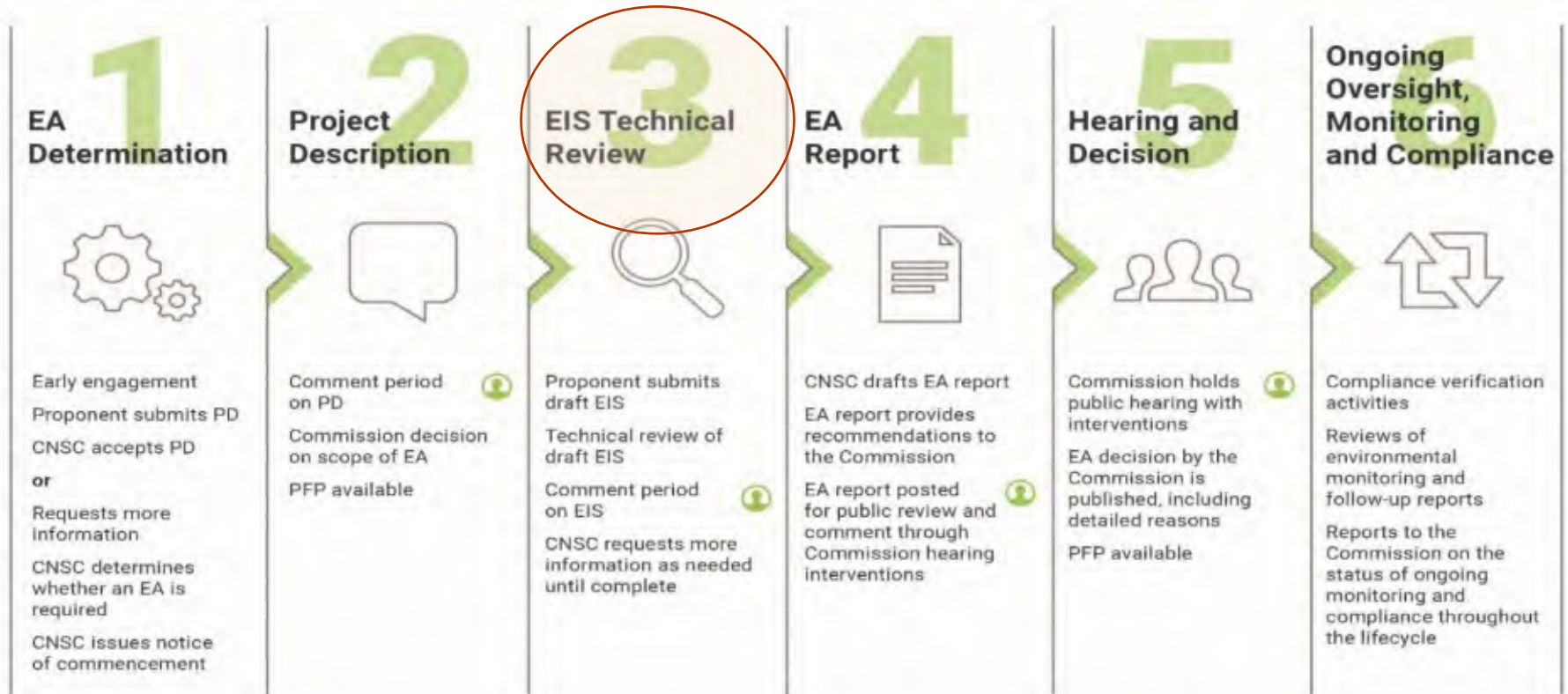
- Undergoing Environmental Assessments under concurrent Federal (led by CNSC) and Provincial (led by SK) processes:
  - CNSC staff are completing the technical review of NexGen's May2024 draft EIS package re-submission and expected to send results back to NexGen by end of September 2024
  - On November 8, 2023, SK granted approval to NexGen to proceed with Rook 1 project with several conditions they must meet before construction can commence
- July 1, 2023 NexGen submitted final licence application package and CNSC staff confirmed on September 1<sup>st</sup> of this year that package was sufficiently detailed to commence its review
  - Submission included programs, manuals, procedures, design information, etc.



# Proposed Projects Rook-I Project (NexGen)

## Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Environmental Assessment Process under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

Ongoing public engagement  
and Indigenous consultation  
throughout the EA process



### Legend

EA: Environmental Assessment  
PD: Project Description

EIS: Environmental Impact Statement  
PFP: Participant Funding Program

Formal Part of the Process



BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

## Proposed Projects

## Rook-I Project (NexGen) – Next Steps

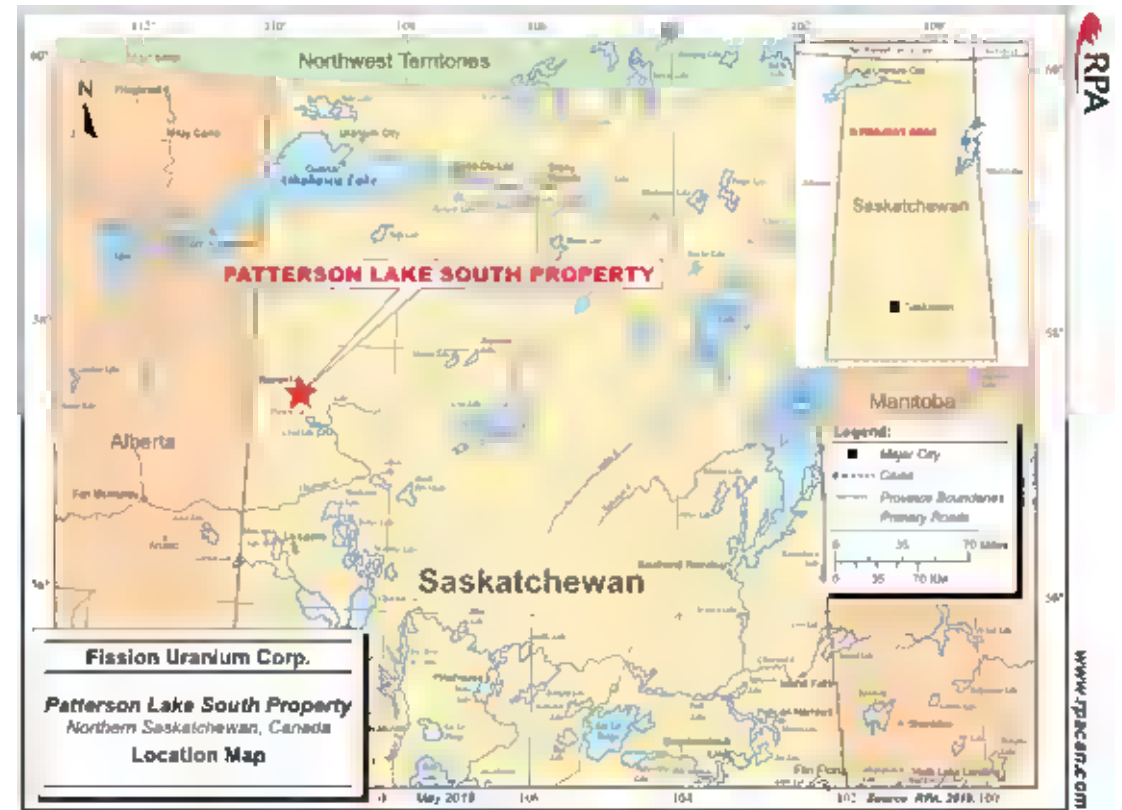
- Continued regular correspondence and meetings to share project updates as requested by BRDN leadership
- BRDN to Review Issues and Concerns Tables drafted by CNSC in coming months
- Incorporation of Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Studies (if available and shared) into our EA report, reviews and assessment
- BRDN to Review Rights Impact Assessment report drafted by CNSC
- Community outreach events if BRDN would like to provide additional information and answer questions and concerns from community/leadership



## Proposed Projects

## Patterson Lake South Project (Fission)

- Proposed underground uranium mine and uranium mill on Patterson Lake
- Application for CNSC licence to prepare site for and construct a uranium mine and mill
- Ongoing reviews of Fission's documents, responses to comments
- Indigenous and Public Engagement
- Undergoing Provincial Environmental Assessment led by Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment



Source: [Fission Uranium Corp.'s Fission Project Description](#)



## Proposed Projects

## Patterson Lake South Project (Fission)

**CNSC Licensing**

- April 2023 - Fission submitted an initial application for CNSC licence to prepare a site and construct
- Working in Parallel - CNSC has initiated a review of their application for sufficiency while the province of Saskatchewan conducts the EA
- CNSC staff are engaging and consulting with Indigenous Nations and communities to address concerns and advise on the CNSC licence review process.

**Provincial EA**

- Fission submitted a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the province in March 2024
- In August 2024, Fission submitted a revised EIS to the Province and CNSC is participating in the review currently





BRDN – August 2024

Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

## Proposed Projects

## Patterson Lake South Project (Fission) – Next Steps

- Continued regular correspondence and meetings to share project updates as requested by BRDN leadership
- CNSC to share any project related licensing updates with BRDN on Fission
- Incorporation of Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Studies (if available and shared) into CNSC's reports, reviews and assessments
- To hold a tri-party meeting with BRDN, the Province of Saskatchewan and CNSC, if interested
- Community outreach events if BRDN would like to provide additional information and answer questions and concerns from community/leadership



BRDN – August 2024  
Overview and Updates on Proposed Uranium Mine/Mill Projects

*Thank You!*

*Questions?*



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**Meeting Notes - Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN)/CNSC**

CNSC Office Saskatoon - October 18, 2024 - 11:30 am to 1:30 pm (Hybrid meeting)

**Meeting attendees:**

Chief Norma Catarat (BRDN)	Travis Quinn (SSC)
Dallas Billette (BRDN Council)	Adrienne Ethier (CNSC-ERAD)
Colin Catarat (BRDN Council)	Grant Su (CNSC-ERAD)
Melissa Desjarlais (BRDN Council)	Mandy McConnell (CNSC-ERAD)
Terrance Billette (BRDN Council)	Tesfaye Tarekegn (CNSC-ERAD)
Louie Chinalquay (BRDN Council)	Qinghuai Zheng (CNSC-ERAD)
Kia Wright (Buffalo River Development)	Jeffrey Lam (CNSC-HSECD)
Rory Duncan (Buffalo River Development)	Dana Pandolfi (CNSC-UMMD)
Ryan Froess (CNSC-ISRDR)	Nicole Frigault (CNSC-ERD)
Justin McKeown (CNSC-ISRDR)	Elizabeth Williamson (CNSC-ERD)

**Meeting Agenda between BDRN and CNSC subject matter experts to discuss the following:**

- 1. Contaminant migration from the UGTMF to Patterson Lake
- 2. NO2, particulate matter, and uranium emissions
- 3. Potential for and risks associated with surface water storage on site breaching or overflowing.
- 4. CNSC tracking of NexGen EIS commitments throughout the licensing phase of the project

**Meeting Notes:**

*Water Concerns and Patterson Lake*

<b>Question: Are there any outstanding concerns regarding water?</b>
Answer: The facilities that NexGen has proposed are considered within CNSC staff’s assessment of the project. CNSC staff are still awaiting completed IRs from NexGen; the application will not proceed until CNSC staff approve of the information and detail provided by NexGen. From a hydrogeological perspective, the IRs were deemed sufficient.

**General Discussion:**

- CNSC staff's assessment of NexGen's application includes assessing the environmental and health concerns associated with the proposed infrastructure and wastes. For instance, the waste rock, management facilities and management systems used for mitigation of risk are all considered.
- CNSC staff are still having conversations with NexGen and ECCC regarding the < 20 IRs that are still deemed open and require more information from NexGen.

**Question: Is underground tailings storage the best option?**

Answer: From a hydrogeological perspective and an environmental assessment perspective, there are **fewer risks** associated with underground storage of waste compared to surface storage of waste. Putting tailings in an engineered underground facility in bedrock would reduce the interaction with environmental components in general, and with surface water in particular as the bedrock will have much lower permeability than the soils on the surface, particularly in the long term. More important is the underground tailings facility provides a passive barrier for contaminant migration in the long-term when comparing with managing surface tailings which needs more active control measures post decommissioning.

**General Discussion:**

- The CNSC cannot propose a different project / alternatives to the project, rather, CNSC staff review the proposed project. CNSC staff also offer recommendations, which are considered by the Commission who will make the final decision.
- Waste management facilities on the surface may pose additional risks of interactions with the surrounding environment. For instance, burrowing animals or tree roots may carrying contaminants to other areas of the environment.

**Question: How does the CNSC (and other federal departments such as ECCC and HC) determine significance or what adverse means?**

Answer: This is based on environmental, health and other criteria and regulations. There are conservative limits associated with different contaminants and materials of concern. An adverse environmental effect can be described in qualitative or quantitative terms.

**Question: If there are concerns with underground tailings 20 years after the mine shuts down how will that be handled?**

Answer: The Province of Saskatchewan would be the jurisdiction responsible for the long-term management of the decommissioned project site and wastes of projects through their Institutional Control Program (ICP). [Institutional Control Program | Mineral Exploration and Mining | Government of Saskatchewan](#). The ICP implements the process for the long-term monitoring and maintenance of industrial sites when mining or milling activities have ended, remediation

has been completed, and the sites are ready to be transferred to provincial responsibility. The two primary components of the program are the Institutional Control Registry and the Institutional Control Funds. The registry maintains a formal record of closed sites while the funds support any required monitoring and maintenance work. The Institutional Control Monitoring and Maintenance Fund and the Institutional Control Unforeseen Events Fund were established in 2009. There is legislation requiring these funds and the proponent/licensee will be required to have a Financial guarantee before beginning construction and operations that is reviewed every 5 years by the CNSC and the province.

**Question: How will climate change impact waste once or if the project is confirmed?**

Answer: In terms of underground tailings management, the deeper the waste is stored, the better and the climate change impact would be minimized. For example, erosion and glaciation are much less likely to impact the waste. (When compared to surface waste management).

### *Monitoring and Compliance of Environment and Health:*

**Question: What kind of programs are in place for environmental and health monitoring?**

Answer: There are four main programs that focus on monitoring.

- 1) Compliance programs from the proponent that they are required to carry out that the CNSC and the province reviews the data on monthly/yearly basis.
- 2) IEMP – Site specific and random spot checks and sampling downstream and around the sites are chosen each year and sampling is carried out independently by CNSC staff with Indigenous community members.
- 3) Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program – Indigenous Nations and communities can send samples in for testing to ensure country foods are safe.
- 4) Monitoring programs in partnerships with the proponents. Often part of IBAs signed with communities. The CNSC is not involved in the drafting of IBAs, nor oversees their implementation but Indigenous Nations and communities close to the facilities work with proponents to conduct monitoring activities as agreed upon with the proponent.

#### **General Discussion:**

- CNSC staff evaluate releases based on several factors. If there are releases that affect a species at the individual level in a specific area but does not impact the population as a whole, it may not be deemed an immediate issue. However, if the species is listed under the Species at Risk Act any impacts at the individual level would be deemed a more immediate concern.
- The CNSC is a member and co-chair of the CSA Standard N288.6 for Environmental Risk Assessments. The recent 2022 update to the standard includes an informative annex on

Indigenous populations with significant reliance on country and traditional foods where dietary preferences and habits might differ substantially from other populations. We would be happy to come back and speak to you regarding Human Health and Environmental Risk Assessments and the process if BRDN is interested.

- CNSC staff also use baseline studies and information collected throughout the lifespan of the project to assess potential impacts and ensure that consuming fish, drinking water, and harvesting traditional foods in northern Saskatchewan remains safe.

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### *Timelines of Reporting Incidents:*

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<b>Question: Are environmental incidents reported right away?</b>
Answer: Releases or spills must be reported to the CNSC within 24 hours. A full report must be submitted within 21 days. There is a range of fines, suspensions, and closures that the Commission can put in place if these conditions are not met. There are also annual Regulatory Oversight Reports where the Commission assesses how well the proponent is following environmental, health and safety guidelines. There are opportunities for Nations to engage during these meetings.

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### *Air Monitoring:*

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#### **General Discussion:**

- Health Canada had concerns regarding air quality and the project. NexGen responded with additional information that Health Canada deemed sufficient.
- CNSC staff also track other projects that are going on in the area in case there are interactions that cause adverse effects.

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### *Noise Monitoring:*

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#### **General Discussion:**

- CNSC staff can organize another information session or provide more information on noise monitoring at a future meeting if BRDN is interested?

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### *Next Steps:*

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- There are still < 20 Information requests (IRs) that CNSC staff have deemed insufficient. CNSC staff will continue to review the IRs until they are deemed sufficient.
- A hearing date has not yet been scheduled. Once a hearing date is scheduled, it would be for a License to Prepare Site and License to Construct. NexGen would then have to come back to the Commission for all future licenses, including a License to Operate, License to Renew, and License to Decommission. Public hearings would be held at each licensing stage.
- Indigenous Nations and communities including BRDN will continue be updated on the regulatory process as it advances and if and when a hearing date is announced BRDN will be notified well in advance so they can participate.
- CNSC staff will be conducting in-person engagement in November 2024 in northwestern Saskatchewan. There will also be additional in-person opportunities and online / hybrid session with the community if BRDN Chief and Council would like and we are always open to meet to answer any more questions you may have.

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** April 23, 2025 8:42 AM  
**To:** kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** Continuation of CNSC project-specific meetings

Good morning Chief Montgrand.

Congratulations on your election. I hope things are well at Buffalo River Dene Nation.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) had regular project-specific meetings to discuss progress on the NexGen project application with the previous Chief & Council. We are interested in continuing these regular meetings with you and your Council, or representatives of your choice. Please let us know if we can use the meeting as a means of introductions, or if you'd prefer a separate introductory meeting to learn more about the CNSC.

We look forward to working with your Council over the next few years.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** May 14, 2025 7:50 AM  
**To:** Rory Duncan; Chief Kelly Montgrand; Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** RE: Continuation of CNSC project-specific meetings

Good morning,

My apologies for the delay in responding.

Would any of the following times work for BRDN for an introductory meeting?

May 15<sup>th</sup> – between 10:30-12

May 16<sup>th</sup> – between 10-11, 11:30-12, or 2-3

May 21<sup>st</sup> – between 8:30-12

If not, please suggest times that work best for your calendars.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Rory Duncan <RoryD@brdlp.ca>

**Sent:** April 29, 2025 11:07 AM

**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>; Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Continuation of CNSC project-specific meetings

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hi Hilary,

Thanks for reaching out to BRDN to set up these important meetings. Please ensure to copy myself as it will help lend some consistency to these meetings.

The new C&C is working hard to get up to speed and Chief or myself will reach out when they are ready to meet.

Will this meeting only be in regard to NexGen or will other projects (Fission/Paladin) be included in the discussion as well?

Rory Duncan



---

**From:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <[kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 29, 2025 10:30 AM  
**To:** Rory Duncan <[RoryD@brdlp.ca](mailto:RoryD@brdlp.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Continuation of CNSC project-specific meetings

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:42 AM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <[kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Continuation of CNSC project-specific meetings

You don't often get email from [hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca). [Learn why this is important](#)  
Good morning Chief Montgrand.

Congratulations on your election. I hope things are well at Buffalo River Dene Nation.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) had regular project-specific meetings to discuss progress on the NexGen project application with the previous Chief & Council. We are interested in continuing these regular meetings with you and your Council, or representatives of your choice. Please let us know if we can use the meeting as a means of introductions, or if you'd prefer a separate introductory meeting to learn more about the CNSC.

We look forward to working with your Council over the next few years.

Thank you,

Hilary

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 3:35 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; Rory Duncan  
**Subject:** CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** BRDN Consultation Report - Section 4.4 - For Review.docx;  
BRDN\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed.docx

Good afternoon Chief Montgrand,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.4 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BRDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BRDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BRDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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# Environmental Assessment Report: Rook I Project

September 2025



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

## ***Executive Summary***

*Background*

*Environmental assessment requirements*

*Scope of the assessment*

*Potential effects of the project on the environment*

*Indigenous consultation and engagement*

*Follow-up monitoring program*

*Recommendations*

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*Note, this Table of Contents is only a draft for context.*

## **Section 6 - PREDICTED CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

### **6.2. Aquatic Environment**

#### 6.2.1. Changes in surface water and sediment quality / 6.2.3. Fish and fish habitat

Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) indicated their members are concerned about potential Project impacts on water quality and how this may adversely impact fish and fish habitat.

### **6.4. Geological and hydrogeological environment**

#### 6.4.1. Changes in groundwater flow / 6.4.2. Changes in groundwater quality

BRDN noted they had general concerns regarding groundwater quality and potential impacts to groundwater.

## **7. PREDICTED EFFECTS ON VALUED COMPONENTS**

### **7.5. Indigenous uses: Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes**

#### Indigenous Land Use

BRDN has shared concerns about project access limitations to lands and resources, and implications this would cause to transmitting traditional knowledge to younger generations. BRDN has also shared concerns about the ability to harvest country foods and implications surrounding food security and community well-being for those using the land for food harvesting. BRDN also raised concerns with respect to noise due to truck traffic etc. and how that may impact animals in the region.

#### Surface Water and Groundwater Contamination and Use

BRDN shared concerns about potential Project effects on water quality affecting subsistence and commercial fishing by BRDN in the region.

#### Increased Access & Changes to Access

BRDN shared concerns about safety of truck transportation, including the number of trucks on the road, and spill response and who will be responsible for cleanup if spills do occur. BRDN has also raised concerns about increased development and industrial activity leading to increased competition with non-Indigenous recreational land-users for hunting and fishing in the region. BRDN is also concerned about cumulative access restrictions within BRDN traditional territory.

#### Cumulative Impacts of mining projects and exploration activities

BRDN raised concerned about cumulative effects from industry (e.g., the Project, Fort McMurray oil sands developments) air quality and on human health and the environment.

## **8. OTHER EFFECTS CONSIDERED**

### **8.2. Effects of accidents and malfunctions**

BRDN indicated concerns regarding the safety and truck transportation, including the number of trucks on the road that would increase the risk of an accident, and any subsequent spills that may result.

## 4.4 Consultation Activities with Buffalo River Dene Nation

### 4.4.1 Background on Buffalo River Dene Nation



**Figure 14. Buffalo River Dene Nation logo**

Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) is a Dene-speaking nation situated approximately 84 kilometres northwest of Île-à-la-Crosse, SK on the western shore of Peter Pond Lake near Dillon, SK. The Nation is approximately 8,259 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 1,233 with an on-reserve population of 640 members. The Nation is also affiliated with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations.

The Rook1 Project is located approximately 190 km from the main BRDN reserve in a straight-line distance and is within BRDN's traditional territory. CNSC has an established relationship with BRDN, and the Nation has expressed an interest in other CNSC-regulated facilities in northern Saskatchewan. NexGen has been engaging with Buffalo River Dene Nation since February of 2017 on the Rook 1 Project.

### 4.4.2 CNSC's Consultation Activities with Buffalo River Dene Nation

Since 2019, CNSC staff have continued to consult, engage, and keep BRDN informed of the Project and provided ongoing opportunities to meet and continue to discuss any comments or concerns. CNSC staff have offered to develop a Terms of Reference (TOR) with BRDN for long-term engagement, as well as a project-specific TOR for consultation. To date, BRDN has not expressed an interest in developing these types of arrangements with the CNSC.

CNSC staff remain open to and interested in developing a mutually agreeable TOR for long-term engagement that outlines how the CNSC and BRDN engage and collaborate on nuclear projects in BRDN's traditional territory. CNSC and BRDN have continued to meet to discuss the Project, including working towards understanding, assessing, and addressing concerns that BRDN has raised about the Project.

NexGen entered into a capacity funding agreement with BRDN in July 2021, which included funding for BRDN to complete an Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey (IKRS). BRDN completed the IKRS and shared it with NexGen. The IKRS included results from the study in the draft and final EIS. Although CNSC staff requested that BRDN share the IKRS, BRDN declined to share the IKRS.

CNSC and BRDN have had ongoing discussions to address Project-specific concerns and potential impacts to BRDN's Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights. BRDN had expressed concerns about technical elements of the project previously, and these are summarized in the Appendix \_\_\_\_ Issues Tracking Table.



CNSC staff have worked with BRDN and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions, and comments and BRDN has concluded that they are satisfied with NexGen's and CNSC's consultation and engagement processes to date. In July 2021, NexGen and BRDN signed an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA), which addresses the interests, concerns, and priorities of the Nation regarding the Project. In October 2022, BRDN sent a letter of support to the CNSC stating that they are pleased with the strong collaboration and meaningful relationship that has been established between NexGen and BRDN, as well as outlining details on the collaborative work that has taken place between BRDN and NexGen thus far. In November 2023, BRDN sent a letter of support for the Project to the CNSC, indicating that all issues and concerns identified by BRDN had been addressed and resolved. The letter also included the Nation's consent for the Project to proceed. Since receiving BRDN's consent letter and support for the project, CNSC staff have been working and meeting with the Nation to address their questions and concerns regarding the remaining steps, timelines and requirements, in view of completing the regulatory review process and drafting recommendations for the Commission. Although the CNSC has not received a response, the CNSC has communicated that it is seeking BRDN's collaboration on drafting content for the CNSC staff's Consultation Report, to ensure that information specific to BRDN's Rights, knowledge, concerns, and perspectives are captured accurately.

**Table 5 Summary of the key consultation activities with Buffalo River Dene Nation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Consultation Activity</b>
April 2019 – June 2019	CNSC staff sent BRDN an email and letter, providing notice that the CNSC had received an application for the Project. The letter outlined CNSC's licensing and EA processes and opportunities for BRDN's participation, including funding opportunities.
July 2019 – December 2019	No activity.
January 2020 – June 2020	No activity.
July 2020 – December 2020	BRDN participated in a Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting with CNSC staff and NexGen. The JWG discussed the duty to consult, as well as the CNSC EA and licensing processes.
January 2021 – June 2021	BRDN and CNSC staff developed a contribution agreement to support the Nation's review of the Project draft EIS.

	<p>CNSC staff reached out to BRDN to organize a meeting to address any questions or concerns they might have on the Project. CNSC staff expressed an interest in hearing about how the proposed Project could have potential impacts on BRDN's Indigenous and/or treaty rights, as well as how those impacts could be mitigated.</p>
July 2021 – December 2021	<p>BRDN signed an IBA with NexGen.</p> <p>CNSC staff reached out to BRDN to provide an update on the Project timeline, including the upcoming submission of the draft EIS. CNSC staff also offered to organize a meeting to discuss any potential adverse impacts the Project might have on BRDN's Indigenous and/or treaty rights, mitigation measures, and consultation methods preferable to BRDN.</p>
January 2022 – June 2022	<p>CNSC staff sent BRDN a letter outlining the proposed consultation approach for the Project. This included the option for BRDN to participate in the Federal and Indigenous Review Team (FIRT), collaborate on sections of the EA report, and develop a TOR or consultation protocol.</p> <p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Dillon to discuss BRDN's concerns about the Project.</p>
July 2022 – December 2022	<p>CNSC staff and BRDN met in-person in Saskatoon to discuss the Rook I EIS submission and next steps. CNSC staff discussed BRDN's issues and concerns, as well as next steps in the regulatory process.</p> <p>BRDN shared a letter of support for the Project, emphasizing BRDN's strong collaboration and meaningful relationship with NexGen.</p>
January 2023 – June 2023	<p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Dillon.</p>

July 2023 – December 2023	In November, BRDN sent a letter of support for the Project to CNSC staff, indicating that all issues and concerns identified by BRDN had been addressed and resolved.
January 2024 – June 2024	CNSC staff reached out to BRDN to organize a meeting to provide an update on the regulatory process, next steps and timelines.
July 2024 – December 2024	CNSC staff met with BRDN Chief and Council in Saskatoon in August and October of 2024 to discuss BRDN's concerns about water quality and air emissions, including the safety of the underground tailings management facility. CNSC staff provided an explanation of next steps, including how commitments are throughout the licensing process.
January 2025 – June 2025	<p>CNSC staff sent an email and letter with proposed next steps for consultation and engagement for the remainder of the regulatory review process. This letter provided a status update on the acceptance of the final EIS and outlined next steps for developing the EA report, Consultation Report, and Commission Member Document.</p> <p>CNSC staff reached out by email to newly elected leadership in April and May of 2025 to re-establish regular project update meetings, and to advise of a PFP opportunity for the Project hearings.</p>
July 2025 – December 2025	TBD.

#### 4.4.3 Key issues and concerns raised by Buffalo River Dene Nation and CNSC staff response

The key issues and concerns specific to the Project that BRDN has raised to date are summarized below. BRDN raised these concerns in their October 2022 submission on the draft EIS. The detailed issues tracking table for BRDN can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_. The specific row discussing these issues can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ and is listed beside each bullet. Please refer to this row in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ for additional context regarding the issue, CNSC staff's response and the issue's current status.

1. Concerns about social impacts and BRDN community including concerns around the following topics:

- a. Concerns that restricted access to traditional lands and resources may impact the transmission of traditional knowledge.
  - b. Concerns about the cumulative access restrictions within BRDN traditional territory.
  - c. Concerns about limited community participation in knowledge collection due to time and budget constraints.
  - d. Concerns about potential increase in social challenges (gambling, substance abuse, family violence) linked to increased income levels.
  - e. Concerns about increased competition with non-Indigenous recreational users due to industrial activities.
2. Concerns about infrastructure and monitoring including concerns around the following topics:
    - a. Concerns about deterioration of local road infrastructure due to project activities.
    - b. Concerns about liability for road maintenance and repair.
    - c. Concerns about increased traffic volumes contributing to road wear and dust pollution.
3. Concerns about environmental impacts and wildlife concerns including concerns around the following topics:
    - a. Concerns about degradation of air quality from cumulative industrial activities.
    - b. Concerns about potential contamination of water sources, particularly Patterson Lake.
    - c. Concerns about negative effects on fish populations and aquatic habitat,
    - d. Concerns about disruption to subsistence harvesting and commercial fishing practices.
    - e. Concerns about health risks from consuming wildlife exposed to pollutants.
    - f. Concern about decline in fowl populations affecting traditional harvesting.
    - g. Concerns about reduced access to country foods, impacting food security and community well-being.
    - h. Concerns about noise pollution from project construction and operation.
    - i. Concerns about insufficient environmental monitoring and oversight for the project.
4. Concerns on human health and safety including concerns around the following topics:
    - a. Concerns about human health and the cumulative health impacts from industrial exposure on human health.

- b. Concerns about road safety risks due to increased truck traffic and ensuring adequate spill response measures.
- c. Potential exposure to mine-related radiation and exhaust emissions.

#### **4.4.4 CNSC Staff's Response**

Since 2019, CNSC staff have continued to engage with BRDN and keep the Nation informed of the Project, providing ongoing opportunities to meet and discuss any comments or concerns.

CNSC staff acknowledge the issues and concerns that BRDN has raised to date relating to the Project. CNSC staff have worked to understand, assess and address the concerns to the greatest extent possible through consultation, having focused discussions, providing detailed responses, reflecting BRDN's views in CNSC's documentation and discussing the Project at regularly scheduled meetings with BRDN to better understand their concerns and identify a path forward to addressing them through commitments and mitigations, as necessary. CNSC's staff view is that the approach to consultation conducted for the Project has been in line with best practises and is flexible based on the specific needs and requests of each potentially impacted Indigenous Nation and community. CNSC staff will continue to monitor NexGen's engagement through the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and ensure that NexGen is addressing BRDN's questions, concerns and requests, and implementing the commitments they have made to BRDN. CNSC staff have and will continue to provide opportunities for BRDN to provide input and feedback on how they would like to be consulted for the Project and what would be meaningful for them.

CNSC staff have made initial commitments (listed below) to address the concerns raised to date. These commitments are being proposed currently and CNSC staff will discuss these further with BRDN. CNSC staff are committed to working with BRDN through the RIA process and further consultation on the Project by identifying additional commitments, mitigations and paths forward to addressing concerns relating to the Project, as appropriate. The outcome, as well as a final commitment list will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission.

Information regarding specific responses to each of BRDN's concerns are included in the issues tracking table found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

In summary, CNSC staff are committed to:

- Continuing to discuss the requests for mitigation and accommodation that BRDN has raised, including with NexGen, as appropriate;
- Collaborating on monitoring, oversight and engagement with BRDN;
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with BRDN for this Project on regular information sharing including discussions through a proposed TOR for long-term engagement between the CNSC and BRDN;
- Oversight of NexGen's commitments to BRDN;
- Oversight of NexGen's engagement with BRDN; and
- Continuing ongoing community visits and engagement with BRDN.

CNSC staff encourage NexGen to continue discussions and collaboration with BRDN to address any concerns that arise. CNSC staff anticipate receiving an update from NexGen on their engagement efforts in an IER to be filed on record, as part of the upcoming Commission hearings.

CNSC staff have worked with BRDN and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions, and comments and BRDN has concluded that they are satisfied with CNSC's consultation process to date, as well as NexGen's engagement on the Project. NexGen's commitments to BRDN are summarized in Section X, and further information will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission.

Information regarding specific responses to each of BRDN's concerns is included in the issues tracking table, which can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

#### **4.4.5 Conclusion**

CNSC staff are committed to continuing to consult, engage and work collaboratively with BRDN and NexGen in advance of the Part-2 Commission hearing to address any outstanding concerns, should they arise. This includes work on drafting a BRDN-specific RIA, which will provide updated information about potential impacts of the Project application on MN-S' Indigenous Rights. Mitigation and/or accommodation measures to address any identified impacts will be included in the supplemental submission, to be submitted to the Commission prior to the Part-2 hearing.

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 19, 2025 2:31 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; Rory Duncan  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** BRDN\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed.docx; BRDN Consultation Report - Section 4.4 - For Review.docx

Good afternoon Chief Montgrand,

I hope you are doing well. Sending out a friendly reminder that we'd appreciate your review on the attached sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment reports by June 27th.

Also, Nicole and I would like to set up a 30-minute touch base next week if that works for you. Would there be any dates or times that work best for BRDN?

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 3:35 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Rory Duncan <roryd@brdlp.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon Chief Montgrand,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.4 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BRDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BRDN, a table with key engagement

activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.

2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BRDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** July 7, 2025 2:53 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Frigault, Nicole; Rory Duncan  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** BRDN Consultation Report - Section 4.4 - For Review.docx;  
BRDN\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed.docx

Hello Chief Montgrand,

We are reaching out to see if there is interest to meet with the CNSC to discuss the NexGen project and preparations for the upcoming hearings.

Please let us know when you may be available to do so.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 19, 2025 2:31 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca>; Rory Duncan <roryd@brdlp.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

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Also, Nicole and I would like to set up a 30-minute touch base next week if that works for you. Would there be any dates or times that work best for BRDN?

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
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*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 3:35 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <[kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Rory Duncan <[roryd@brdlp.ca](mailto:roryd@brdlp.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon Chief Montgrand,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.4 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BRDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BRDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BRDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** McKeown, Justin  
**Sent:** July 17, 2025 6:59 PM  
**To:** Levine, Adam; Hunter, Hilary  
**Cc:** Pandolfi, Dana; Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** Fw: Letter of support  
**Attachments:** 20250711\_BRDN Letter of Support.pdf

FYI.

Justin McKeown  
Team Leader, Western & Northern Regions  
Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

---

**From:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 17, 2025 6:47:40 PM  
**To:** nicole.frigault@canada.ca <nicole.frigault@canada.ca>  
**Cc:** Adam Engdahl <aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca>; Imoger@nxe-energy.ca <Imoger@nxe-energy.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Letter of support

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Nicole,

Please see the attached letter outlining Buffalo River Dene Nation's support for the Rook I Project and the work NexGen is doing in our Province and with our Nation.

As newly elected Chief and Council we wanted to make sure the Federal Regulators and the Government of Canada were fully aware of the partnership and collaboration that our Nation and NexGen have had and continue to have as together we develop the Rook I Project and set new standards in safety, environmental, and social governance.

We look forward to the approval of the Rook I Project and commencing construction on the Project as soon as possible.

Thanks,

***Kelly Montgrand***

**Chief**

Buffalo River Dene Nation

Work: [\(306\) 282-2033](tel:3062822033)

Fax: [\(306\) 282-2113](tel:3062822113)

Cell: [\(306\) 314-7394](tel:3063147394)

Email: [kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)



# **BUFFALO RIVER**

## **DENE NATION**

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Buffalo River Dene Nation Band No 398  
Box 40  
Dillon, Sask S0M 0S0

July 11, 2025

To Nicole Frigault,

The following is a letter of support from the Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) to reiterate the newly elected BRDN Chief and Council's outright support for the work NexGen is conducting in Saskatchewan and the responsible development of the Rook I Project.

BRDN and NexGen have a long history of engagement and collaboration together, with relationships being developed with the BRDN community and leadership since 2016. NexGen has engaged with BRDN through all their exploration programs through to the current stage which is at the cusp of breaking ground for construction at the Rook I Project.

Through the implementation of the Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) that was signed on December 14, 2020, BRDN and NexGen have continued to work together and NexGen continues to show their commitment to the highest standards of environmental and social stewardship, including education, career training, and economic capacity building. Among the IBA benefits to BRDN are mechanisms to maximize local employment, local contracts, and continued community investment in culture, education, and health and wellness, to ensure long-term positive developments to our community.

Through our strong relationship and partnership that has been established between NexGen and BRDN, we truly feel that this Project will be a transformational, positive opportunity for our Nation. Our collaboration is based on our shared values of honesty, respect, and accountability, and we are confident that the foundational work that has been done since 2016 has resulted in a strong partnership that will set the stage for the responsible development of the Rook I Project, and generational benefits for our community. This approach not only addresses reconciliation, but we have now seen companies working in our traditional territory following this lead, creating more and more trust that the mining industry is genuinely wanting to listen to, and work with, Indigenous communities.

BRDN fully supports the responsible development of the Rook I Project. We look forward to working in partnership with NexGen to secure a healthy and prosperous future for our community for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Chief Kelly Montgrand

cc: BRDN Council Elect

Luke Moger – Vice President, Environment, Permitting & Licensing

Adam Engdahl – Vice President, Community

Justin McKeown – Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division, CNSC

---

**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** July 18, 2025 12:30 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand; nicole.frigault@canada.ca  
**Cc:** Adam Engdahl; Imoger@nxe-energy.ca; McKeown, Justin; Hunter, Hilary  
**Subject:** RE: Letter of support  
**Attachments:** RE: CNSC & BRDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon, Chief Montgrand,

This is to acknowledge receipt and to thank you for your e-mail and letter below.

I also wanted to check in with you on whether you plan to send any comments to CNSC staff regarding the sections of the EA Report and Indigenous Consultation Report sections that were shared with you in June (e-mail attached). Please let me know if you have any comments or concerns at your earliest opportunity as these documents are starting to circulate for management review and we would like all feedback incorporated asap.

Best regards and congratulations to you on your new role!

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 782-409-4833

---

**From:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Sent:** July 17, 2025 8:48 PM  
**To:** nicole.frigault@canada.ca  
**Cc:** Adam Engdahl <aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca>; Imoger@nxe-energy.ca; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Letter of support

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Nicole,

Please see the attached letter outlining Buffalo River Dene Nation's support for the Rook I Project and the work NexGen is doing in our Province and with our Nation.

As newly elected Chief and Council we wanted to make sure the Federal Regulators and the Government of Canada were fully aware of the partnership and collaboration that our Nation and NexGen have had and continue to have as together we develop the Rook I Project and set new standards in safety, environmental, and social governance.

We look forward to the approval of the Rook I Project and commencing construction on the Project as soon as possible.

Thanks,

***Kelly Montgrand***

**Chief**

Buffalo River Dene Nation

Work: [\(306\) 282-2033](tel:3062822033)

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Cell: [\(306\) 314-7394](tel:3063147394)

Email: [kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)



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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:30 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Hertz, Sarah; Frigault, Nicole  
**Subject:** CNSC & BRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I  
**Attachments:** BRDN Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review .docx

Good Afternoon Chief Montgrand,

Please see attached BRDN's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that BRDN has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from BRDN.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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## A.5 Issues Tracking Table for Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN) with respect to the NexGen Rook I Project

ID	Issue or concern (including impacts to Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights)	Theme	Crown response	Status of issue/concern
BRDN01	<p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p>BRDN is concerned about the project effects on water quality, especially Patterson Lake, which could lead to the contamination of aquatic resources such as fish and fish habitat. These potential impacts could lead land users to alter their behaviour by impacting subsistence and commercial fishing activities.</p> <p><b>Wildlife and Food Security</b></p> <p>BRDN members have concerns about Project effects on wildlife health and potential impacts to human health from consuming wildlife, as well as the safety and ability to harvest country foods, which has implications for food security and</p>	Aquatic environment / terrestrial biota/ human health	<p>NexGen has initiated a Traditional Food Study and committed to further developing monitoring programs during licensing. NexGen has committed to avoiding disruption of critical fish habitats and implementing Project-specific Groundwater, Effluent, and Environmental Monitoring Plans.</p> <p>CNSC staff will ensure NexGen is meeting their commitments through oversight of NexGen's environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring programs. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on</p>	TBD.

	community well-being.		engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BRDN, annually. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BRDN on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.	
BRDN02	<p><b>Human Health</b></p> <p>BRDN is concerned about cumulative effects from industry, such as the potential exposure to mine radiation exhaust and related safety factors and their potential impacts on community members' health.</p> <p><b>Transportation Safety</b></p> <p>BRDN members have concerns about the safety of truck transportation, including the number of trucks on the</p>	Human health/ cumulative effects	<p>The CNSC regulates nuclear facilities across their entire lifecycles and CNSC staff perform various compliance activities to ensure the facilities are operating ways that are safe for the environment and human health and mitigating risks of accidents and malfunctions.</p> <p>The CNSC is committed to ensuring that Indigenous communities, including</p>	TBD.

	<p>road and whether activities, such as spill response, will be carried out safely.</p>		<p>BRDN, are meaningfully involved in environmental oversight for the proposed Project, if it is approved, and recognizes the importance of community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to community-level engagement and support, and the CNSC expects NexGen to continue working with BRDN to identify and address health and well-being concerns throughout the facility lifecycle. NexGen has included assessments of the human environment and cumulative effects within their final EIS that consider impacts on physical and emotional health.</p> <p>The CNSC reviews public health reports from relevant Northern Saskatchewan health authorities and conducts health studies of uranium workers to provide further</p>	
--	---	--	--	--

			<p>independent verification that the health of people living near the uranium mines and mills is protected. Based on current environmental levels of radiation exposures near the uranium mines and mills, the current scientific knowledge about the sources, effects, and risks of ionizing radiation, and relevant local and provincial health information, CNSC staff have not observed and do not expect to observe any adverse health outcomes related to the environmental radiation exposures from the uranium mines and mills.</p> <p>NexGen has assessed transportation-related risks within the final EIS and committed to mitigation measures, including adjusting speed limits, discussing a road upgrade and maintenance plan for Highway 955 with the</p>	
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			Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways, driver training, and issuances of no-travel orders in unsafe conditions. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BRDN on environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.	
BRDN03	<p><b>Traditional Knowledge and Land Access</b></p> <p>BRDN has concerns that the Project will limit access to lands and resources, affecting the transmission of traditional knowledge among community members. An increase in the number of projects will lead to cumulative access restrictions for members within BRDN traditional territory.</p> <p><b>Social Issues</b></p>	Indigenous knowledge/ indigenous land and resource use/ socio-economic considerations	CNSC staff are of the view that BRDN's concerns relating to long-term impacts have and will continue to be addressed through the responses and commitments of NexGen and CNSC staff. NexGen has included Indigenous land and resource use and cumulative effects assessments within their final EIS that consider impacts on numerous VCs. NexGen has also committed to ongoing	TBD.

	<p>BRDN has concerns that the Project could increase social or family issues, due to an influx of workers/capital (gambling, drinking, substance abuse, family violence).</p>		<p>engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the Project lifecycle, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to working with local Indigenous Groups to implement independent environmental monitoring, in addition to standard Project monitoring processes. The independent Indigenous monitoring program is intended to provide unfettered access to the site during all Project phases and allow for opportunities such as independent environmental sampling.</p> <p>The effectiveness of the commitments that NexGen implements will be evaluated through oversight of NexGen's environmental</p>	
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			assessment follow-up and monitoring program. The CNSC expects NexGen to continue working collaboratively with BRDN to address access issues and concerns and to minimize disruptions on traditional practices and land use. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BRDN, annually.	
BRDN04	<p><b>Traffic and Dust</b></p> <p>BRDN members have concerns about increased traffic related to the Project and potential impacts on road conditions, including dust and noise. Increases in dust and noise could negatively impact wildlife and land users.</p>	Atmospheric environment	NexGen has acknowledged that maintenance of Highway 955 is outside of NexGen's control but has committed to discussions with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways to develop a road upgrade and maintenance agreement to minimize noise and dust.	TBD.



			<p>CNSC staff are of the view that BRDN's concerns relating to adverse impacts of increased traffic will continue to be addressed through NexGen's responses and commitments. The effectiveness of the commitments that NexGen implements will be evaluated through oversight of NexGen's environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring program. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BRDN, annually. The effectiveness of the commitments that NexGen implements will be evaluated through oversight of NexGen's environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring program, relation to topics that are within the</p>	
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			CNSC's mandate and authorities.	
BRDN05	<p><b>Environmental Monitoring</b></p> <p>BRDN members want to ensure there is adequate environmental monitoring for the Project.</p>	Environmental monitoring	<p>CNSC staff will ensure NexGen's incident response plans are robust and that they are meeting their commitments through oversight of NexGen's environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring program. NexGen will also have to meet the requirements in their licence conditions handbook throughout the applicable licensing phase.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to working with local Indigenous Groups, including BREDN, to implement independent environmental monitoring, in addition to standard Project monitoring processes. The independent Indigenous monitoring program is intended to provide unfettered access to the site during all Project phases and allow for</p>	TBD.

			<p>opportunities, such as independent environmental sampling. Further, NexGen has committed to engaging directly with Indigenous Groups, including BRDN, throughout the Project lifespan through either the Environmental Committees or Benefit Agreements Signed with primary Indigenous Groups.</p> <p>CNSC staff will ensure NexGen is meeting their commitments through oversight of NexGen's environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring program. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BRDN, annually. CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and</p>	
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			trusting relationship with BRDN, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with BRDN on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle, should the Project be approved.	
BRDN06	<p><b>Competition and Recreational Land Use</b></p> <p>BRDN members have concerns about increased competition with non-Indigenous recreational land-users due to development and industrial activity.</p>	Indigenous land and resource use/ socio-economic considerations	<p>NexGen has included Indigenous land and resource use and cumulative effects assessments in their final EIS that consider impacts on numerous VCs. NexGen has also committed to ongoing engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the Project lifecycle, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible.</p> <p>The effectiveness of the commitments that NexGen implements will be evaluated</p>	TBD.

			<p>through oversight of NexGen’s environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring program. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BRDN, annually. CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with BRDN, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation’s issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with BRDN on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project’s full lifecycle, should the Project be approved.</p>	
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**From:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Sent:** September 25, 2025 1:04 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Cc:** Eric Bekkatla; Julian Sylvestre; Melissa Desjarlais; Debbie Billette; Renita Noltcho  
**Subject:** Re: CNSC & BRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Good Afternoon Hilary,

We have reviewed the same for accuracy and can confirm that the matters outlined correctly summarize BRDN's concerns.

Thank you,

**Kelly Montgrand**

Chief

Buffalo River Dene Nation

Work: (306) 282-2033

Fax: (306) 282-2113

Cell: (306) 314-7394

Email: [kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)



**BUFFALO RIVER**  
**DENE NATION**

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete this email. If you are not the intended recipient you are notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:30 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hertz, Sarah <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC & BRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good Afternoon Chief Montgrand,

Please see attached BRDN's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that BRDN has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from BRDN.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

## **C.5      Key Correspondence with Birch Narrows Dene Nation**



**From:** Ennamsaoui, Mouna (CNSC/CCSN) on behalf of [Cianci, Candida \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)  
**Subject:** Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.  
**Attachments:** [Lettre to J Sylvester.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2019-04-02 12:52:00 PM

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Dear Chief Jonathan Sylvester,

Please find attached an electronic copy of the Notice sent to you regarding a project proposal submitted by NexGen Ltd for a new uranium mine and milling project in northern Saskatchewan.

Please direct any questions relating to the environmental assessments of these projects to Nicole Frigault (Environmental Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessment Division, CNSC), at (613) 995-7948 or by e-mail at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Sincerely,

Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission



April 2, 2019

e-Doc: 5865717

Chief Jonathan Sylvester  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
General Delivery  
Turnor Lake, SK S0M 3E0

[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)

**Subject: Notice of NexGen Ltd, Rook I Project, a Proposal for a New Uranium Mining and Milling Project, in northern Saskatchewan.**

Dear Chief Sylvester:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has received an application from NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen) to develop a uranium mine and mill on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, SK. The proposed development is called the Rook I Project.

The proposed project requires a federal environmental assessment (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) and will require authorization from the CNSC under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA).

The proposed project includes underground and surface facilities to support the mining and processing of uranium ore. The main components of the project include:

- underground mine development
- an on-site mill to process an average of 1,400 tonnes of ore per day
- surface facilities to support the short and long-term storage of waste rock and ore
- an underground tailings management facility
- water handling infrastructure and an effluent treatment and discharge
- additional infrastructure including but not limited to, a camp for personnel, and supporting facilities such as an airstrip, waste and water management facilities, maintenance shop, warehouse, and offices

Vehicle access to the site would be provided by upgrading an existing access road that connects the site with Provincial Highway 955 which extends from La Loche to the decommissioned Cluff Lake uranium mine site.

## **Environmental Assessment and Licensing**

The proposed project will require an EA under CEAA 2012. The CNSC will be responsible for making both an EA and a licensing decision for this project. The CNSC is also the Crown Consultation Coordinator for the federal government for the project.

As part of their application, NexGen will be seeking concurrent EA and licensing processes so that both EA and licensing matters can be considered at the same public Commission hearing. The Commission must make an EA decision that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects prior to making a licensing decision.

The proposed project is also subject to a provincial environmental assessment as it is a “development” as defined in section 2(d) of *The Environmental Assessment Act*. Therefore, NexGen is also required to undertake a provincial EA for the project and seek approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment prior to proceeding with the project. CNSC and the Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment & Stewardship Branch will work closely to coordinate our respective EA processes wherever possible.

## **Commission Hearing**

Before the Commission can make a decision on the licence application, a public hearing will be held to ensure that the Commission has the information it needs, and that NexGen and interveners (including Indigenous groups and members of the public) have had a reasonable opportunity to present relevant information to the Commission. The CNSC encourages your participation in the review process, including the public hearing.

The Commission’s public hearing for the Rook I Project has not yet been scheduled. We will provide you with an update once further details are confirmed regarding the timing, location and format of the Commission hearing for this project.

For more details on CNSC’s public hearing processes, you can visit the web link:  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/participate/index.cfm>.

## **Participant Funding Program**

The CNSC has established a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to enhance participation in the CNSC’s regulatory processes. Funding for this project will be offered for participation in both the EA/licensing and Commission hearing processes. The availability of PFP will be announced within the next few months (around the same time as the official posting of the Notice of Commencement for the project). Once the availability of funding is announced we will provide you with further details on the application process, scope of funding and amounts available.

Please visit the CNSC’s PFP funding opportunities webpage for more information, including the application process: <http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/participant-funding-program/opportunities/index.cfm>

If you have questions about the PFP please contact the PFP Administrator toll-free at 1-800-668-5284, or by e-mail at [cnsccpf@canada.ca](mailto:cnsccpf@canada.ca).

### **Indigenous Consultation**

The CNSC, as an agent of the Government of Canada and as Canada's nuclear regulator, recognizes and understands the importance of consulting and building relationships with Canada's Indigenous peoples.

As an Indigenous group with potential interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the project and encourages you, during the review process, to:

- advise the CNSC of any adverse impacts the project may have on your Nation's potential or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights; and if so
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on the right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated as well as any evidence that will help in understanding these concerns
- provide local and traditional knowledge to support determination of potential impacts and potential mitigation measures
- advise the CNSC of how you and your Nation would like to be consulted by the Crown as part of the regulatory review process for this project

### **Next Steps:**

Once the final project description has been submitted by NexGen, CNSC staff will provide your community with further details on the federal EA process to be followed for the proposed project.

The CNSC will be posting a Notice of Commencement on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry within the next couple of weeks. At the same time as the posting of the Notice of Commencement, the CNSC will also post the project description for a 30 day review and comment period. As part of the EA process, Indigenous groups and members of the public will have the following opportunities to comment on the:

- the project description
- the draft Environmental Impact Statement

Indigenous groups and members of the public will also be given the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission for an eventual EA/Licensing hearing as a Commission Member Document (written intervention and/or oral presentation).

We are interested in meeting with you in person, or by teleconference if preferred, to discuss the proposed project, and we would be happy to arrange for this to happen. Please note that the CNSC is also able to offer, upon request, participant funding for such meetings and other related activities to help enable your on-going participation and engagement throughout the EA and regulatory review process.



## **Staying Informed**

The CNSC is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement with you and your Nation in relation to this proposed project and will be providing information updates directly to you at key points in the regulatory process.

In addition, if you wish to receive e-mail notifications when the CNSC's website is updated, including notices for hearings, meetings and PFP funding opportunities, you can sign-up to the CNSC mailing list by visiting the following web link and choosing the 'new subscriber' option:

<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/stay-connected/get-involved/subscribe/index.cfm>.

If you have any questions relating to this project during the EA process, or would like to discuss having a meeting with CNSC staff, please contact the Crown Consultation Coordinator on this file, Nicole Frigault, by phone at 613 995-7948 or by email at [nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Candida Cianci  
Director, Environmental Assessment Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I uranium mine and processing mill project

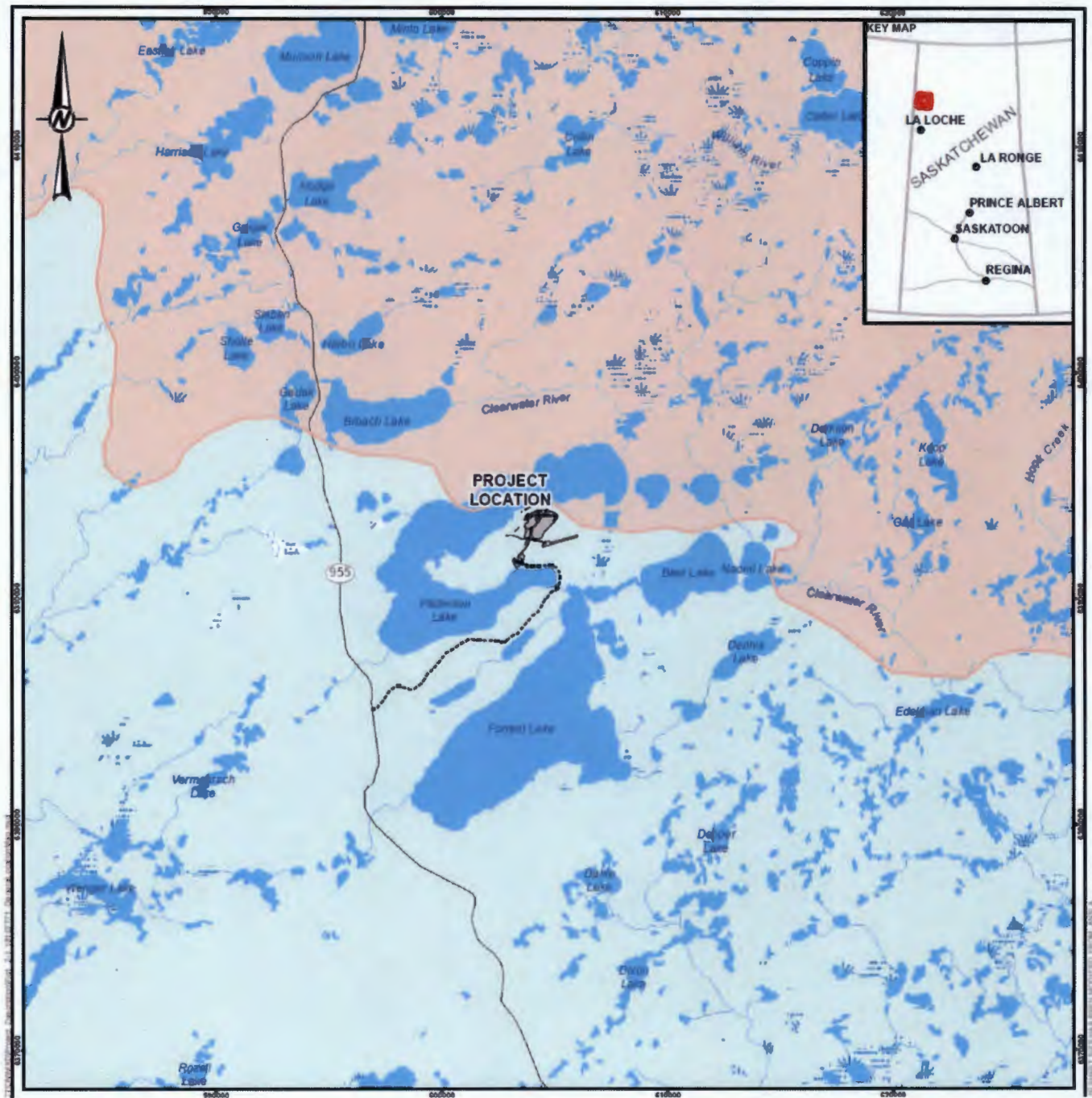
Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC (e-doc 5862079)

c.c.: P. Fundarek, M. Landon, R. Snider, N. Frigault, A. Levine, C. Cattrysse, M. Patel  
CNSC  
A. Riemer, B. England, SEASB

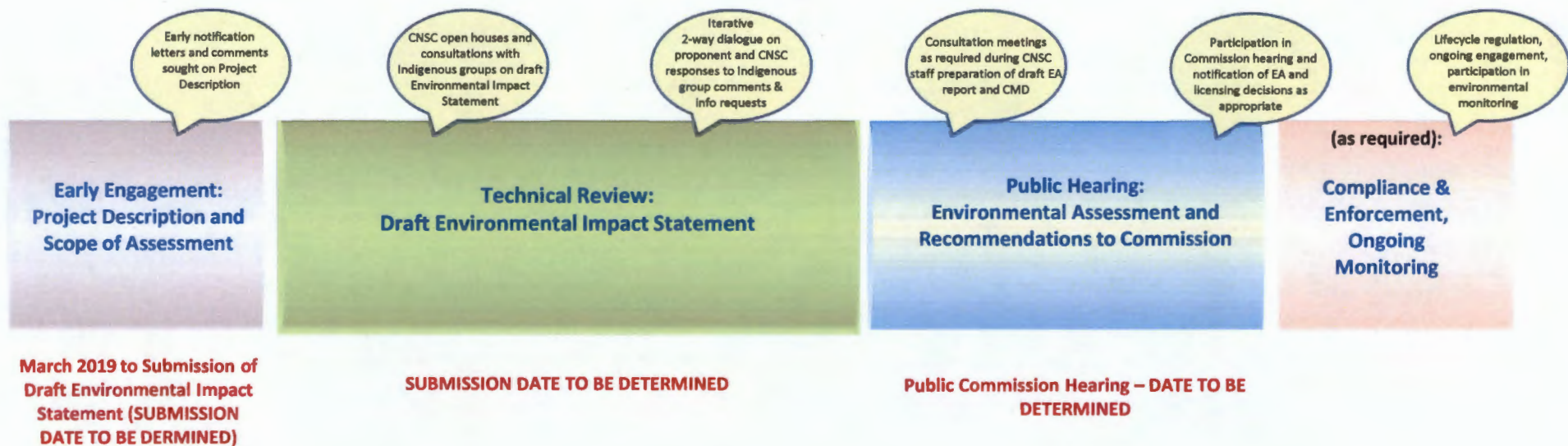
A similar letter was sent to the following groups:

Métis Nation Saskatchewan, Northern Region II  
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation  
Clearwater River Dene Nation  
Black Lake Denesuline First Nation  
Fond-du-Lac Denesuline First Nation  
Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resource Office  
Buffalo River Dene Nation  
English River First Nation  
Meadow Lake Tribal Council

## Appendix A: Location of the proposed Rook I ranium mine and mill project



## Appendix B: Indigenous Consultation and Engagement at the CNSC



E-Docs 5862079



**COMMUNITY RELATIONS Engagement Record**

Record Number:	191008_BNDN	
Group/individual(s) contacted:	Birch Narrows Dene Nation	
Date/time:	October 8, 2019	
Type of contact:	Presentation and Meeting	
Location:	NexGen Saskatoon Office	
Attendees (names, positions):	<p>Chief Jonathan Sylvestre, Birch Narrows Dene Nation          Sheldon Wuttunee, President/CEO Saskatchewan First Nations Natural Resource Center of Excellence</p> <p>Nicole Frigault, CNSC          Adam Zenobi, CNSC</p> <p>Ann Reimer, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment          Steve Wilkie, Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment</p>	
Present from NXE:	<p>Bruce Sprague          Troy Boisjoli          Susan Mattieu          Adam Engdahl          Karina Tyne</p>	
NXE Project:	Rook I	
Reason for contact:	Meeting with Regulators	
Record No.: <span style="color: red;">[Office Use Only]</span>		
<b>COMMENTS - RECORD OF POINTS MADE</b>		<b>SUMMARY OF CONTACT</b>
<p><i>Presentation by CNSC, with the following questions/discussion:</i></p> <p>Chief J. Sylvestre (CJS): We would like the CNSC to present to the broader community to explain this process to them directly.          CNSC: That is definitely something we can arrange.</p> <p>CJS: We would like to see annual operating reports for the project.          NXE: This is something that we can include in the Public and Indigenous Engagement Licensing Program to make sure that during operations you receive an annual operating report for the project.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive meeting, questions/comments focused around community, participation and understanding the processes. Good opportunity for the CNSC and Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment to explain the regulatory</li> </ul>



**COMMUNITY RELATIONS Engagement Record**

CJS: Birch Narrows isn't on the EQC, but Turnor Lake is.

CJS: I think it would be good if NexGen talked to Turnor Lake Mayor and Council as well; we are a small community and it causes internal issues when NexGen only talks to us and not Mayor and Council. Same with Black Point, Bear Creek etc.

Sheldon Wuttunee (SW): Can the CNSC do a community session with Maps, maybe after a JWG meeting?  
CNSC: We are happy to go to the communities.

CJS: If you could also bring/explain timelines of the process so that the band council and members can understand the process.

SW: Is environmental monitoring informed by Indigenous knowledge?

NXE: Yes, that is one of the objectives of the joint working groups – to make sure indigenous knowledge is considered in the environmental assessment, and subsequent environmental monitoring plans.

SW: Is there potential for offset measures during the operations, after the permits have been given? For example, if there was a spill during operations that caused an impact not accounted for – is there a way for offsets to be given to the First Nations?

processes directly to BNDN.

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**From:** Vern Bachiu <vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com>  
**Sent:** August 26, 2020 5:50 AM  
**To:** Participant Funding Program / Programme de financement des participants (CNSC/CCSN); EnvironmentalAssessment / ÉvaluationEnvironnementale (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Cc:** Chief Johnathan Sylvestre; Eric Sylvestre  
**Subject:** CNSC Participant Funding Application - Rook I Project  
**Attachments:** IAAC\_CNSC Letter\_BNDN\_NextGen\_2020.08.17\_FINAL.pdf; ATT00001.htm; BirchNarrows\_PFP-application-form-NexGen-Energy-Ltd-Rook-I-project-eng.pdf; ATT00002.htm

Hello,

I have been asked to submit the attached letter and funding application at Chief Sylvestre's request.

Please find attached a letter on behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation regarding the NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook I Project, as well as a Participant Funding Program application.

We look forward to participating in the Crown's assessment process for the Project.

Thank you,

***Vern Bachiu***  
President and CEO  
Triall Consulting  
151-615 Stensrud Road  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7W 0A2  
C (306) 222-2077  
E [vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com](mailto:vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com)



**Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

General Delivery  
Turnor Lake, SK  
S0M 3E0

August 26, 2020

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street P.O. Box 1046, Station B  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

**Re: Meaningful Consultation with Birch Narrows Dene Nation on the NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook I Project**

Dear Ms. Frigault:

I am writing on behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) to request a meeting with Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to discuss the Rook I Project (the Project) being proposed by NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen). Since the Project falls within our Traditional Territory, BNDN must be meaningfully consulted and accommodated by the Crown and NexGen. BNDN has interests related to the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic impacts associated with the Project. BNDN would like to engage with the Crown in the Environmental Assessment (EA) and licensing process under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA) for the Rook I Project. This will help us to understand the potential impacts of the Project and work to mitigate those impacts with NexGen and the Crown.

Our ancestors have lived on our Traditional Territory since time immemorial; there are cultural sites and artifacts left throughout the Clearwater River Watershed that are significant for our members. Our community continues to hunt, fish, gather and trap on the lands throughout our Traditional Territory where the impacts of this Project will occur. Any direct or cumulative impacts from this Project could negatively affect our ability to exercise Aboriginal and Treaty rights, including the livelihoods of those who live off the land. We wish to speak with the CNSC to gain an understanding of how we can be involved in the process so that meaningful consultation and accommodation can occur.

BNDN has been working with NexGen on the development of their Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by providing input and Indigenous Knowledge. However, for our own due diligence we wish to retain experts to review NexGen's EIS and other technical documents to ensure the highest standard of protection for the environment and our people. It is important our First Nation is provided with adequate resources to participate in the EA process. Our community is relatively inexperienced in the uranium mining industry. Our first priority is to make sure that this Project will not adversely impact the environment. While we are involved in the company's EIS process, we want to make sure that we are able to engage independent expertise so we can give our community assurance that what the company's EIS can be independently verified. We are also involved with the company in negotiating an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA). Again, we wish to assure our community that we are not putting the economic needs of the community before the environmental impact of the Project. This is part of our due diligence process.

Based on the level of detail included in the Project Description, it is not possible to fully evaluate BNDN's interests or the degree of potential impacts associated with the Project. Based on a preliminary review of NexGen's Project Description, we would like to highlight the following areas:

- Impacts to surface water quality/quantity from effluent release and water taking
- Impacts to groundwater quality
  - Seepage associated with the Underground Tailings Management Facility
- Hazardous waste storage on-site
- Impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat from construction and operations
- Impacts to fish and fish habitat
- Impacts to vegetation and wetlands, including overprinting
- Increased air contaminant emissions including greenhouse gases from Project-related infrastructure (e.g., mill, power generating equipment and vehicles)
- Impacts to Aboriginal rights
  - Exclusion of BNDN members from the Project site
  - Avoidance of the Project site from BNDN members due to disturbance and fears
  - Impacts on hunting, trapping and gathering and the availability of traditionally important species
  - Impacts to Aboriginal fisheries associated with changes to the existing aquatic ecosystem including potential disruption of spawning sites
- Cumulative effects associated with the construction of a processing facility and the potential to accept material from other deposits or companies
- Adequate consideration of BNDN Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Power solution for the Project and consideration for renewable energy
- Procurement opportunities to BNDN members and businesses
- Training and employment opportunities for BNDN members are available and accessible
- Consideration of socioeconomic effects related to the Project that may impact BNDN (e.g. work camp, temporary workers, increased traffic, etc.)

Along with this letter we are submitting our application for participant funding program to support our involvement in the EA and NSCA licensing processes. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to participate, we look forward to your response. Please include Eric Sylvestre on all communications related to this file.

Respectfully,



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

cc: Eric Sylvestre, [eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)



**Birch Narrows Dene Nation – NexGen Joint Working Group for the Rook I Project  
Meeting #6**

**Date of Meeting:** Friday December 11, 2020

**Time:** 9:00 am – 10:40 am

**Location:** Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Attendance:**

Name	Representing	In Person	Remotely	Regrets
Eric Sylvestre	BNDN (Community Coordinator)		X	
Vern Bachiu	BNDN (Consultant, Triall Consulting)		X	
John Glover	BNDN (Consultant, Tamarack Environmental – Environmental Scientist & Regulatory Specialist)		X	
John L. Montgrand (Elder)	BNDN			X
Terri Campbell	BNDN			X
Ron Desjardins	BNDN			X
Ernest Sylvestre	BNDN			X
Richard Snider	CNSC (Senior Project Officer)		X	
Nicole Frigault	CNSC (Environmental Assessment Specialist)		X	
Cassandre Roy-Drainville	CNSC (Policy Officer)		X	
Ryan Froess	CNSC (Senior Advisor, Indigenous Relations)		X	
Troy Boisjoli	NexGen Energy (Vice President Operations & Project Development)	X	X	
Karina Tyne	NexGen Energy (Engagement Lead)		X	
Adam Engdahl	NexGen Energy (Senior Manager, Community)	X	X	
Jon Henderson	NexGen Energy (Licensing Lead)		X	
Melissa Scansen	NexGen Energy (Geologist)		X	
Jennifer Olson	NexGen Energy (Consultant, InterGroup Consultants)		X	
Don Hovdebo	NexGen Energy (Consultant, Kingsmere Resource Services)		X	

Marci Mehl	NexGen Energy (Consultant, Golder Associates)			X
Gill Gracie	Aurora Communications Ltd (Recorder)		X	

*Eric noted that elder Paul Sylvestre who joined at a past JWG meeting has since passed away. Condolences were extended to BNDN.*

**Please note:**

- Notes are not always verbatim, but rather a summary of the points made or questions asked.
- Individuals will first be identified using their full name, and then by first name only.
- Bulleted paragraphs indicate explanation of points made in the presentation
- Any additional commentary to provide context to the notes are identified in italics.

**Table 1: Summary of Action Items**

	Action	Responsible
1.	Arrange a Radiation 101 session for BNDN; coordinate a presentation on health of uranium miners (Dr. Rachel Lane)	Eric Sylvestre / CNSC
2.	Coordinate a recurring date and time that works for JWG meetings through 2021.	Adam Engdahl / Eric Sylvestre

**Attachments**

1. CNSC Presentation: E-DOCS-#6253769-v3-Rook\_1\_JWG\_CNSC\_presentation\_December\_11\_2020.pdf
2. NexGen Presentation: 20211211\_BNDN\_JWG.pdf

**Abbreviations used in these notes:**

ALARA – As Low As Reasonably Achievable.  
BATEA – Best Available Technology Economically Achievable  
CEAA 2012 – Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (federal legislation relevant to the Rook I Project)  
CNSC – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
DTC – Duty to Consult  
EA – Environmental Assessment  
EIS – Environmental Impact Statement (document of the environmental assessment findings)  
FRC – Funding Review Committee (CNSC)  
IAA – Impact Assessment Act (new federal legislation)  
IBA – Impact Benefit Agreement  
IC – Institutional Control (Provincial)  
IK – Indigenous Knowledge  
JWG – Joint Working Group  
LNG – Liquid Natural Gas  
mSv - millisievert  
NSCA – Nuclear Safety and Control Act (Federal)  
PFP – Participant Funding Program (CNSC)  
PPE – Personal Protective Equipment  
TLU – Traditional Land Use

UMMD – Uranium Mines and Mills Division (CNSC).  
VC – Valued Component (of the EA)

**Safety moment:** Adam reviewed ladder safety.

**Agenda Review:** Adam

**Prayer:** Eric Sylvestre in Dene.

**Introductions:** All

Note: The meeting will be recorded and transcribed.

### **Recap of last meeting – Karina**

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- During the August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting we went through a project update and the status of the environmental assessment (EA). We are still working on finalizing the baseline studies, and transitioning into the modelling component of the assessment.
- We talked about Covid 19 and what that means for NexGen as the new normal (virtual meetings). So far it's going well; we can discuss room for improvement at the end of the meeting.
- We gave a brief overview of the status of the regulatory process, including the Participant Funding Program (PFP). After that meeting, Adam shared information with Eric to make sure you are aware of the PFP.
- Part of that discussion led us to have the CNSC here today to present on the regulatory process and give you a chance to ask direct questions.
- We reviewed the Joint Working Group (JWG) meetings to date – this is our 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. During those meetings we have met in Turnor, in Saskatoon, and also at the Rook I site. We're disappointed that we don't get to travel with the virtual meetings, but hopefully one day soon!
- We reviewed some of the outcomes of the JWG meetings to date; through the JWG we had feedback from Birch Narrows on the valued components (VCs) for the environmental assessment; we reviewed the Traditional Land Use (TLU) study that Birch Narrows completed; and we had a youth workshop based on some of the feedback from the JWG.
- We discussed topics for future JWG meetings – things that are of interest related to the project and the EA that we want to discuss in the future. We are open to continually evolve the list as things change and new topics become of interest. Adam will follow up with Eric with a list of topics so you can think about it between now and the next meeting.

### **CNSC Presentation – Richard, Nicole, Cassandre**

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*Richard: I was born and raised in Yukon, lived in Yukon and the NWT; in 1999 moved to La Ronge and have been in Saskatchewan ever since. I'm an environmental engineer; most of my experience has been in mining and the environment. With the province I held a number of regulatory roles for uranium mining and potash. I also worked in the uranium industry, so I have a rounded experience in mining and uranium in Saskatchewan. I have been with the CNSC for about 4 ½ years.*

#### **Richard:**

- The CNSC is Canada's nuclear energy regulator, mandated to regulate the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect people and the environment to ensure the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to share information with the public.
- There are two parts: staff and an Independent Commission, which is a quasi-judicial administrative tribunal, almost like a judge and jury. You present your information, and the Commission make decisions on licensing and EAs; all decisions are evidence- and safety-based. Evidence is presented to them and they make the decisions. We, the staff, do not make the decisions. All Commission hearings

and public meetings are webcast. There's also a Participant Funding Program (PFP) to help interested groups engage in the process.

- *Map of offices across Canada.* CNSC headquarters is in Ottawa; we have offices in all the nuclear power plants, Ryan and I are with the Saskatoon office; I'm with the Uranium Mines and Mills Division (UMMD); the UMMD regulates the operating mines as well as decommissioned sites in Saskatchewan, Ontario and the Northwest Territories (NWT).
- The CNSC acts as the Crown consultation coordinator; we value Indigenous Knowledge (IK); we foster ongoing dialogue and engagement with Indigenous groups. We do not consider economic benefits or jobs in our decision-making.
- The CNSC regulates all nuclear-related facilities and activities, including uranium mining and milling, fuel fabrication, nuclear power plants, waste management activities, and other nuclear substance-related activities.
- The nuclear fuel cycle starts with uranium mines and mills that produce yellowcake, which is sent for refining and conversion where the uranium concentration is increased, and the impurities removed. The product is then compressed into pellets, which are set out into bundles called fuel assemblies that are used in nuclear power plants. The bundles heat water to create steam, which turns the turbines that generate electricity.
- Where the CNSC begins and ends as the regulator: The CNSC does not regulate exploration, that is provincial jurisdiction. The province also grants mineral rights in the form of claims or leases, and surface rights to proponents. CNSC is involved from the construction phase until after decommissioning is done and post-decommissioning monitoring has demonstrated that the site is safe and stable, and the proponent asks to have the property transferred to the provincial Institutional Control (IC) program. Then the site will be released from CNSC licensing and the province exempted from holding a licence. Provided those criteria are met, the transfer to IC goes ahead and the CNSC no longer regulates that facility. In Saskatchewan, a few properties of the Beaverlodge site have gone through that process and more are expected. There are other sites like Cluff Lake that will go into IC as well.
- Regulatory framework: CNSC's overarching Act is the Nuclear Safety Control Act (NSCA). There are a number of regulations underneath that, including those relating to uranium mines and mills and radiation protection. Underneath those regulations are the licences and the Licence Conditions Handbook which outlines the requirements to be met by the licensee, including our regulatory documents and standards. The regulatory documents present both "must dos" and advice for best practice.
- The CNSC enables companies wanting to construct and operate uranium mining projects to have the option of completing an environmental assessment and licensing process at the same time. That's what NexGen is proposing for Rook I. The current focus for Rook I is on the EA, but a licence application has been submitted. We're also reviewing programs from NexGen to go along with the licensing process. For any licensing application, CNSC staff conduct an environmental review and a technical assessment of the information on the application and supporting documentation. The technical assessment looks at whether the programs are adequate, and whether the design information sufficient. Engagement and consultation happen throughout the assessment and licensing process.
- In the licence application, the CNSC looks at a number of documents submitted by the licensee. One of the key ones is the Mining Facility Licensing Manual and associated programs such as the Radiation Protection, Environmental Protection, Health and Safety programs. Underneath that would be procedures and working instructions. We don't ask to see many of those - there may be some key



ones we ask for. We may go to site to see that the documentation is in place. There's a lot of supporting information like engineering studies, ventilation design, radiation protection etc.

- We also do compliance verification. The CNSC achieves its mandate by licensing facilities and providing regulatory oversight through verification and enforcement and reporting activities. We do onsite inspections, desktop reviews, technical assessments, reports of licensees' programs. There's an ongoing exchange of information.
- We have a 10-year inspection plan for operating sites. We look at risk and what we need to focus on. We ask the sites to develop programs for 14 Safety and Control areas, broadly sorted into functional areas like management, facilities and equipment, and core processes and controls. We have focused inspections at least every three years on the management systems, conventional health and safety, environmental protection and radiation protection, and we also cover those off in our general inspections. Our inspection frequency can range from six times a year on our operating sites; we modify the schedule if needed. If the site is shut down or in care and maintenance, we reduce the inspection frequency; if the site has been in shutdown and starting to operate again, we would increase the frequency.
- COVID-19 presented some challenges with working from home, but our regulatory oversight didn't diminish. We were able to maintain all regulatory roles. Inspections were paused in March, and resumed virtually in June. About a dozen inspections have been completed since COVID started; most are virtual and probably will continue to be virtual into 2021. We have the ability to do onsite inspections; I received approval to go to the Beaverlodge site to do the inspection. We've also been monitoring licensee COVID precautions. Our Commission meetings and hearings all took place virtually.

#### **Cassandra: Indigenous Engagement**

*Cassandra: I am a policy officer in the Indigenous Relations team. I work with Adam Levine, Adam Zenobi and Ryan Froess. This is my first time to the JWG meeting. I'm from the Gaspé coast but recently moved to Montreal. I joined CNSC as student in 2019 while finishing my studies in Indigenous history and environmental sustainability and was hired full time last April. Today I'll speak about Indigenous Engagement and the PFP.*

- The Participant Funding Program (PFP) can financially support your participation in various stages of the licensing process including environmental reviews and participation in public hearings. Funding decisions are made based on recommendations from an independent Funding Review Committee (FRC), a committee of external experts who review applications and decide whether or not they should be approved and the amount, and any objectives that have to be met. There are funding opportunities to assist members of the public, Indigenous peoples and stakeholders in reviewing the EIS. The FRC met last November 2 and 13 to review nine applications requesting more than \$1 million. Given the large amount of funding requested by Indigenous groups and the public, they have received approval to increase from the initial \$150,000. Birch Narrows had applied, and the decision will be known very soon.
- The CNSC is responsible for meeting the Crown's Duty to Consult (DTC), both with Indigenous peoples and upholding the honour of the Crown. The CNSC is aware that it's important to seek opportunities to work together and ensure the safe and effective regulation of nuclear energy and materials. CNSC is always committed to go beyond the consultation that arises from Duty to Consult and do so through collaborative interactions with Indigenous groups and organizations.
- The CNSC has requirements for licensees regarding Indigenous engagement. REGDOC 3.3.2 on Indigenous engagement provides guidance on how licensees should engage and outlines how early engagement is part of CNSC licence requirements. CNSC monitors licensee's engagement, and ensure they are working with you in ways you feel are effective. However, although we require licensees to

engage with Indigenous communities, this does not take away CNSC's DTC obligations as an agent of the Crown.

- It is very important for us to include Indigenous Knowledge (IK) in our environmental assessment processes, so we're glad to see that licensees like NexGen help fund IK studies to inform their EIS. CNSC also ensures that the opportunity is made for Indigenous communities to provide IK within our own processes. This helps us better understand the effects and potential impacts of the project on Aboriginal/treaty rights. It ensures mitigation and accommodation is considered to address potential impacts. We have been working with and including IK for a few years now, and we have also developed internal processes to ensure that information provided by Indigenous communities is meaningful. In November we shared our Indigenous Policy Framework with Indigenous communities for review and comment. We are committed to building meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities and to work with Indigenous Knowledge.

#### **Nicole: Environmental Assessment**

*Nicole: I am the CNSC's environmental specialist for the Rook I Project.*

- Environmental reviews are central to the CNSC's process. Environmental effects of all nuclear facilities or activities are assessed at every phase of their life cycle. There are different types of environmental reviews, based on which laws and regulations apply to each project. Early in the process, CNSC staff will determine which type of environmental review applies by reviewing the information that the licensee provides in their application and their supporting documents. It could be the new federal legislation, the Impact Assessment Act (IAA, which came into force in August 2019). This project, which started under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA 2012) will continue under CEAA 2012 because the IAA contains provisions to enable these projects to advance in this way.
- In all cases, the CNSC ensures that public and Indigenous groups have an opportunity to participate in environmental reviews. Indigenous consultation and engagement activities are integrated throughout the review process to the extent possible. Federal and provincial agencies are also involved, and contribute expert advice in the impact and environmental assessments. All Commission decisions are independent, transparent and evidence-based.
- Steps involved in an EA process under CEAA 2012: CNSC receives the application, review it, and determine which type of EA would apply. At the time of NexGen's application, it was CEAA 2012. We are now in Step 2. We received the Project Description, it went out for public and Indigenous comment, there was a decision on the scope of the EA, and we are now waiting for submission of the Draft EIS from NexGen. Once we get that, the technical review will start, followed by additional steps up to a hearing and ongoing oversight and compliance if they are granted a licence for the project.
- Main components of the environment studied as part of the assessment: Physical (air quality, surface and ground water, soils); biological (fish, fish habitat, terrestrial habitat, birds, wildlife and species at risk); and human (current land use, fishing, hunting, trapping, gathering, archaeological sites, sites of cultural significance). All these components are assessed and taken into consideration in the EA to determine whether or not there will be impacts from the proposed project.
- CEAA 2012 technical reviewers look at fish and fish habitat, migratory birds, aquatics, species at risk, terrestrial, impacts to the environment from greenhouse gas emissions etc. We look closely at Indigenous groups and people and any effect the project might have on health, socio-economic conditions, physical and cultural heritage, use of lands, archaeological and cultural sites.
- The Rook I Project is currently undergoing a CEAA 2012 environmental assessment, as well as an assessment under the NSCA for licensing. Concurrently a provincial environmental assessment is required; the CNSC and the Province are coordinating those processes where possible. The CNSC and the Province did some engagement, and last year we went up to site together. The Rook I EIS will be out for comment (from both the Province and CNSC) at the same time, to make it as easy as possible

for groups and people to be involved in the process. We are awaiting the submission by NexGen of a draft EIS which we're anticipating in fall 2021.

Once we receive the draft EIS, there will be a federal-provincial technical review; at the same time, the document will be posted for Indigenous comment and review. We will provide a list of information requests to NexGen once our technical review is finished, and they will provide responses to us; that process goes back and forth until all information requests have been addressed adequately. Once the EIS is accepted as final, the CNSC staff's report is drafted as well as licensing Commission Member Documents (CMDs). Then we would move on to a public hearing on the EA and licensing decisions.

The federal and provincial technical review of the draft EIS, as well as the CNSC staff's report, have many opportunities for involvement of Indigenous groups, also drafting parts of the CNSC staff's report. We're doing this in some other projects right now and it's working well. We want you to be involved if you're interested – we welcome your input alongside ours in writing parts of the EA report. We can discuss this as the project progresses.

**Vern:** Every mine is unique and needs to be studied and treated accordingly, but uranium mining is not new; there are a number of uranium mines operating. To what extent, when you look at the impacts and results, would you look at results and impacts from other mines?

**Nicole:** We're looking at the specific location – the specific groundwater, surface water, species in the area, species at risk etc. An EA is more about where it's located. We have multiple subject matter experts in every area reviewing these documents who have the experience in reviewing and regulating other existing uranium mines. It's all taken into consideration. The EA is more focused on impacts to the environment around the specific proposed site. We'll be looking at the detailed risk assessment information that NexGen is putting together, as well as land use by Indigenous groups, the importance of certain parts of the land etc. It's taken into consideration because of the reviewers' knowledge and experience.

**Vern:** In March, we had a long-time northern Saskatchewan doctor (Dr. Irvine) who has been following the health effects of uranium mining over the last 30 years. He's done detailed reviews of the health impacts. He was able to put some of those studies into accessible language. With nuclear stuff we have to separate truth and fiction – people have certain impressions and perceptions and they can get spooked. Getting Dr. Irvine involved was helpful, although it was six months ago and a lot of that information has still not filtered to the community, but making sure this is accessible and to demystify it is a challenge.

**Nicole:** We have epidemiologists who work on the file. We could get Rachel to speak at any of these meetings if that would be helpful. She particularly studies the effects of uranium mines on the surrounding communities and all the previous studies that have been done.

**Vern:** That would be very helpful. At community level, when they see a number of deaths related to cancer, they say obviously that's because of uranium mining. Those kinds of leaps are made.

**Nicole:** Rachel would be more than willing to present and have a discussion.

**Eric:** We would probably want to have our own virtual meeting with the rest of our JWG members, to exclude industry, just with our community members, to include some of your expertise and Dr. Irvine. We could schedule that after New Year.

**Nicole:** I will coordinate with you to set something up.

#### **Richard: Radiation Protection and Compliance**

- We have radiation specialists who can come and give a more detailed presentation on radiation protection if requested. We can do Radiation 101.
- Licensees must have a radiation protection program which must ensure that doses received by persons are as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). It's not just about meeting the regulatory limit;

it's about keeping doses low and using continuous improvement. The program has management control over work practices, including procedures, monitoring programs, qualifications and training, control of occupational and public exposure to radiation, and planning for unusual situations and how to respond to them.

- Radiation Protection Programs are submitted by licensees when applying for a licence, or when there are changes to the program or a licence renewal. We use a risk-informed approach to assess the program to make sure it meets regulatory requirements, is appropriate for the licensees activity and associated radiological hazards, and is consistent with international and industry best practices. Compliance activities such as inspections and document reviews are conducted to ensure the programs are effective and protecting workers and the public.
- Radiation safety and control areas have to do with application of the ALARA principle. It's about dose control, performance of the radiation protection program, reducing hazards, and estimating doses to the public. One important thing for a new operation is looking at the hierarchy of control rules. When looking at radiation hazards, the first question we ask is can you eliminate or replace that hazard? Can you have engineering controls such as installing a barrier around the area to protect the workers, or administrative controls that might say how a person works in that area and for how long? At the very bottom is using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). When we're looking at a radiation protection program, and radiation protection measures for a new project, making sure those controls are being implemented so you're not just relying on, say a respirator, but you're looking at what can we do so we don't have to use a respirator.
- Radiation protection is based on the principles of time, distance and shielding. If you increase the distance, you reduce your exposure. The further you are from a lamp, the more the light is dispersed. If you reduce the amount of time, you reduce the dose. You can use different materials to block different types of radiation – concrete is used extensively in uranium mills.
- Dosimetry is important. There are different ways to measure doses to people. There are doses to the public near a mine site, usually done by indirect monitoring as an environmental measurement and pathways analysis to figure out conservatively what the dose could be. A dose to the worker is measured either through direct monitoring, also called personal dosimetry, or indirect monitoring to measure dose rates in the air and concentrations of nuclear substances in the air. Radiation monitoring results and dosimetry information are provided to the CNSC, and every worker gets their dosimetry data, so you know from your career working as a nuclear energy worker what your career lifetime dose is.
- There are limits for dose exposures: a maximum of 50 millisieverts (mSv) in a year and 100 mSv over a five-year period. Those are the limits, but in accordance with the ALARA principle, licensees are required to have administrative levels and action levels that they respond to. Our expectation is that there is a response before they reach the action level to make sure they never reach the regulatory limit. *Graph in presentation.*
- Every year our division generates regulatory oversight reports – a report card on how the uranium mines and mills are doing. They include information on radiation doses to workers (*graph of doses in five operating sites in presentation*). The highest average individual effective dose was less than 3% of the regulatory limit. You see declines for Key Lake and McArthur River because they went into care and maintenance.
- Examples of radiation doses in a year from different activities such as flying, x-rays etc. The average background dose in Canada is about 1.8 mSv annually. The limit for nuclear energy workers is 100 mSv over five years, or 50 mSv for one year. The public dose limit is one mSv. Typical annual dose received by a worker at a uranium mine is close to the public dose limit in a year.

- Summary: Radiation is all around us, from natural and artificial sources. It can cause harm but is also used in positive ways, particularly medical applications. The CNSC is responsible to regulate the use of nuclear energy to protect Canadians and the environment.

#### **Questions/Comments on CNSC Presentation:**

**Richard:** The Commission always likes to hear from Dr. Irvine; he provides valuable information on questions of health. Nicole mentioned Rachel Lane, CNSC epidemiologist who is working on a study to determine radon's potential to cause lung cancer in nuclear energy workers over a period of time – the rate of lung cancer versus the exposure. We did a study (CNSC and Dr. Irvine) that ended in the early 90s and we're updating that information. Rachel is looking for people to tell about that program, so there could be a good opportunity for her to present that information.

**Vern Bachi:** That would be good. This is complex and you're giving us the easy version. If it was a collection of scientists only, it would get much more complicated. At the community level, people can get overwhelmed with language and concepts, and start to think this whole thing is dangerous and react emotionally. Dr Irvine compared uranium mining and the nuclear industry to the dangers of smoking. He brought it down to things people can relate to. That was helpful, plus the fact he's lived and worked in northern Saskatchewan gives him some street cred.

**John Glover:** How does CNSC make determinations on archaeology during the EA process? It's a remote area and there's not a lot of research – do you have experts on your team that specialize in Dene archaeology? How is that assessed?

**Nicole:** We would require an assessment to be done by NexGen as part of their EIS, and we would review that. The CNSC does not have experts in archaeology, but would go to Parks Canada for their expertise. For instance, on existing projects at Chalk River, some Indigenous groups have interest in the archaeology, and they can also hire consultants. The CNSC has the PPF to help facilitate that activity. It is something that Indigenous groups could definitely get more involved in.

**John G:** It would be great to have some collaboration with Birch Narrows elders or knowledge holders. What has been done to date at the site?

**Troy Boisjoli:** To date we have conducted two heritage resource surveys, one in 2015 with a follow-up study in 2018.

**Adam:** The 2015 one was done to support exploration. The 2018 one was much more thoroughly on a Project level.

**Troy:** We've also worked with the JWG and Birch Narrows to facilitate a land use study.

**Adam:** For the record, we will do a helicopter tour with Eric on the Bolton Lake area once we can.

**Eric Sylvestre:** There is a traditional Dene gathering site just east of the proposed mine site and we need to look for it. We looked for it about three years ago and we have to go back. We had submitted this as part of the cost. It's not immediately near the site, but within our traditional territory. We would like to locate that site because it's very significant as a gathering site from years back. It would be ideal to identify the location – with presence of historical use, the archaeology pertaining to the Dene people. We had submitted a proposal for funding to the CNSC, and we expected word back by October, but we've had no contact or any discussion on the submission. If this survey is to be funded, it would be ideal if you could get back to us so we have a heads up.

**Cassandra:** I don't know exactly what's going to be part of the approval. You should receive a response very soon from Adam Zenobi. I will flag that to him.

**Vern:** When we decided to put it in, we knew it was an unusual request and it might be easy for the CNSC to say no to, that it was not within the scope. But it is something very important to the Nation, and difficult for it to do, and from Birch's point of view it made sense to include that request in that application.

**Cassandra:** If it's determined to be out of scope or not included in this application, I will make sure we can find a way to find some funds outside the specific funding application. I will discuss it with Adam Levine and Adam Zenobi.

**Eric:** Because of the remoteness we have to fly in, boat in or go in winter by skidoo – the cheapest way, but we can't find the site in winter. There's a cost to the remoteness factor.

**Adam:** Ryan is familiar with the area – Bolton Lake area, about 40 km straight east of the Rook I project.

**Ryan Froess:** I had conversations with Eric a couple of years ago – we did some work in that areas when I was with CanNorth. We tried to locate that site so I'm familiar with it. It's on my radar too and I will also pass that on to Adam L and Adam Z.

**Cassandra:** Thanks for flagging that; it's good to know. I don't deal with funding, but it's good to have some more contacts on that.

#### **Next steps: - Karina**

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Thank you to the CNSC presenters.

Regarding the JWG meetings, especially now we've transitioned to the virtual meetings, it's important to look at what we've learned so far in terms of logistics of the meetings. Do you have any suggestions for improving virtual meetings?

**Vern:** I'm suffering from PZSD!! (Post Zoom Stress Disorder). It's a cumulative effect. It's like dog years – one hour of Zoom meetings counts for two regular hours! Keeping it brief, focused and to the point – this morning was right on target. In person is better, but this is way better than telephone. Being able to do share screen, even breakout rooms – it's pretty good in the scheme of things.

**Karina:** I agree. I am open to suggestions from all participants regarding the format.

**Richard:** If you want anything like Rachel Lane to present, or Radiation 101, we can line it up.

**Karina:** The NexGen team has talked about shorter, focused meetings. I like the dog years analogy! Going forward, we would like to have regularly scheduled meetings each month, say the third week, same date same time, to help predictability. Sometimes the most challenging part of any meeting is finding a time that works for everyone. Adam will follow up in the next week or so with a suggested date and we can go from there. We hope to get something in people's calendars for the next several months.

Once the recording is transcribed we will circulate the minutes; everyone on the call will get a chance to correct and clarify.

**Vern:** For CNSC and NexGen: We are in the final stages of concluding an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) with NexGen in terms of commercial benefits, environmental impacts, training and employment, equity participation etc.. It's been a very good process; however we want to really assure the community that Chief and Council are not blinded by the potential commercial gain to give a blind eye to impacts on the environment, health, Indigenous rights. Participating in the regulatory process and knowing there's a strong regulator is so important for the community – to have an independent third party who is in a position to give a yay or nay, is important. In the discussions with Chief and Council, with Eric, with the JWG - people just want to know that safety is well within acceptable risks; there may be some outliers but that's life. Having the oversight of the regulator is very important.

**Eric:** Thanks everyone for the meeting. One individual in our community is very critical about uranium mines and their effects. When we had discussions with Dr. Irvine he was somewhat reassured, but it's still

a process. For our next JWG we'll have our full group involved. Uranium is not new or different for us. My brother Robert has been in the mines since he was able to drive heavy equipment. He's been a contractor or an employee with different companies. He is living a healthy lifestyle and benefits from that. He's a good news story, one of many. We will continue with the engagement to reassure our communities and educate them on the operations and the effects of uranium mining.

**Eric:** With technology and zoom meetings, I'm not really a hi-tech guy. I was having a technical problem on my laptop; my grandson was walking by and I asked him to help. He pressed a couple of keys and walked out. I asked him what was wrong; he said it was an ID10T error! What is that? Write it down!

**Troy:** Thanks everyone for participating. Vern asked about taking existing mine impacts into consideration: I back that up to what we're doing right now in the EA process regarding assessment of alternatives and best available technology economically achievable (BATEA). We strive towards ensuring the designs we're contemplating and considering, and that will be ultimately included in the assessment are taking into consideration what's been done in the industry, and in certain instances moving beyond. One example would be our proposal for the underground tailings management facility (UGTMF).

I appreciate everyone coming.

**John G:** I'm just getting my feet wet. Have you made any progress on a power solution for the project? A good meeting; looking forward to getting a little more familiar with some of the documents and to many more meetings.

**Troy:** The EIS will consider liquid natural gas (LNG) onsite-generated power.

**Cassandra:** I'm glad I participated. We all have many virtual meetings every day – I would appreciate the time to take maybe a 5-minute break.

**Ryan:** A great learning experience – I look forward to many more meetings. I can't wait until we can meet in person, be in the north, on the land and have those discussions. Looking forward to learning a lot more from the regulator side. Looking forward to being involved in this project – I think you guys are doing a great job thus far.

**Nicole:** No other questions or concerns. Thanks everyone for your time. I will look into setting something up, as per Vern's suggestion, with CNSC and your group in the new year.

**Karina:** I always appreciate these meetings and find them very helpful. Thanks everyone for making the time today.

**Richard:** Thanks for the opportunity.

**Vern:** I've been part of several industrial development projects over the course of my career. The whole environment of relations between Indigenous nations, industry and the regulator has changed so much. It's much more collaborative – not perfect but it's trending the right way. If communities wish to participate fully and genuinely, they can have a high degree of confidence in the process. Lots of improvements.

**Jon H:** I appreciate the opportunity to be involved. Looking forward to more conversations next year. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

**Don:** Thanks to Eric and Vern. Let's continue on with what we've been doing, it's great. If anyone wants to know more about the background, I'm more than happy to advise. I agree with what Vern said – we've been working together for almost 20 years on relationships between Indigenous communities, industry, and government regulators and it's a lot different than it was. Thank you, and I appreciate being part of the discussion.

**Jennifer:** I found this really useful. In general I find it really useful to have someone come in and talk about the regulator and the regulatory process. It's nice to hear about the process from multiple points of view.

**Gill:** Requested copy of CNSC presentation.

**Adam:** Will send to everyone.

**Karina:** We're happy you were able to join.

**Troy:** Thanks everyone from across the country for your participation in this meaningful process. Thanks to Gill for capturing the notes.

**Melissa:** Thanks to everyone for including me. This was my first JWG meeting, I really enjoyed it, and I'm looking forward to learning more about the process.

**Adam:** This was a good meeting. Happy holidays, be safe, be well and please take care.





Nucléaire  
Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada



# CANADIAN NUCLEAR SAFETY COMMISSION



E-Doc# 6253769

December 2020



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire



# Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)



Protect communities and the environment



Ensure the peaceful use of nuclear energy



Share information

Canada's Nuclear Regulator



# Independent Commission



- Quasi-judicial administrative tribunal
- Agent of the Government of Canada (the Crown)
- Reports to Parliament
- Considers the public and Indigenous communities' concerns and knowledge in decisions
- Makes decisions based on evidence



# CNSC Staff Located Throughout Canada

Headquarters (HQ) and laboratory in Ottawa

Four site offices at power plants

One site office at Chalk River

Four regional offices





## CNSC – What We Do (and Don't Do)



- Rigorous review of all applications. A licence is only issued if a facility is safe
- Acts as Crown Consultation Coordinator
- Participates in Environmental Monitoring and assessing impacts on the environment
- Values Indigenous knowledge
- Dedicated to on-going engagement and relationship building with Indigenous communities



- Develop energy policy
- Own, manage, construct or operate facilities
- Promote the nuclear industry
- Share revenues from industry
- Employment
- Handle legacy issues
- Determine Indigenous rights
- Choose facility site locations

# CNSC Regulates all Nuclear Related Facilities and Activities

## The Fuel Cycle:

- Uranium mines and mills
- Uranium fuel fabrication and processing
- Nuclear power plants
- Waste management facilities

## Other Facilities and Activities:

- Nuclear substance processing
- Industrial and medical applications
- Nuclear research and educational activities
- Export/import control



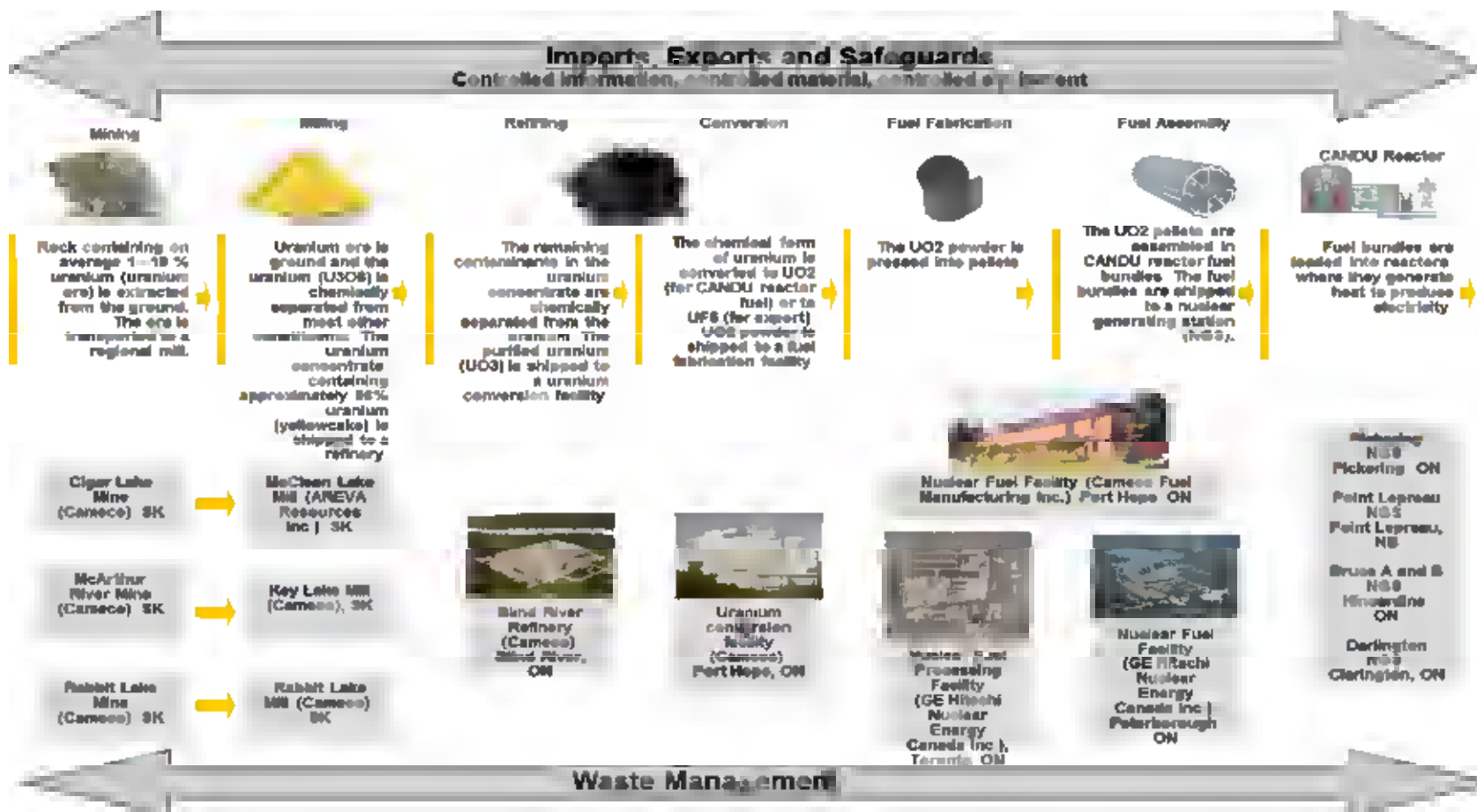
McArthur River Mine, Saskatchewan



Darlington Nuclear Generating Station,  
Ontario

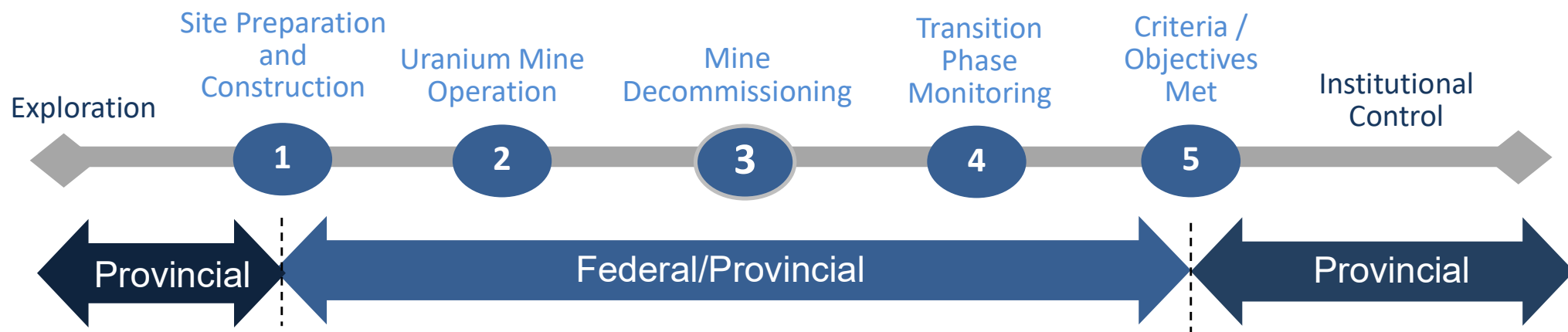


# Fuel Cycle Facilities and Activities





# Saskatchewan Uranium Mines and Mills: Life Cycle



Responsibility is transferred to the Province upon transfer to the Institutional Control Program





# Regulatory Framework

## ***Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA)***

- Enables legislation

## **Regulations**

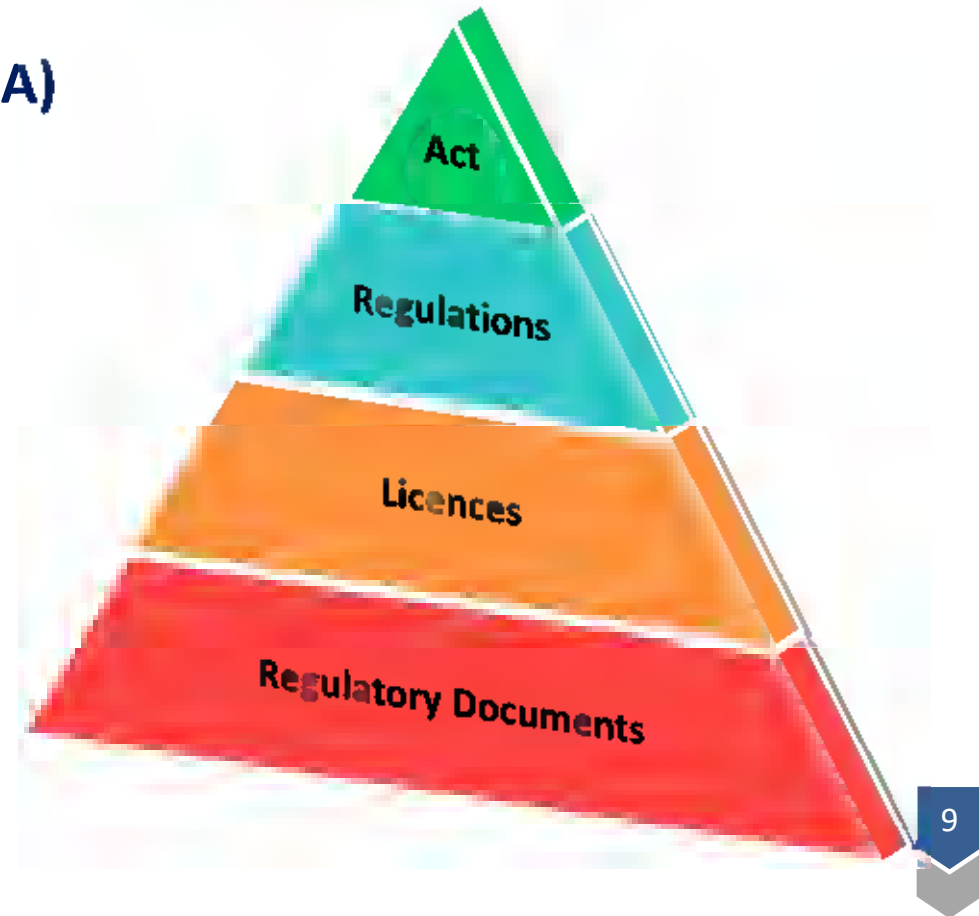
- High-level requirements

## **Licences, Licence Conditions Handbooks, Certificates**

- Facility and/or activity specific requirements

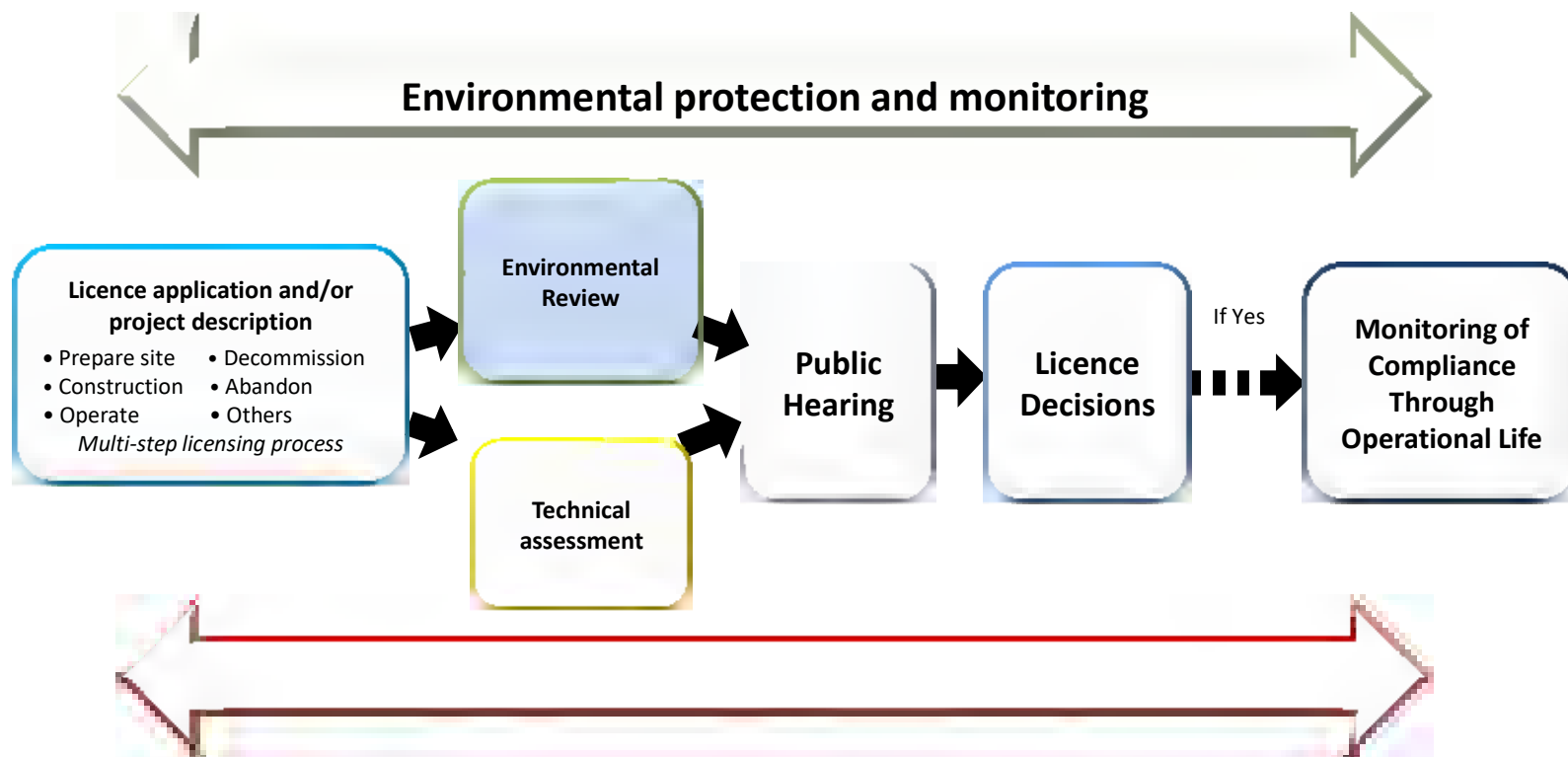
## **Regulatory Documentation**

- Include requirements and guidance



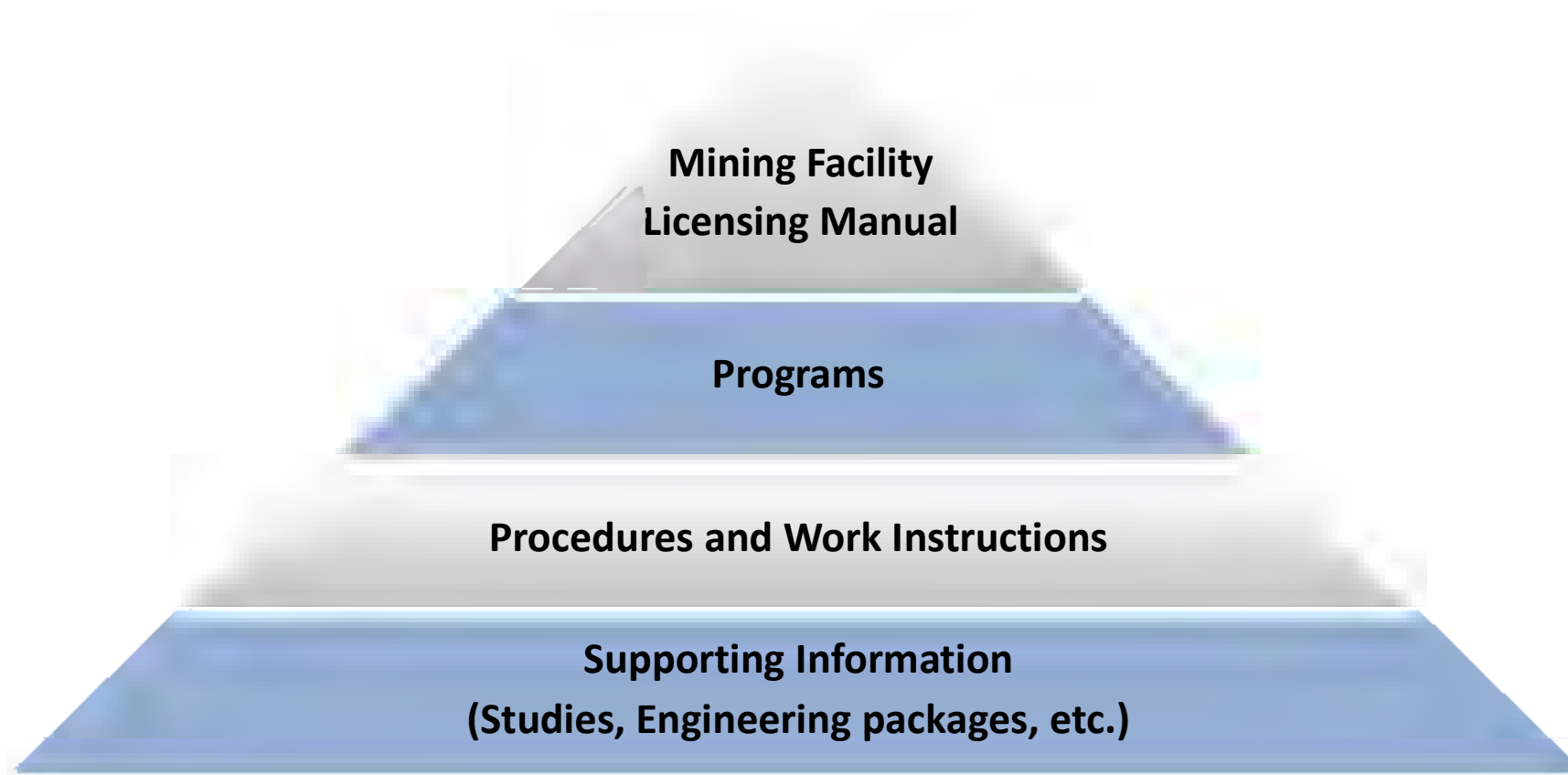


# CNSC's Licensing Process





# Organization of Licence Application Information





# Compliance Verification

## Inspections

- Planned
- Reactive

## Technical reviews by CNSC staff

- Programs
- Activities
- Events

## Licensee reports

- Annual
- Periodic

Changes to the compliance verification program are made on an ongoing basis in response to events, facility modifications and changes in performance

Oversight based on risk-informed approach



## Compliance Verification

- Risk-informed 10-year inspection plan, covering all safety and control areas (SCAs)
- Plan for focused and general inspections for all operational facilities

Every three years	Every five years	Once per 10 years
Management system	Human performance management	Safeguards and non-proliferation
Conventional health and safety	Operating performance	Packaging and transport
Environmental protection	Safety analysis	Security
Radiation protection	Physical design	
	Fitness for service	
	Emergency management	
	Waste management	



## Compliance Verification During COVID-19

- CNSC offices temporarily closed with staff working from home
- Inspections paused in March 2020 and resumed in June 2020
  - Other aspects of compliance verification continued throughout this period
- Inspections conducted virtually (interviews, photos, document reviews) for remainder of 2020 and early 2021
- Onsite inspections as required (Beaverlodge September/October 2020)
- Licensee and CNSC staff following COVID-19 precautions
- Technical reviews and licensing process ongoing
- Commission proceedings taking place virtually

CNSC oversight continues through COVID-19



## Open and Transparent Regulator

- Community outreach activities
- Participant Funding Program (PFP)
- Responsible for building long-term positive relationships and consulting with Indigenous Peoples
- Public and Indigenous groups invited to participate in Commission proceedings, Environmental Assessments and licensing reviews
- Regulatory, environmental, and nuclear safety information published on CNSC's website and shared on social media

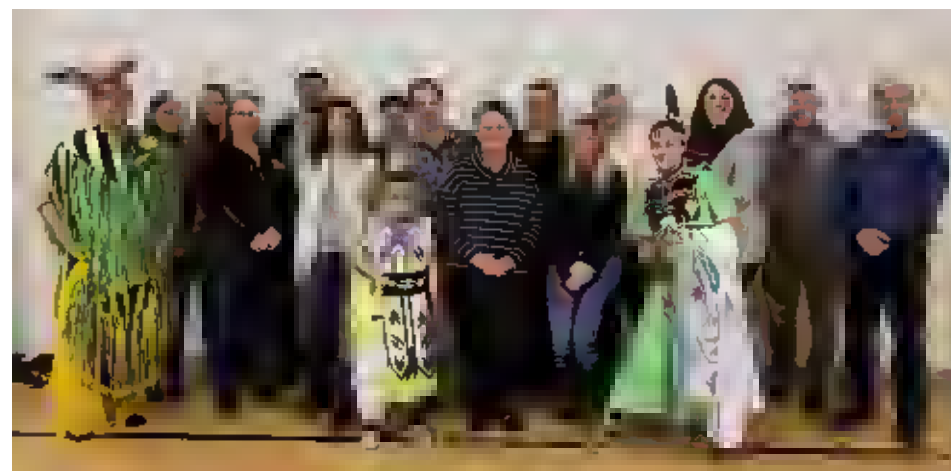


CNSC is committed to building trust



## CNSC's Commitment to Indigenous Peoples

- Learn about and address Indigenous communities' issues and concerns in meaningful and productive ways
- Support Indigenous communities' participation in CNSC regulatory processes
- Strengthen CNSC's relationships with Indigenous groups and develop on-going, respectful, and open dialogue



December 2018, CNSC staff met with AOPFN staff and youth for mutual learning and relationship-building.



## CNSC's Requirements for Licensee Indigenous Engagement

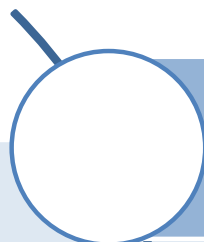
- The CNSC verifies licensees engage with Indigenous communities and contribute to meeting the duty to consult
- REGDOC-3.2.2, *Indigenous Engagement* sets out requirements and provides guidance for CNSC licensees with respect to Indigenous engagement activities
- REGDOC-3.2.2 does not absolve the CNSC of its duty to consult and does not formally delegate the duty on to licensees



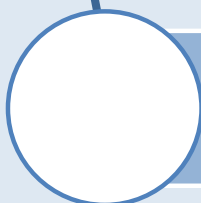


# Importance of Indigenous Participation in the EA Process

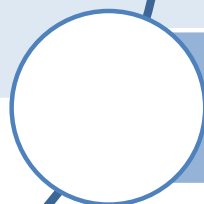
***Incorporate  
traditional  
knowledge***



Understand the effects and potential impacts of the project on potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty Rights



Ensure mitigation and accommodation is considered to address effects and potential impacts



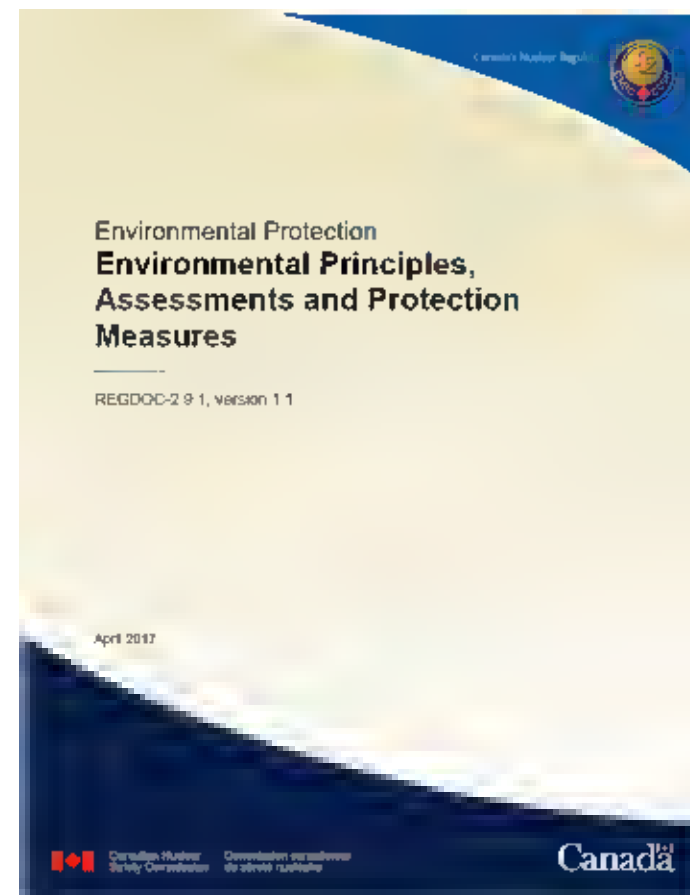
Determine significance of adverse effects

***The CNSC looks at potential adverse impacts on potential or established Indigenous and/or treaty rights***

## Environmental Review Process

Environmental Reviews are central to the CNSC's responsibilities

- Impact Assessments under the Impact Assessment Act (IAA)
- Ongoing Environmental Assessments (EA) under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA 2012)
- Environmental protection reviews under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*
- *REGDOC 2.9.1, Environmental Protection: Environmental Policy, Assessments and Protection Measures* (2017) (under review)





## Environmental Assessment Process

- Opportunities for public and Indigenous consultation are continuous
- Federal and provincial agencies are involved and contribute their expertise in Impact Assessments and Environmental Assessments
- Decisions are independent, transparent and evidence-based



# Environmental Assessment Process

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

## Environmental Assessment Process under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, 2012

CNSC engages with Indigenous  
groups and communities  
throughout the EA process





# Components of the Environment

These are the usual environmental components that need to be studied as part of an environmental assessment

- Air, noise
- Surface water
- Ground water
- Terrain and soils

Physical Environment



- Fish and fish habitat
- Terrestrial habitats
- Birds and other wildlife
- Species at risk

Biological Environment



- Plant gathering
- Plant or animal harvesting
- Hunting, trapping
- Fishing, bait fishing
- Teaching sites
- Cultural ceremonies and sites
- Archaeological sites
- Cabins and tourism outposts
- Swimming/recreation

Human Environment





## CEAA 2012 Technical Review

The CNSC's technical review under CEAA 2012 focuses on **potential significant adverse environmental effects** to the following:

Fish and Fish Habitat

Migratory Birds

Aquatic Species at Risk

Environment due to  
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

### Indigenous peoples

- Health and socio-economic conditions
- Physical and Cultural Heritage
- Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes
- Historical, archaeological, paleontological, or architectural sites/structures





## NexGen Rook I Project

- Proposed underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula
- Located in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan
- Approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, Saskatchewan



Image source: NexGen





# NexGen Rook I Project

## Current Status

- Undergoing CEAA 2012 environmental (and NSCA 2000 licensing) assessments
- A provincial EA is also required and being coordinated where possible
- NexGen preparing draft environmental impact statement (EIS) – anticipated submission Q3 2021

## Next Steps

- CNSC and federal/provincial technical review of draft EIS
- Comment period for the public and Indigenous peoples on draft EIS
- CEAA EA Report and licensing Commission Member Document drafted by CNSC
- Commission to render EA and licensing decisions following public hearings



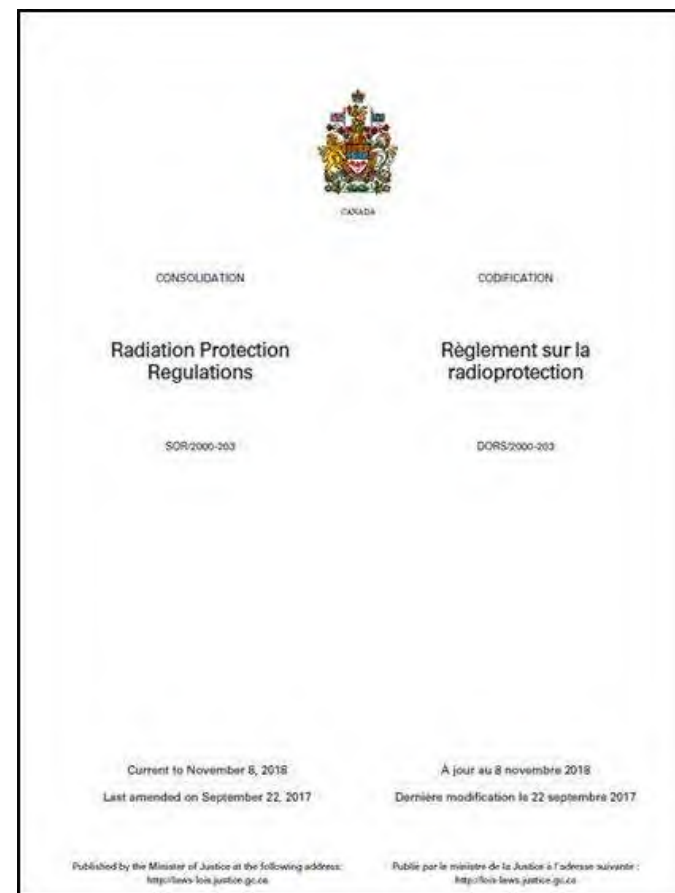
# Radiation Protection



# Radiation Protection Regulations

The *Radiation Protection Regulations* require that all licensees implement a radiation protection program which ensures:

- Doses received by persons are as low as reasonable achievable (ALARA)
- Management control over work practices
- Personnel qualification and training
- Control of occupational and public exposure to radiation
- Planning for unusual situations





## Radiation Protection Programs

- Radiation protection programs are submitted by licensees when applying for a licence
- Using a risk informed approach, CNSC staff assess the program to ensure that it:
  - meets regulatory requirements
  - is appropriate for the licensed activity and the associated radiological hazards
  - is consistent with international and industry best practices
- Compliance activities are conducted to verify that the radiation protection program is effectively implemented to protect workers and the public

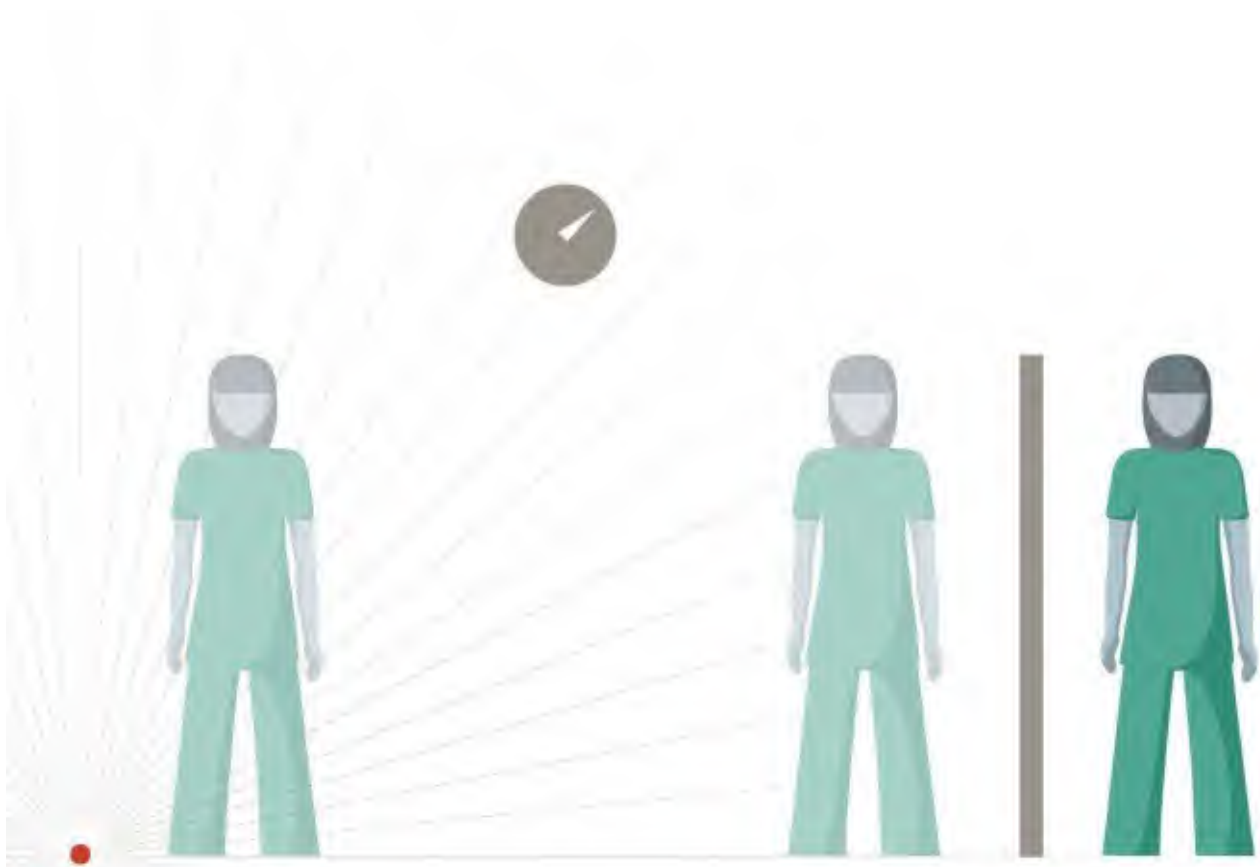


## Radiation Protection Safety and Control Area

- The safety and control framework is a useful means of organizing our work and assessing/reporting performance
- The Radiation Protection (RP) SCA includes the specific areas:
  - application of ALARA
  - worker dose control
  - RP program performance
  - radiological hazard control
  - estimated dose to the public



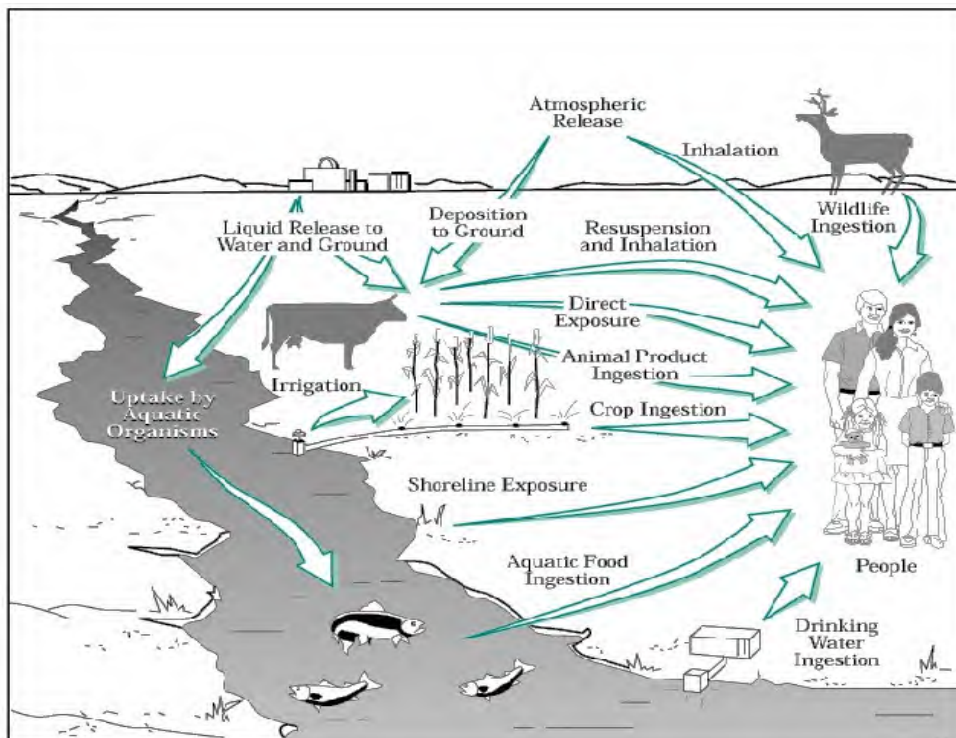
# Radiation Protection





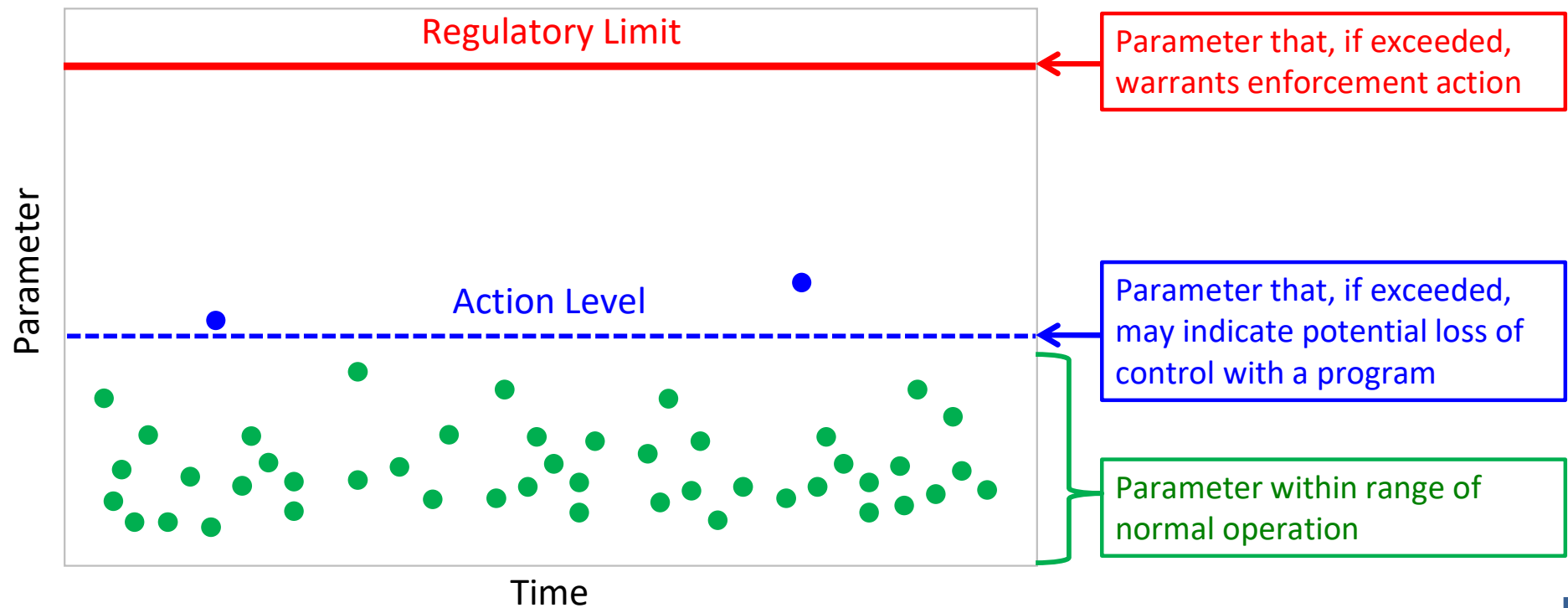
# Dosimetry

The measurement and calculation of radiation doses





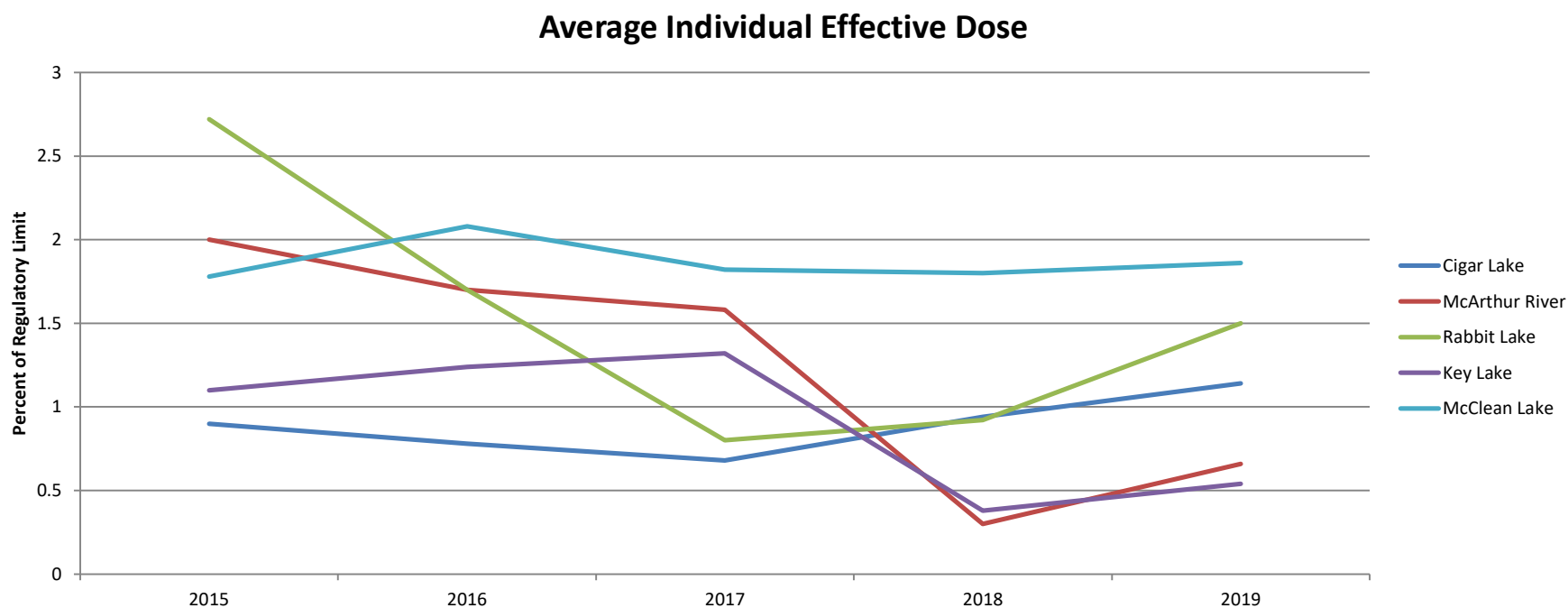
# Regulatory Limits and Action Levels





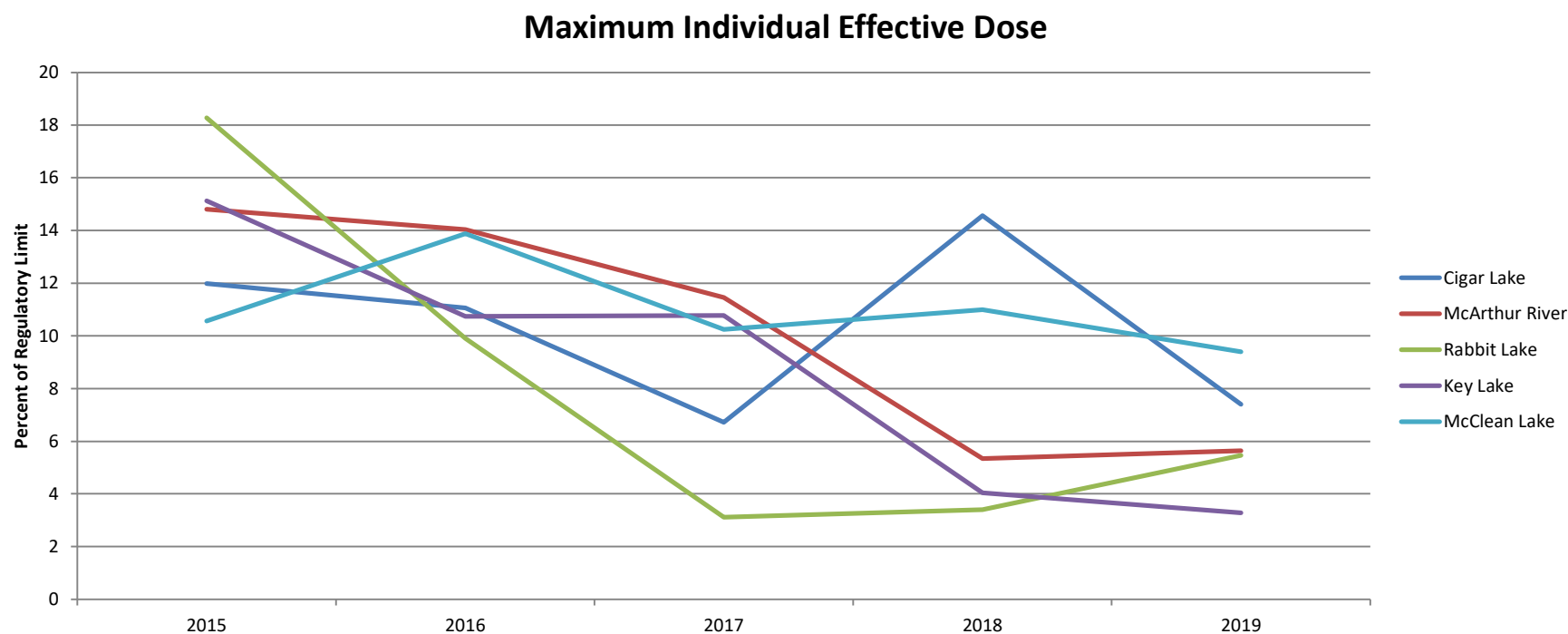


# Radiation Protection: Average Individual Effective Dose



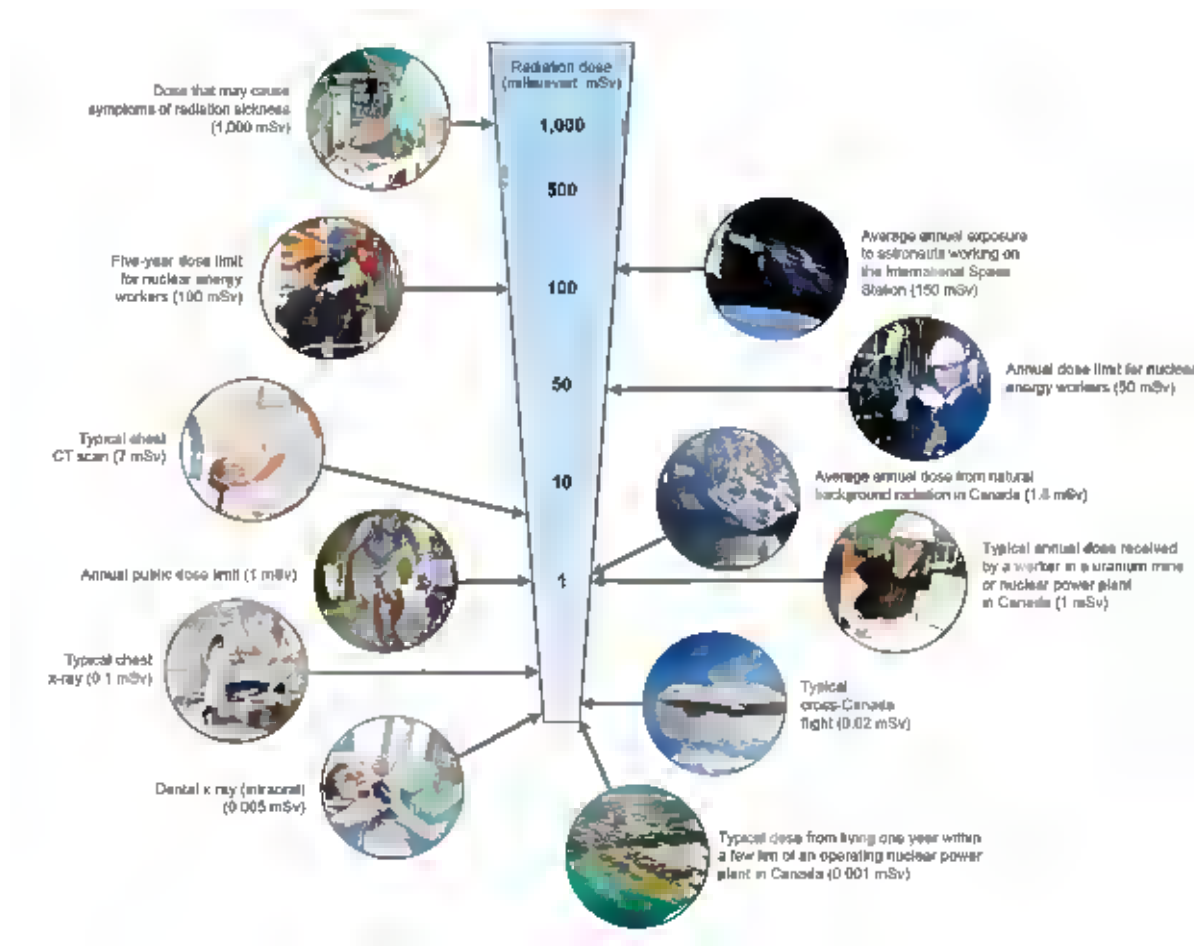


# Radiation Protection: Maximum Individual Effective Dose





# Radiation Dose Examples





## Radiation Protection Summary

- Radiation has always been present and is all around us
- We are exposed to natural and artificial sources of radiation
- Radiation has the ability to cause harm, but can also be used in positive ways (particularly medical)
- The CNSC is responsible for regulating the use of nuclear energy to protect Canadians and the environment



Nucléar  
Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

Thank You! Questions?



[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



**From:** [Zenobi, Adam \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Vern Bachiu](#)  
**Cc:** [Chief Johnathan Sylvestre](#); [Eric Sylvestre](#); [Froess, Ryan \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Roy-Drainville, Cassandre \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** RE: Participant Funding Program - Contribution Agreement and Advance Payment  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#6468549-v1-PFP\\_2020\\_NGEN-02\\_CA\\_BNDN\\_FINAL.PDF](#)  
**Sent:** 2021-01-22 9:57:43 AM

---

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged  
Hello Vern,

Please find attached the CNSC-signed contribution agreement for your records.

Also, would Birch Narrows Dene Nation benefit from receiving an advance payment of 50% of this funding award? We are wanting to maximize our Participant Funding Program budget this year to help reduce some of the financial burdens we are facing next fiscal, so having you request an advance of \$17,787 would be helpful. All I would need is an email confirming that Birch Narrows would like the advance payment and what it will be used for.

Please let me know as soon as you can, thanks!

Adam Zenobi

Policy Officer, Indigenous Consultation and Participant Funding Program  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada

Agent des politiques, Consultations autochtones et programme de financement des participants  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada

**Email:** [adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)  
**Cell:** 613-415-2814

---

**From:** Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** January 18, 2021 1:29 PM  
**To:** 'Vern Bachiu' <[vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com](mailto:vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com)>  
**Cc:** Chief Johnathan Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <[ryan.froess@canada.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca)>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <[cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Participant Funding Program - Contribution Agreement - NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Rook I Project - BNDN

Thank you Vern! I will have this signed and returned to you for your records.

Best,

Adam Zenobi

Policy Officer, Indigenous Consultation and Participant Funding Program  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada

Agent des politiques, Consultations autochtones et programme de financement des participants  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada

**Email:** [adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)  
**Cell:** 613-415-2814

---

**From:** Vern Bachiu <[vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com](mailto:vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com)>  
**Sent:** January 18, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** Zenobi, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.zenobi@canada.ca](mailto:adam.zenobi@canada.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chief Johnathan Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <[ryan.froess@canada.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca)>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <[cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Participant Funding Program - Contribution Agreement - NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Rook I Project - BNDN

Chief Sylvestre authorized me to add his electronic signature and to submit the letter of agreement on his behalf. See attached. Thank you for your support in Birch's efforts regarding this project.

**From:** [Snider2, Richard \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#) on behalf of [Snider2, Richard \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Sukkau, Lori \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CNSC - BNDN - Uranium Mining Health Presentations  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6556655-v1-Uranium\_health\_BNFN\_May\_3\_21\_Irvine\_Share.PPTX;E-DOCS-#6475586-v2-CANUWS\_Birch\_Narrows\_Dene\_Nation\_May\_3\_2021.PPT;  
**Sent:** 2021-05-06 9:53:28 AM

---

Hi Lori, can you please add this engagement to our engagement log.

Thanks

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan (CNSC/CCSN) <[ryan.froess@canada.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca)>  
**Sent:** May 5, 2021 3:11 PM  
**To:** [vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com](mailto:vern.bachiu@triallconsulting.com); [eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca); John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Cc:** Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[nicole.frigault@canada.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@canada.ca)>; Snider2, Richard (CNSC/CCSN) <[richard.snider2@canada.ca](mailto:richard.snider2@canada.ca)>; Lane, Rachel (CNSC/CCSN) <[rachel.lane@canada.ca](mailto:rachel.lane@canada.ca)>; Irvine, James SHA <[James.Irvine@saskhealthauthority.ca](mailto:James.Irvine@saskhealthauthority.ca)>; Levine, Adam (CNSC/CCSN) <[adam.levine@canada.ca](mailto:adam.levine@canada.ca)>; Roy-Drainville, Cassandre (CNSC/CCSN) <[cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca](mailto:cassandre.roy-drainville@canada.ca)>; [Ann.Riemer@gov.sk.ca](mailto:Ann.Riemer@gov.sk.ca)  
**Subject:** CNSC - BNDN - Uranium Mining Health Presentations

Good afternoon Eric and Vern,

Thank you for inviting the CNSC and the Province of Saskatchewan to present to the Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) Working Group and the broader community. I have attached both Dr. Rachel Lane's (CNSC) and Dr. James Irvine's (Province) presentations your you. If you have specific questions on their presentations please feel free to reach out.

I will be following up with some additional information and materials that was asked during the meeting in an a follow-up email. We are also interested to set up future meetings with CNSC staff on other topics with BNDN JWG if they are interested. I can work with Vern and Eric on this as an action item.

Thanks again,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Policy Advisor, Policy, Aboriginal, and International Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@canada.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@canada.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892



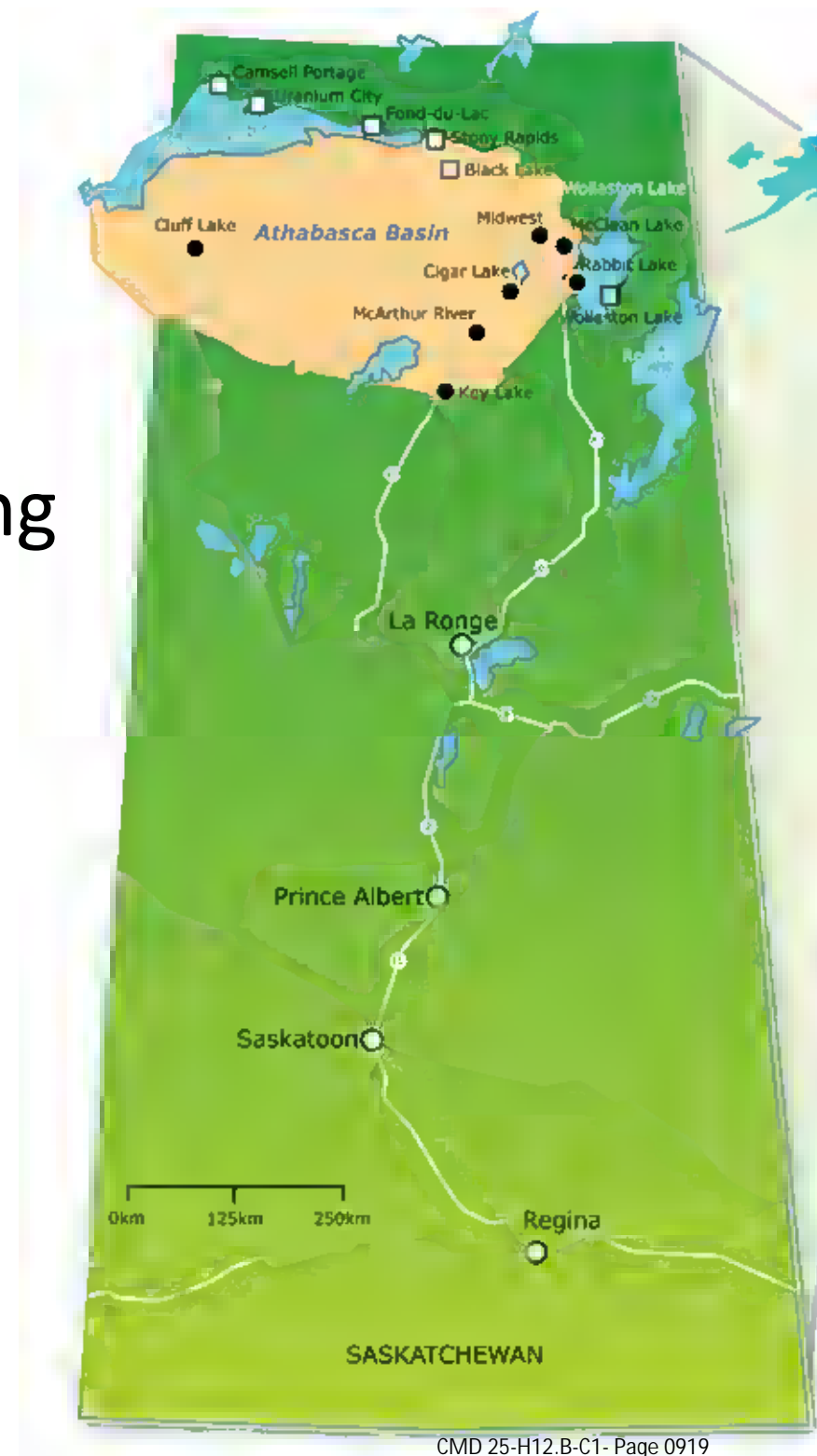
# Uranium Mining in Northern Saskatchewan: Health perspectives

## Birch Narrows First Nation

**Dr. James Irvine**

Public Health and Preventive Medicine Consultant, Saskatchewan Health Authority  
Professor Emeritus, University of Saskatchewan

- How are potential risks to health from uranium mining assessed and monitored?
- What other risks are significant concerns for health in northern Saskatchewan?



# Some factors to consider for mining developments:

Construction

Operation

Decommission

Physical



- Traffic
- Potential for Injuries
- Noise

Chemical



- Uranium & Other constituents of the rock (Molybdenum, Selenium)
- Chemicals used in the process

Radiation



- Radon
- Gamma
- Radioactive dusts

Psycho-social



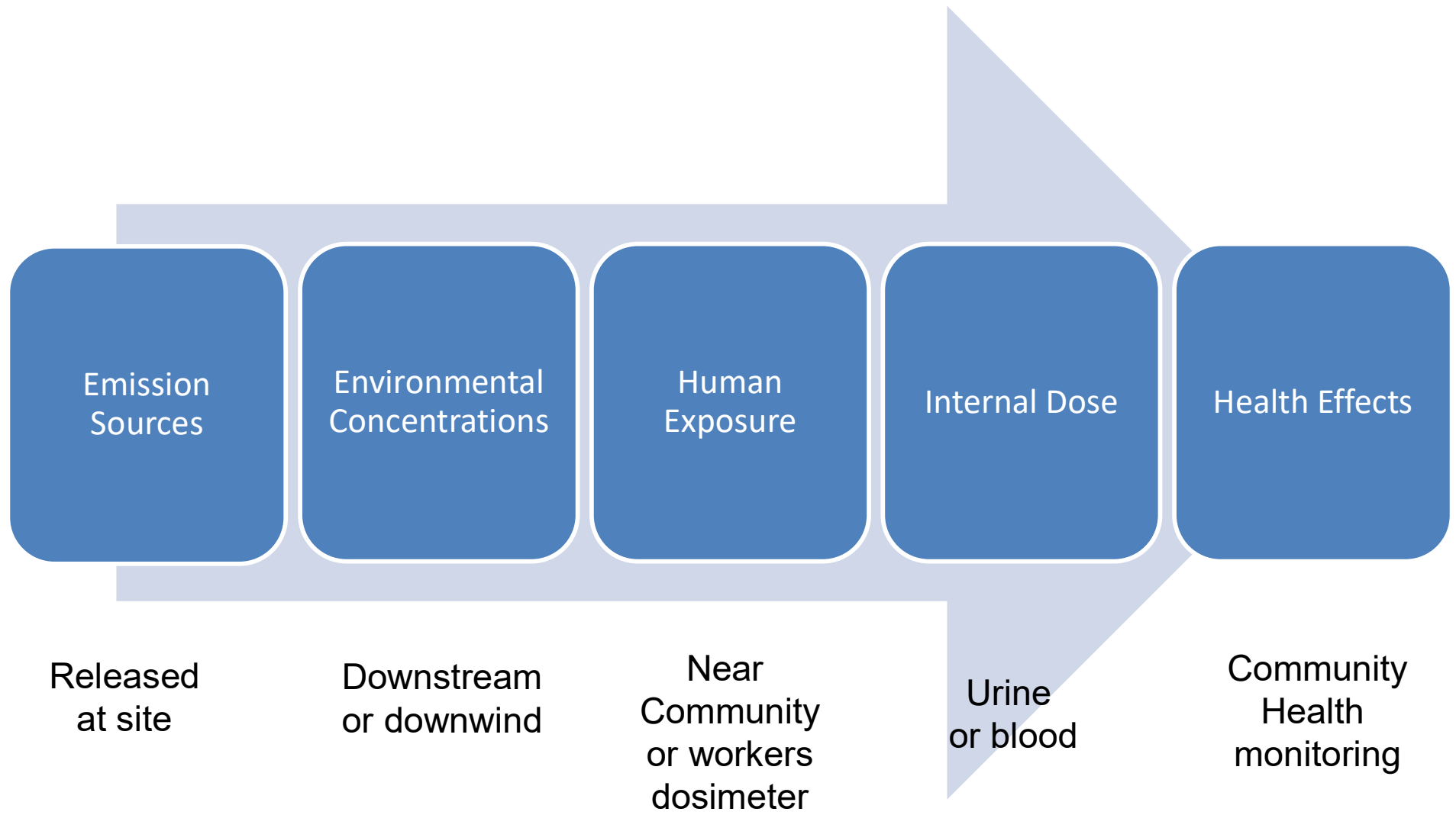
- Economics, employment
- Traditional activities
- Workforce dynamics

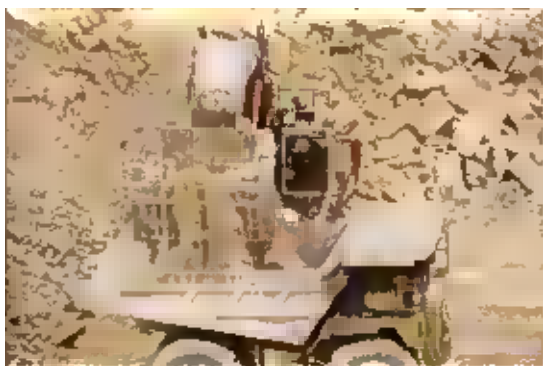
# Components of Risk



If large enough 'dose' = potential for harm

# Risks to Human Health





# Potential pathways to human health impacts





Worker's health & safety

Animals, fish, plant foods



Family's socio-economic conditions

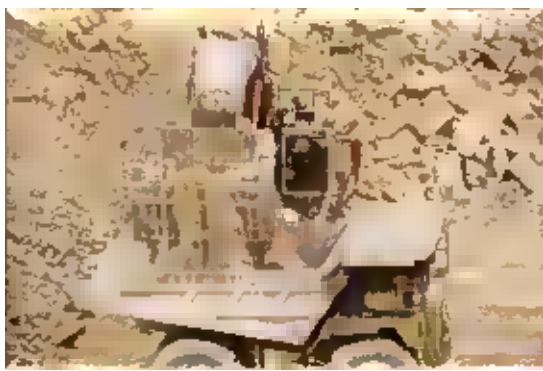


Air, water, soil



Community's socio-cultural-economic factors

# Air, Water, Soil, and Country Foods Monitoring





# Monitoring for the Safety of the Northern Saskatchewan Environment including Country Foods



- 1) Industry operational monitoring requirements
- 2) Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP)
- 3) Eastern Athabasca Regional Monitoring Program (EARMP)
- 4) Community-based Environmental Monitoring Program



Worker's health & safety





Family's socio-economic conditions



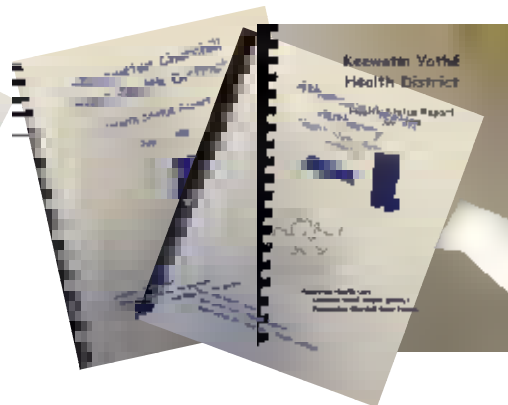
Community's socio-cultural-economic factors



# Monitoring community health



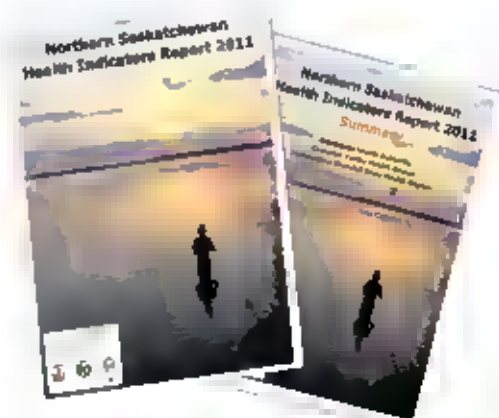
**Early 1990's**  
Topic reports



**1998**  
Individual  
HSR's



**2004**  
Comprehensive  
HSR

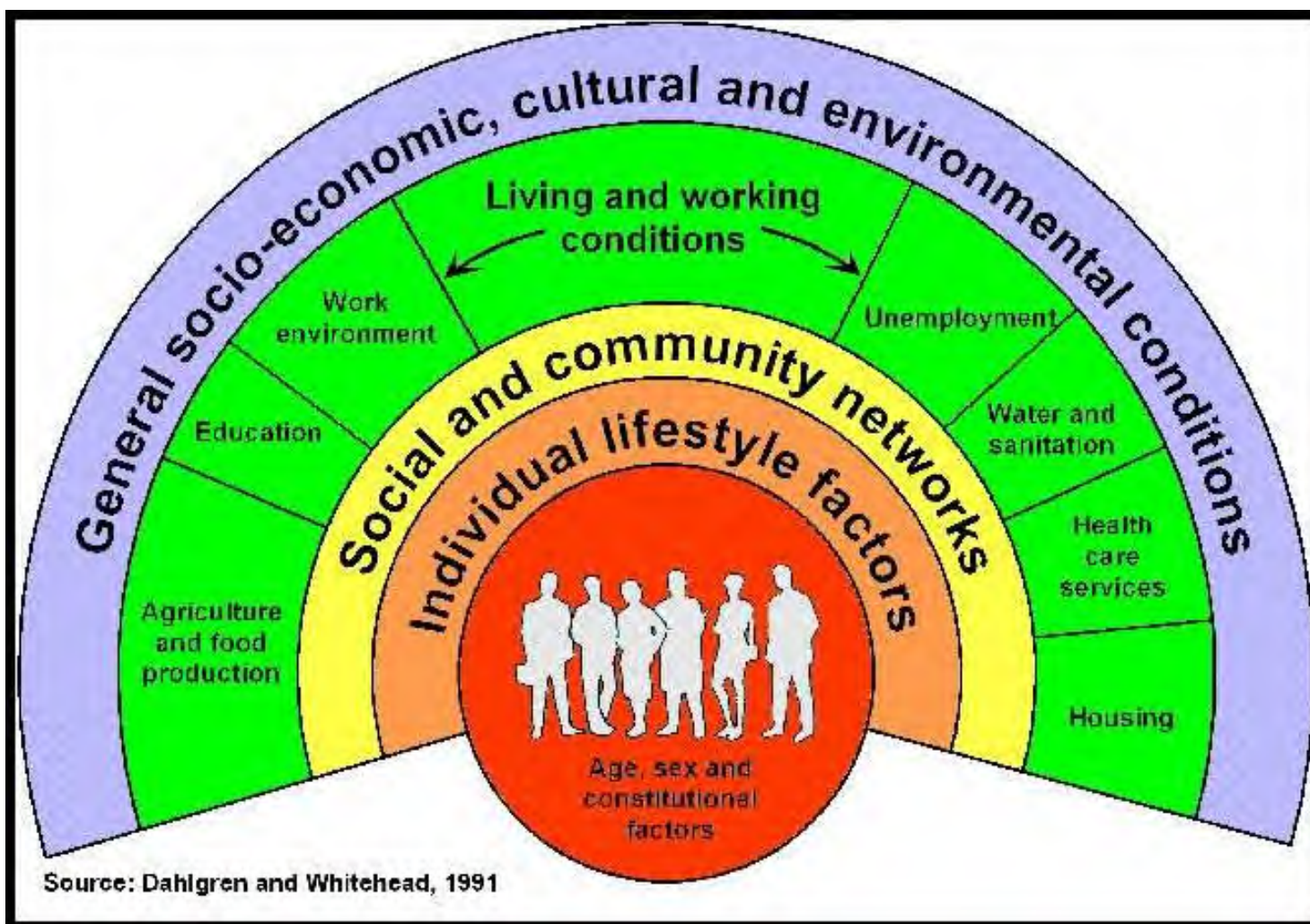


**2011**  
Comprehensive  
HSR

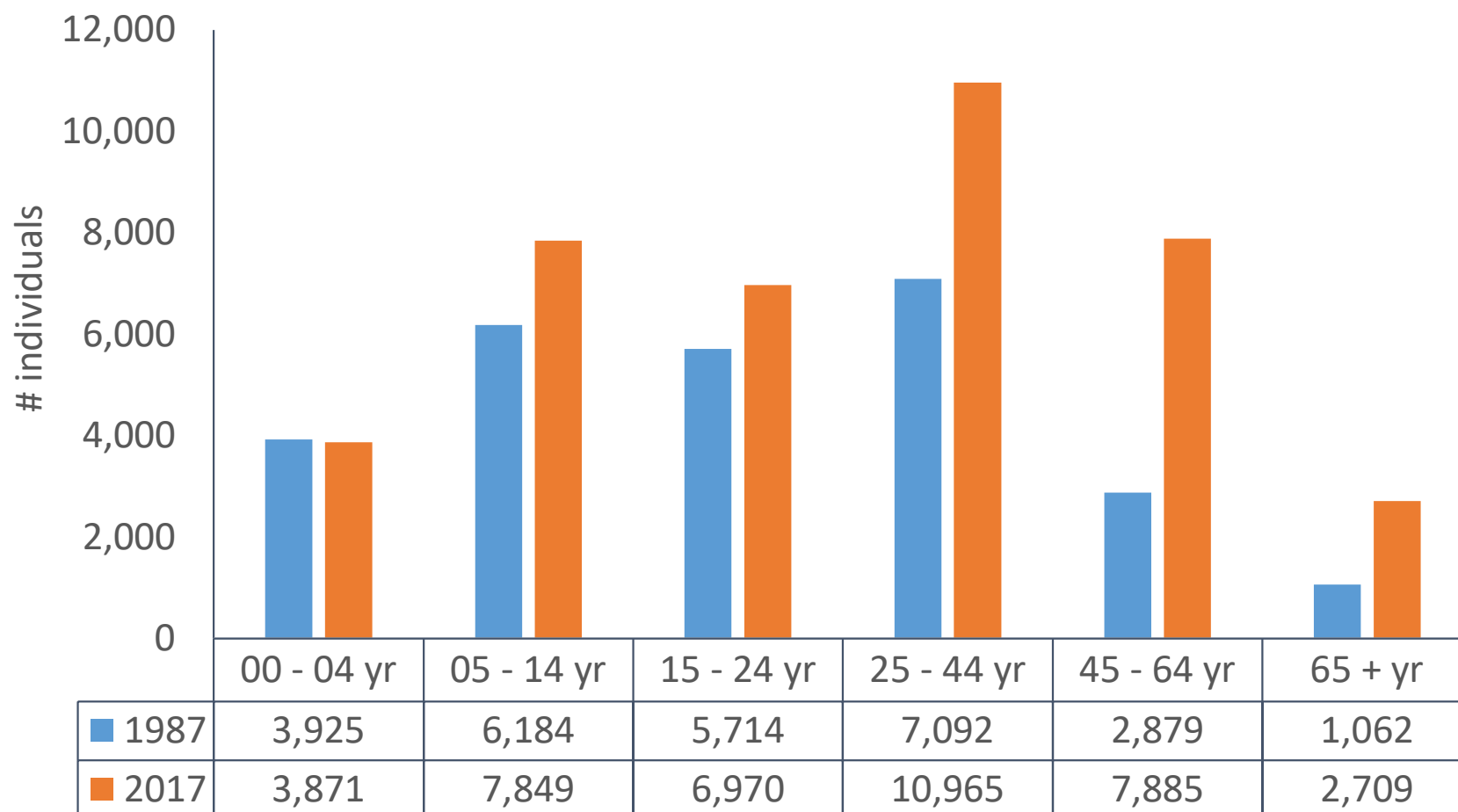
**Community Health  
Monitoring**

**2016 forward  
Online**





# Change in number of people living in Northern Saskatchewan by age group 1987-2017



Source: Sask Covered Population 2009 & 2020, Prepared by PHU Apr 2021

# Changes in Health Status in North Saskatchewan



- Improvements in infant health
- Longer life expectancy
- Major reductions in deaths & hospitalizations from infectious disease
- Some infectious diseases still prevalent (TB) or some relatively new (hepatitis C, HIV)



# Changes in Health Status in North Saskatchewan

- Continuing economic, housing, food security, & educational disparities
- Concerns of substance abuse, alcohol abuse and commercial tobacco abuse
- Continuing high rates of traumatic deaths
- Increasing influence of chronic disease (e.g. diabetes, heart disease, cancer)

# Cancer is common in Canada

Nearly **1 in 2 Canadians** is expected to be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime



About **1 in 4 Canadians** is expected to die from cancer

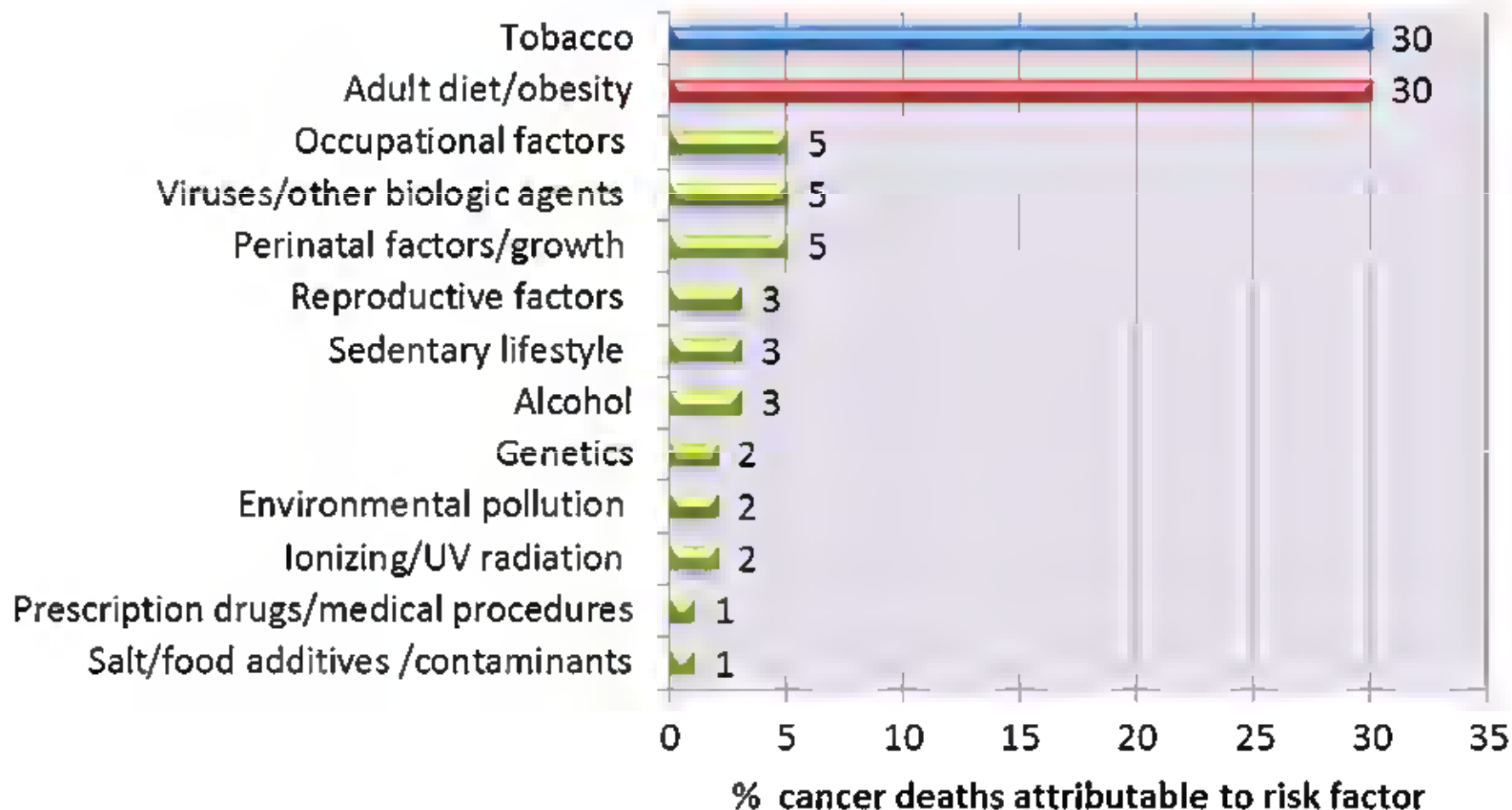


Good news:  
the incidence rate for all cancers combined is decreasing in males and is no longer increasing in female

Not as good news:  
The number of cases of cancer is increasing in Canada as our population size increases and as our population ages

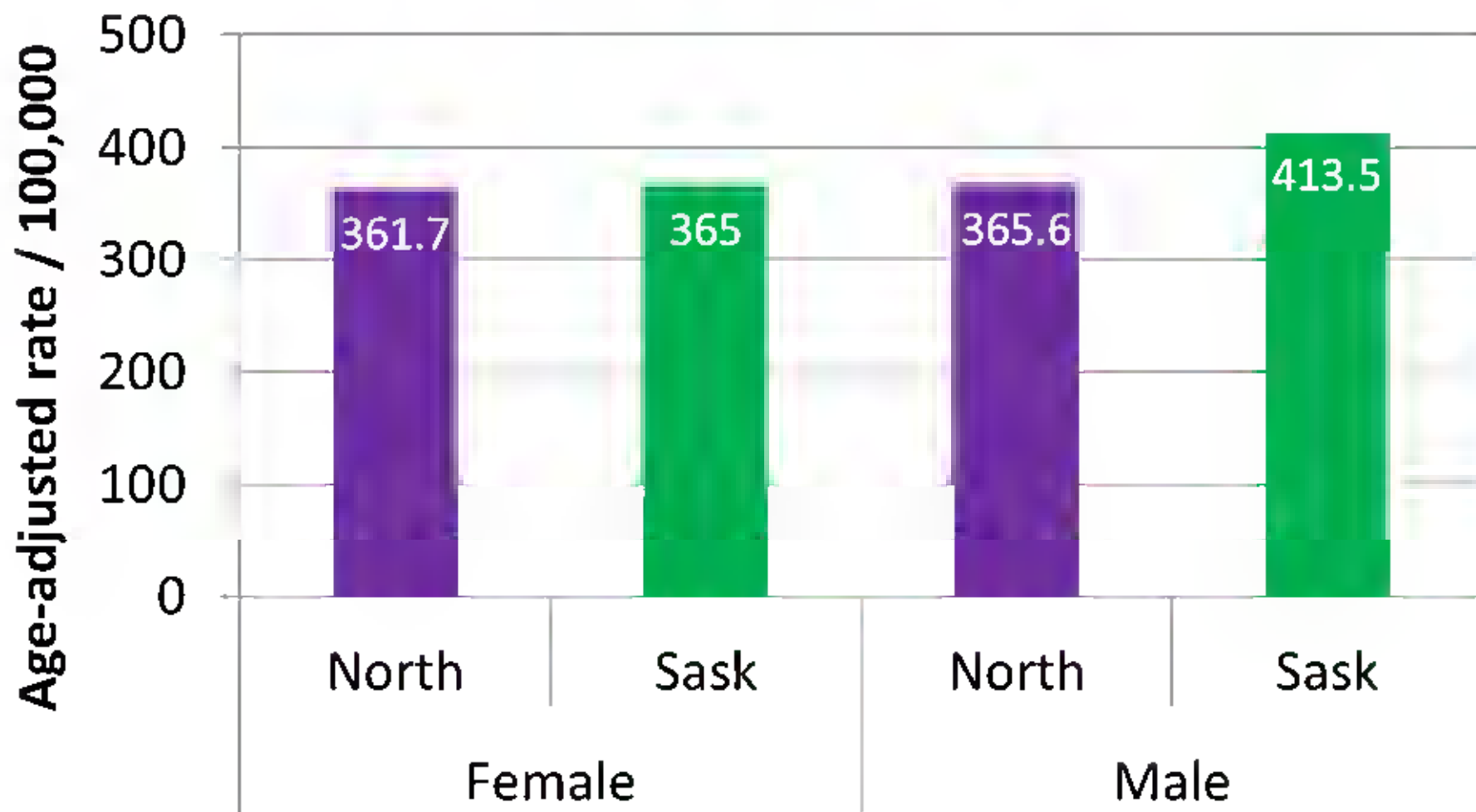
# Causes of cancer death in Canada

(% attributed to various risk factors/conditions)



Source: Adapted from Primary and secondary prevention in the reduction of cancer morbidity and mortality. European Journal of Cancer. 37: Adami HO, Day NE, Trichopoulos NE & Willett WC (2001). Prepared by PHU, Jan 2008

# Cancer age-standardized incidence rate in Saskatchewan and Northern Saskatchewan: 2010-2014

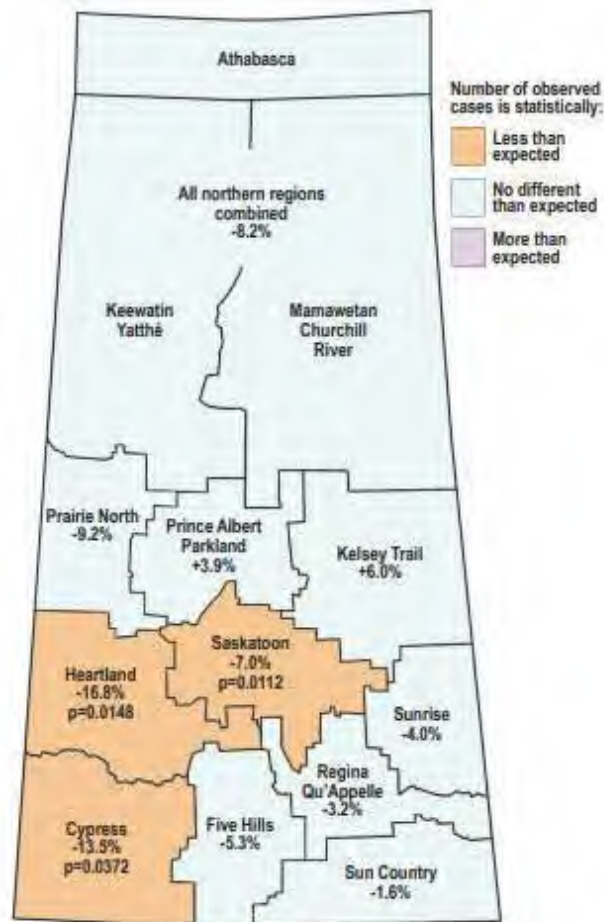


# Female cancers by former Health Regions 2010-2014

## Age-standardized incidence ratios

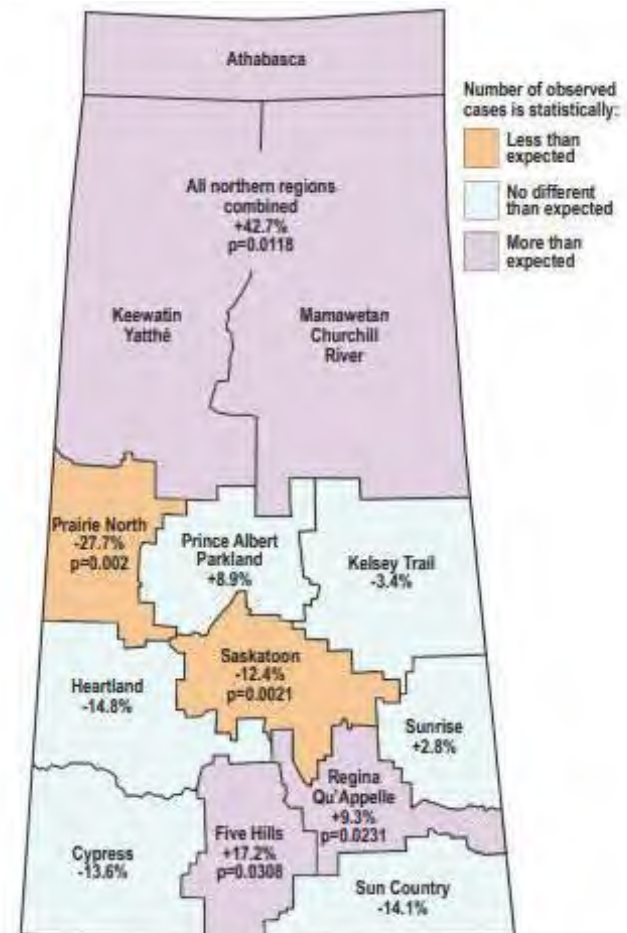
Source: Saskatchewan Cancer Agency 2017

### Female Breast Cancer



North about the same or a little lower than Sask average

### Female Lung Cancer



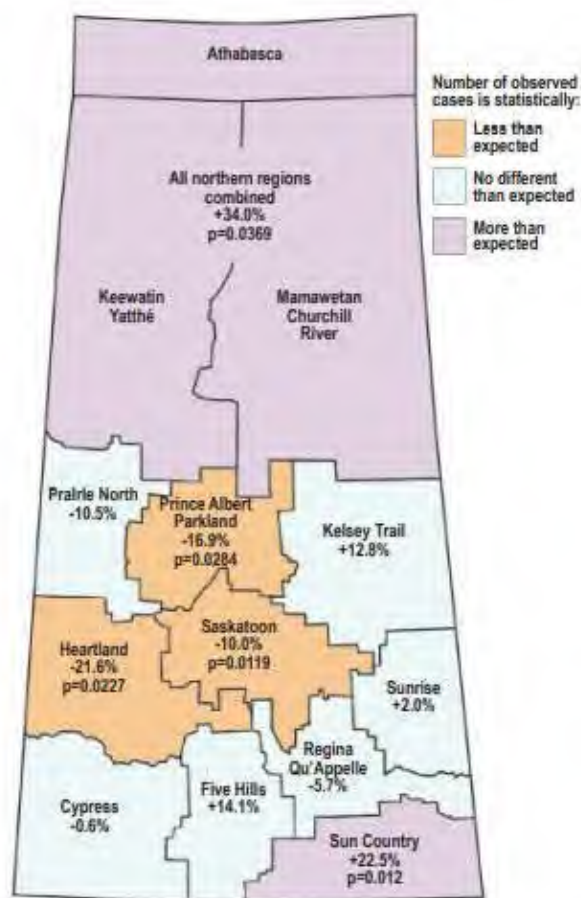
North higher than Sask average

# Female cancers by former Health Regions 2010-2014

## Age-standardized incidence ratios

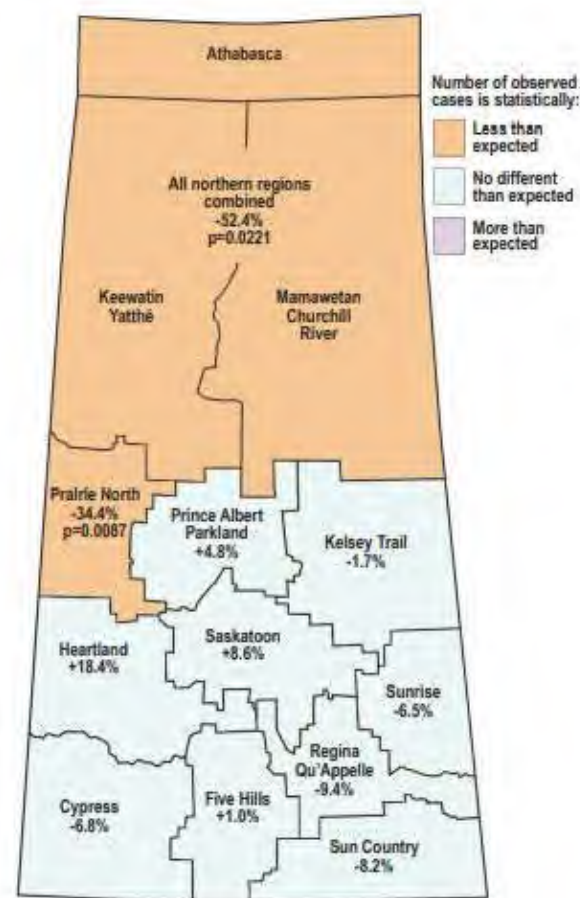
Source: Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, 2017

### Female Colorectal Cancer



North higher than Sask average

### Female Uterine Cancer



North lower than Sask average

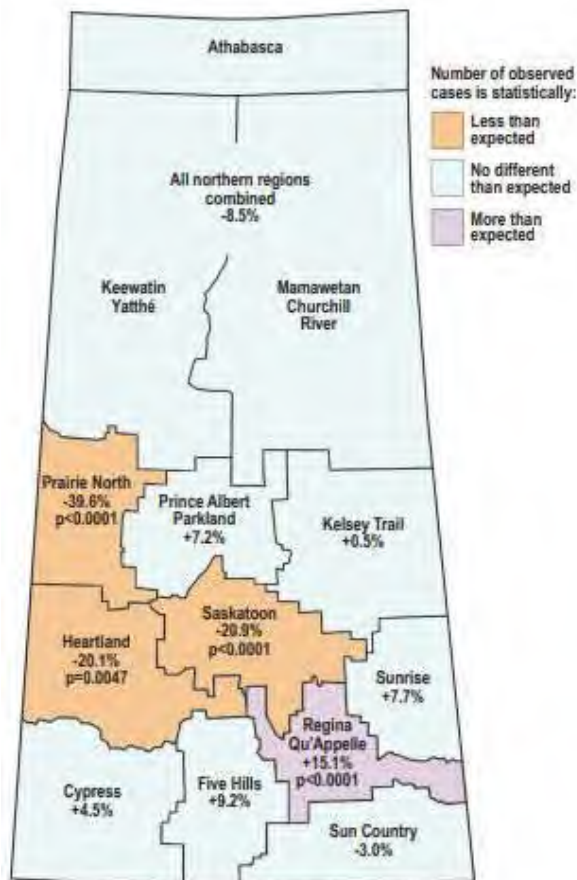


# Male cancers by former Health Regions 2010-2014

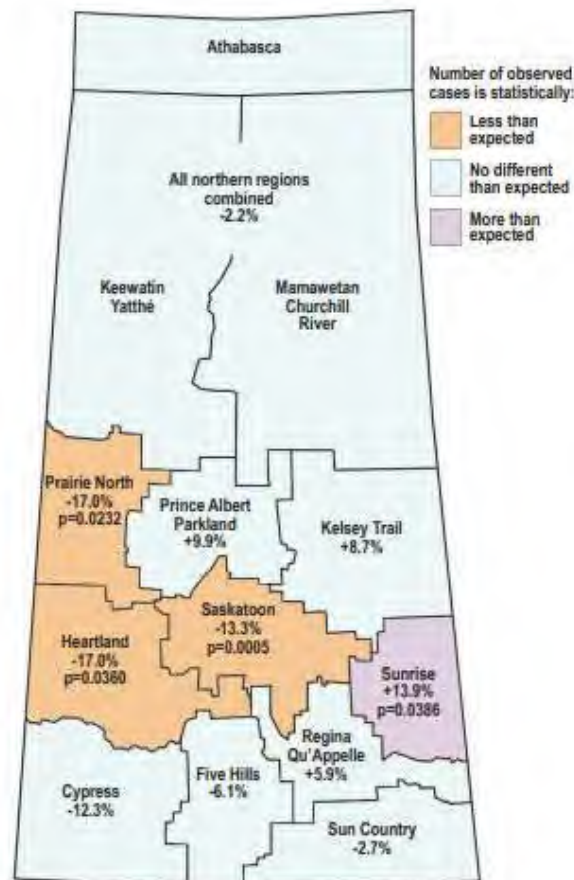
## Age-standardized incidence ratios

Source: Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, 2017

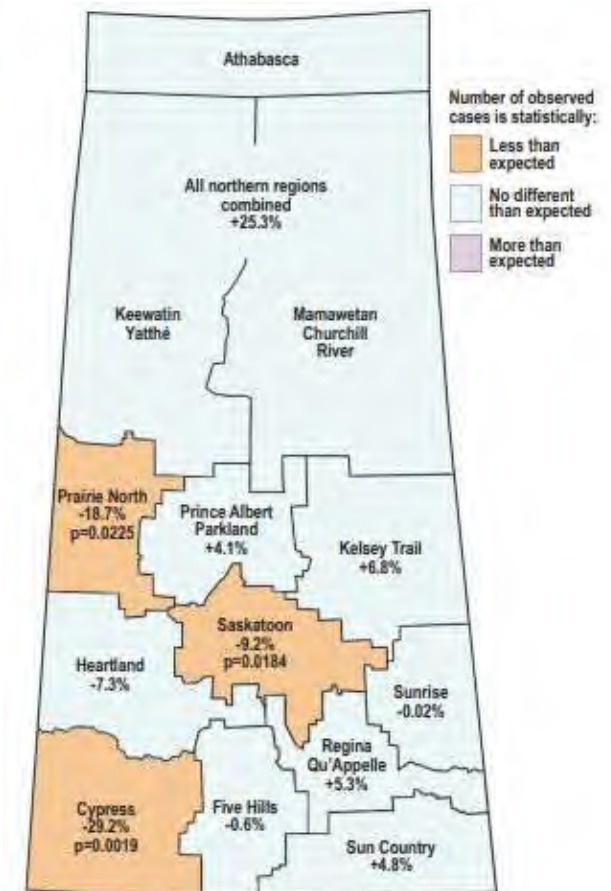
### Male Prostate



### Male Colorectal

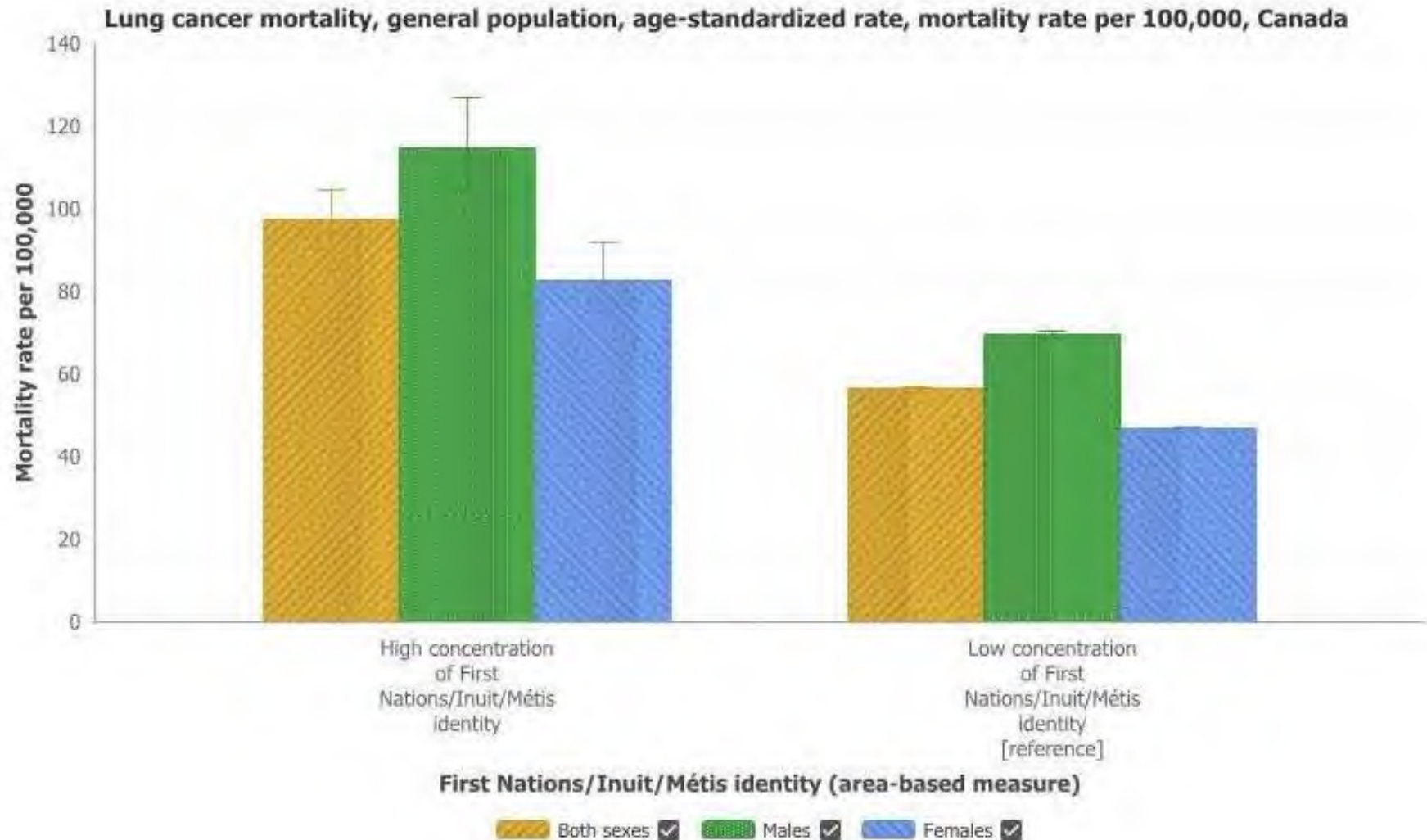


### Male Lung



# Death rate from lung cancer

Higher in those areas of Canada with larger Indigenous population





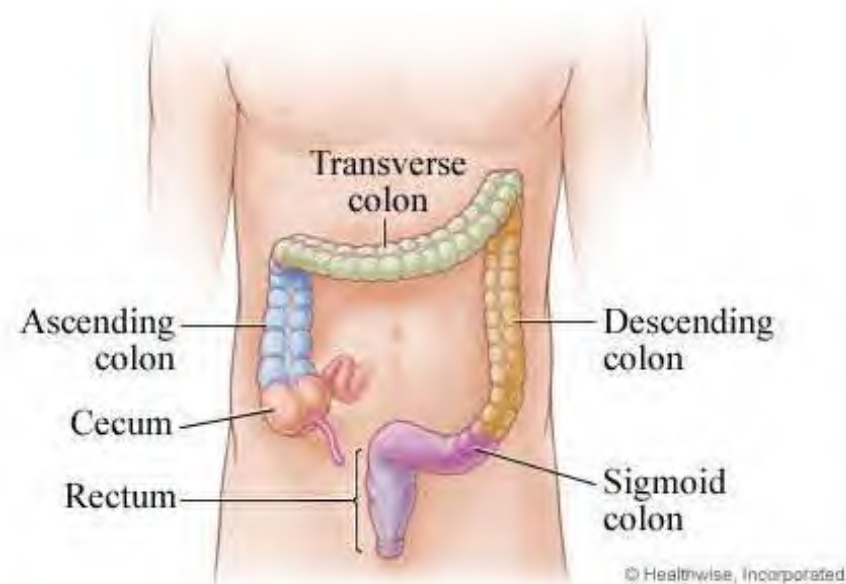
# Non-traditional use of tobacco

## % of adults smoking cigarettes

(First Nation Food Nutrition and Environment Studies)



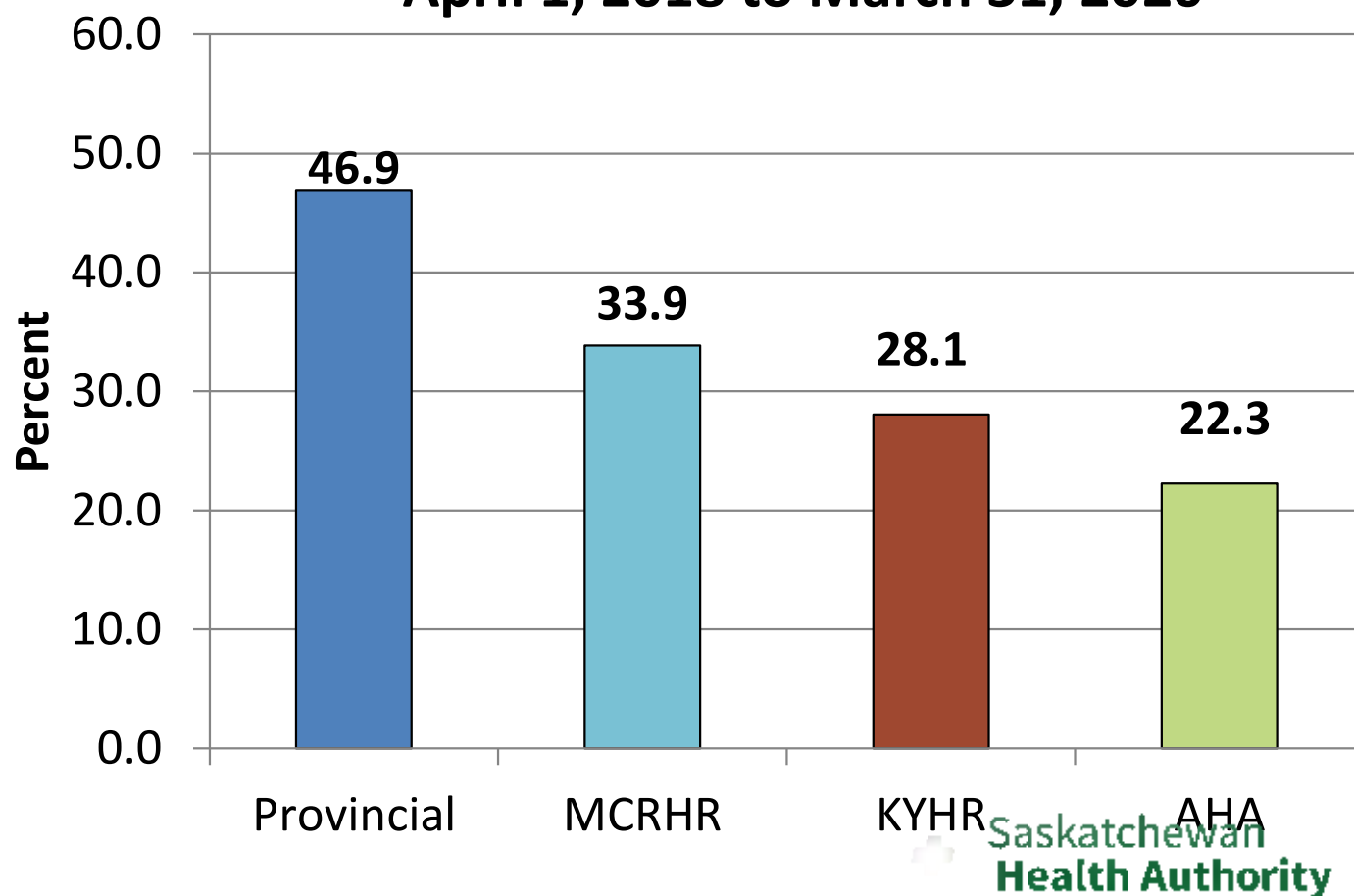
# *Screening Program for Colorectal Cancer*



# Colorectal Screening Coverage: many missed opportunities for prevention



**Percent of individuals aged 50 to 74 years  
with CRC Screen over 2 years:  
April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2020**



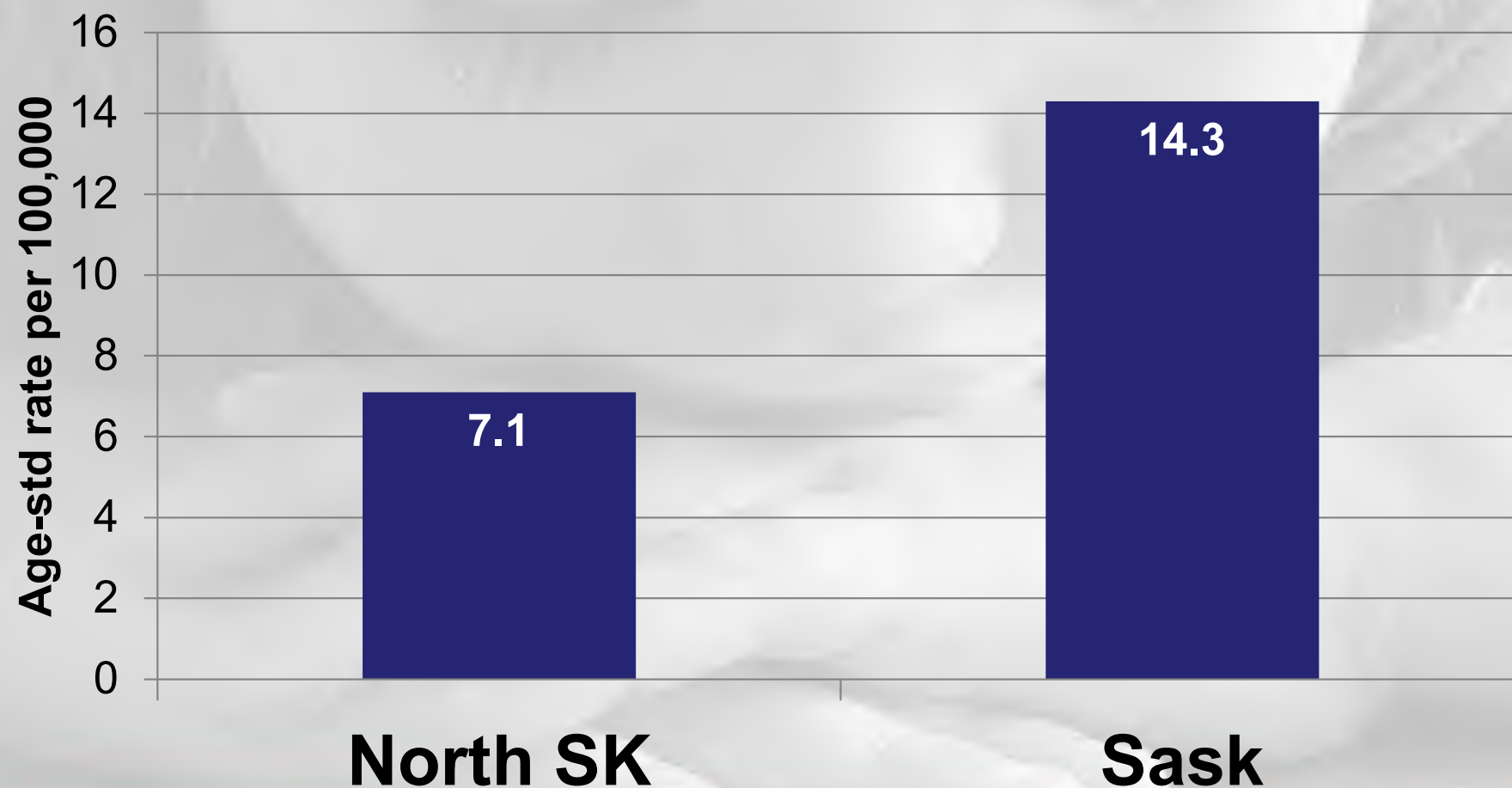
Source: Sask Cancer Agency, CRC Screening Program, July 2019

# CANCER IN CHILDREN

- Children are more vulnerable than adults are to carcinogens and environmental exposures
- Total number of children under 15 years of age diagnosed with cancer between 1990 and 2016:
  - Saskatchewan 833
  - Northern Saskatchewan 23 (about 1 child or less a year)

# CANCER IN CHILDREN

Invasive pediatric cancer age-standardized rate, age 0 to 14 years,  
northern Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, 1990-2016





Worker's health & safety



Animals, fish, plant foods



Family's socio-economic conditions



Air, water, soil



Community's socio-cultural-economic factors



# Thank you!

Sunset on the way home from Dillon!





Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

# Studies of Canadian Uranium Workers

**Rachel Lane, PhD.,  
Radiation and Health Science Specialist**

**Birch Narrows Dené Nation Working Group  
Virtual Meeting**

April 2021

e-Doc: 6475586



[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)

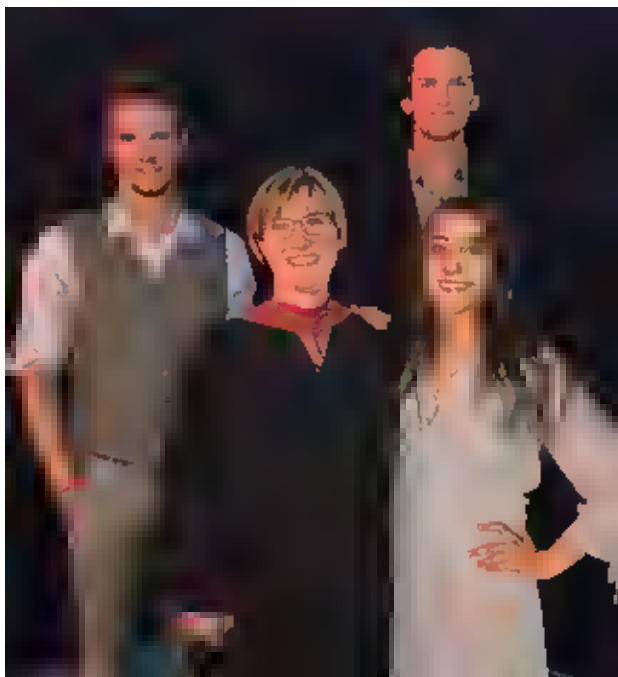
**Canada**

CMD 25-H12.B-C1- Page 0949





# A Bit About Me . . .





# Overview

- Introduction to uranium, radon, radiation, tobacco and lung cancer
- Long-term follow-up studies of uranium miners
  - The Eldorado Study
  - Feasibility Study: Saskatchewan Miners
  - Canadian Uranium Miners Study



# Why is Uranium Important?

- Uranium is a natural radioactive element in soils and rocks
- Canada is one of the world's top uranium producers
- McArthur River and Cigar Lake largest and highest grade ore mines in the world
- Positive uses: nuclear fuel to generate electricity, medical diagnosis and treatment, sterilizing medical tools, etc.



Pitchblende



# Saskatchewan Uranium Mine and/or Mill Sites

## Operating

- Cigar Lake Operation (mine)
- McArthur River Operation (mine)
- Rabbit Lake Operation (mine/mill)
- Key Lake Operation (mill)
- McClean Lake Operation (mill)

## Proposed

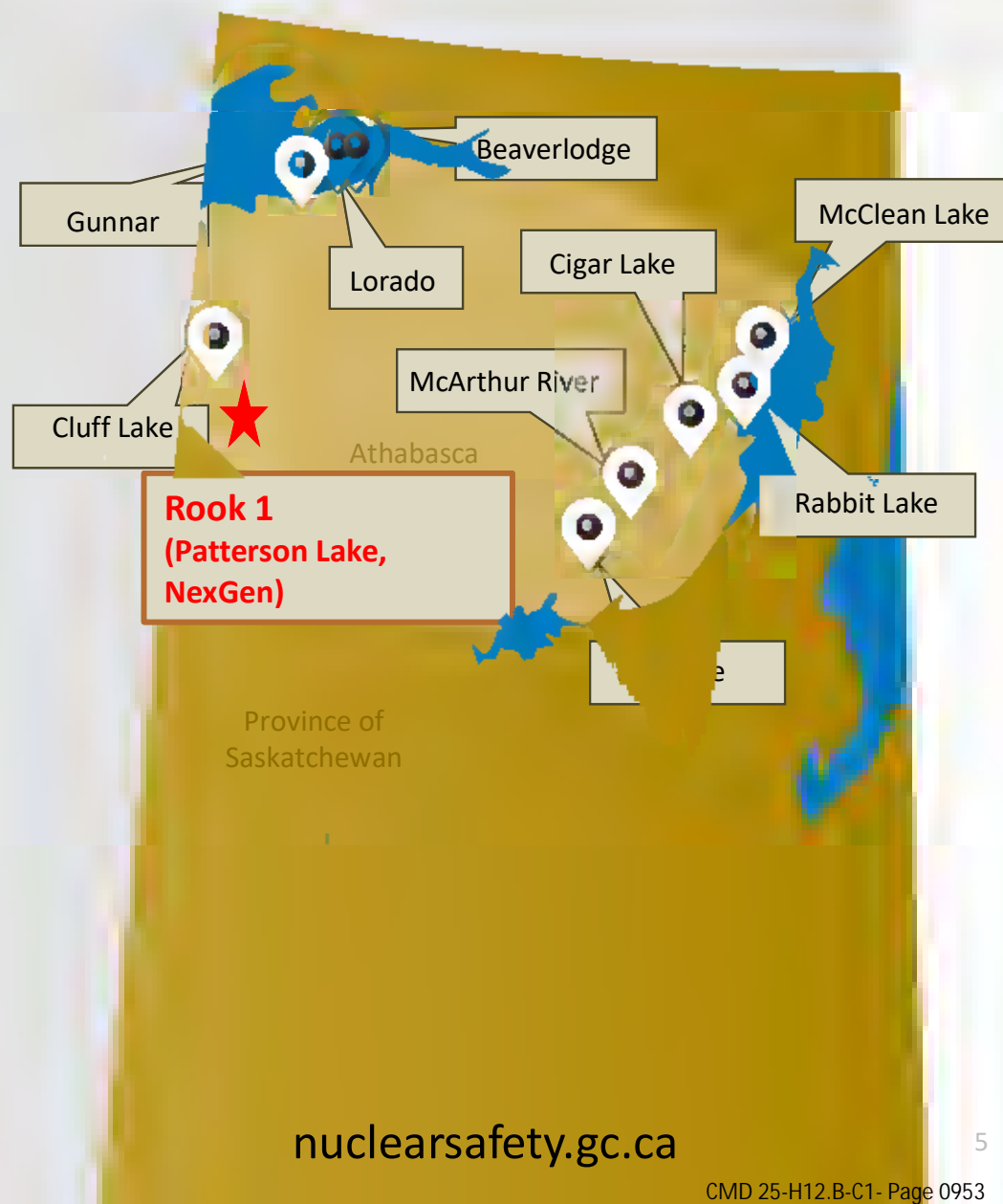
- Rook 1 (mine)

## Decommissioned

- Beaverlodge Project
- Cluff Lake Project

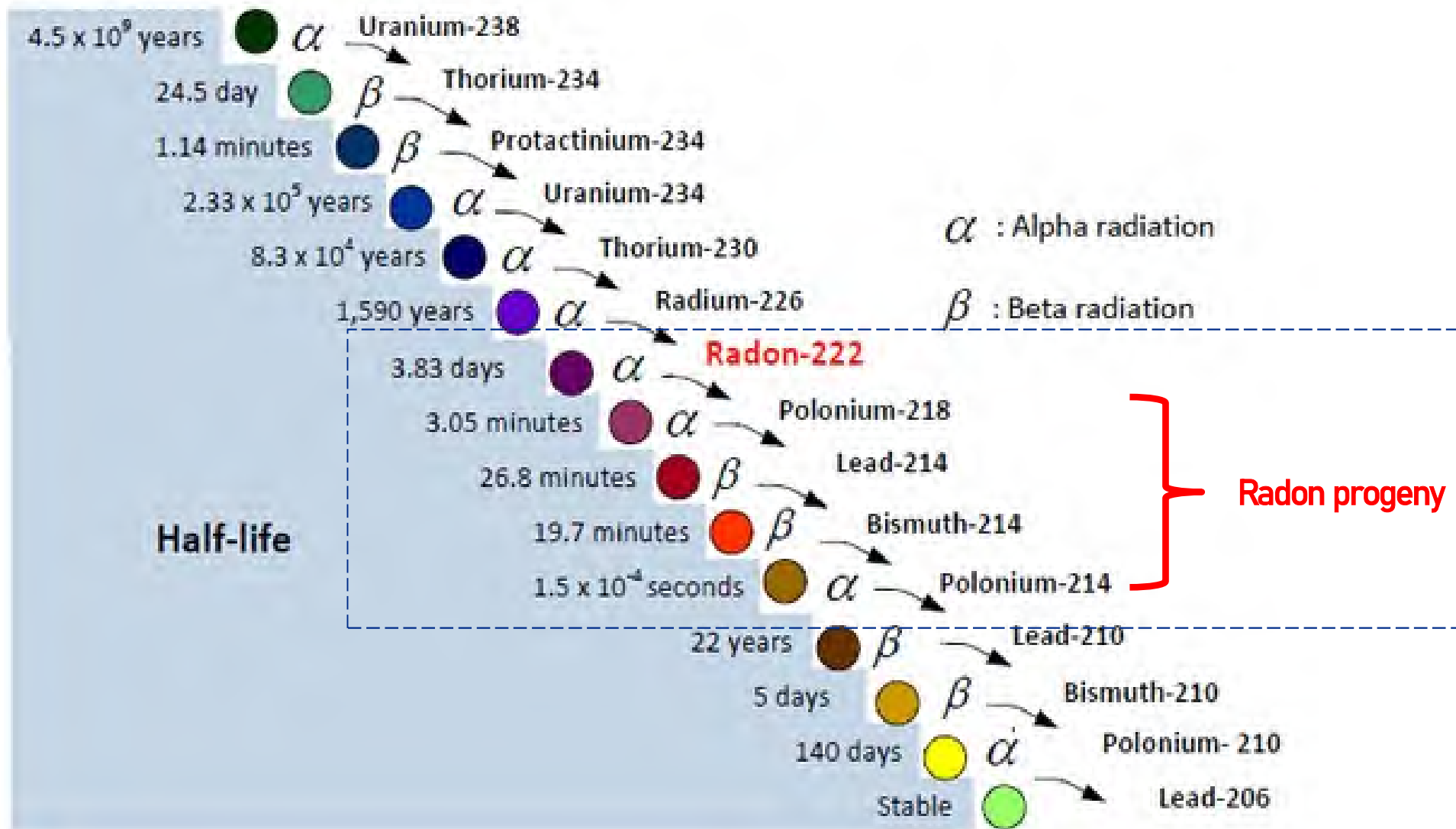
## Remediation Projects

- Gunnar
- Lorado





# Uranium Decay Chain







# Radiation in Uranium Mine Sites

At uranium mine sites, the alpha, beta and gamma radiation are present as:

Radon Gas and Radon Progeny (alpha)



Long-Lived Radioactive Dust (beta)



Gamma Radiation





# Campfire Analogy of Radiation in Uranium Mine Sites

Smoke  
radon gas and radon progeny

Soot  
long-lived  
radioactive dust

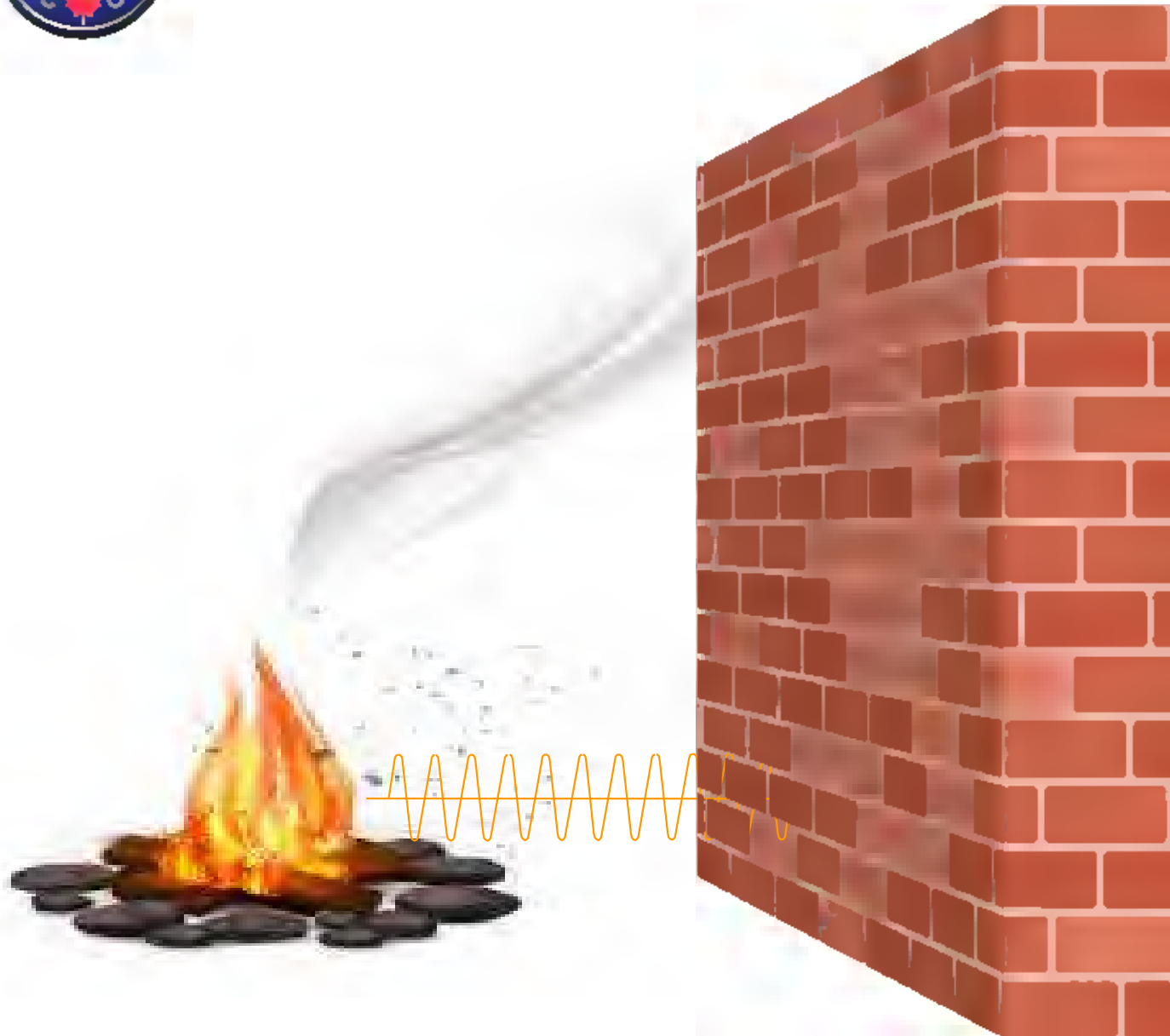
  
Heat – gamma radiation

Ashes  
contamination

Campfire



# Time, Distance, Shielding

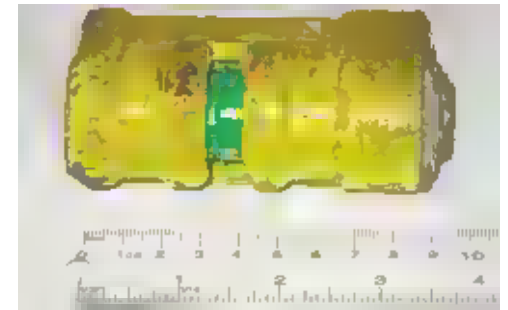






# Radiation Protection

- Mechanical ventilation systems in mines
- Improved mining techniques
- Radiation monitoring
  - air monitoring
  - workers wear personal dosimeters that measure their radiation exposure
- Dose limits, as low as reasonable achievable (ALARA)



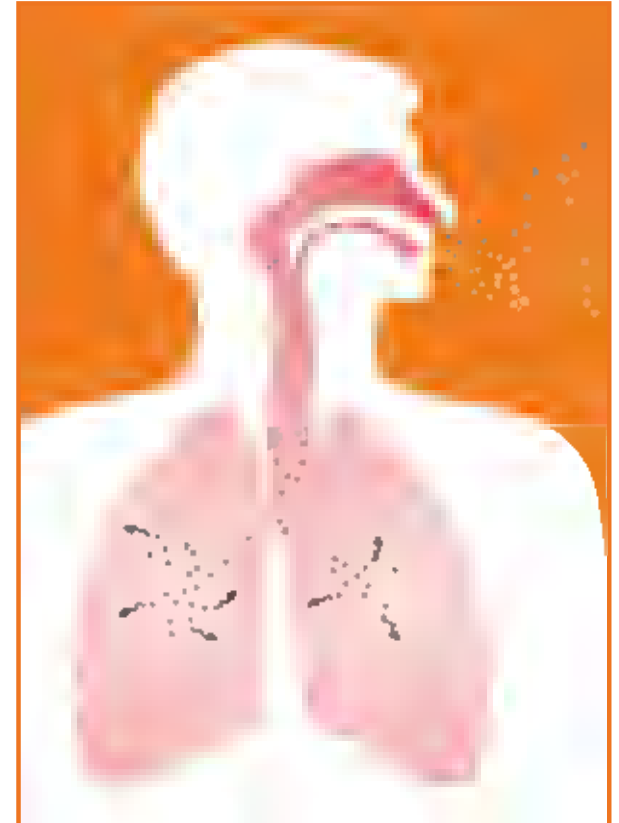
A typical personal alpha dosimeter (PAD) used to measure radon decay products in workplace air

# Health Effects of Radon Gas and Radon Progeny



When radon gas and its radon progeny are inhaled into the lungs

- Decays into radioactive particles that release **small bursts of energy**
- This **energy** is absorbed by nearby lung tissue, damaging the lung cells
- When cells are damaged, they can
  - repair
  - die if damage is severe
  - mutate and reproduce
    - Potential resulting in **lung cancer**
    - No noticeable impact



Source:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/radiation/radon-your-home-health-canada-2009.html>



# Respecting Tobacco and Lung Cancer

- Traditional tobacco is the first of four sacred medicines: tobacco, sage, cedar and sweet grass
- Lung cancer is a leading cause of incidence and death in Canada
  - ~ 30,000 lung cancer are expected to be diagnosed in Canada in 2020
- Non-traditional use of tobacco (cigarette smoking) is the main cause of lung cancer
  - ~ 72% of all lung cancer cases
  - Radon gas, asbestos, air pollution and certain workplace exposures also increase the risk for lung cancer but not to the same degree as smoking



Traditional ceremony with Sagkeeng First Nation, 2019



# History of Radon and Lung Cancer

- 16<sup>th</sup> century uranium miners died from a lung disease
- Early studies of underground miners found that radon (and its progeny) caused the lung cancer
  - 11 studies around the world
- Radiation protection drastically reduced radon exposures in uranium mines
- 1993 Joint F/P Panel on Uranium Mining Developments
  - risk of lung cancer at low radon exposures of today's workers is less well understood



# The Eldorado Study

## **17,660 Eldorado workers**

- Port Radium, North West Territories; Beaverlodge, northern Saskatchewan; Port Hope, Ontario
- Miners, mill workers, radium and uranium processing workers
- Worked any time between the 1930s to 1982 for Eldorado
- Mainly men, few women



# Eldorado: Main Health Outcomes

- Overall, workers were as healthy as the general Canadian male population
- The four leading causes of death (1950–1999) were:
  - Heart disease
  - Cancer
  - Injury and poisonings
  - Respiratory disease
- These are the same leading causes of death we currently see in Northern Saskatchewan (2000–2009)



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# Eldorado: Main Health Outcomes

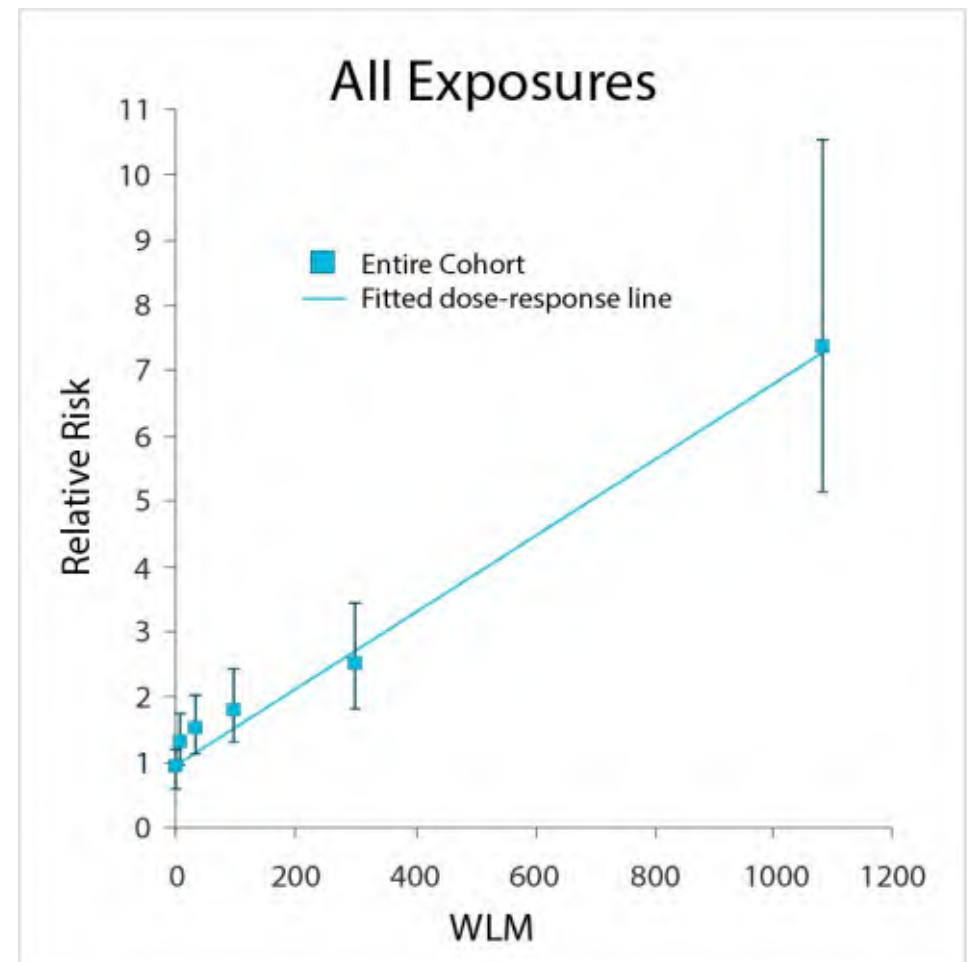
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# Eldorado: Lung Cancer and Radon

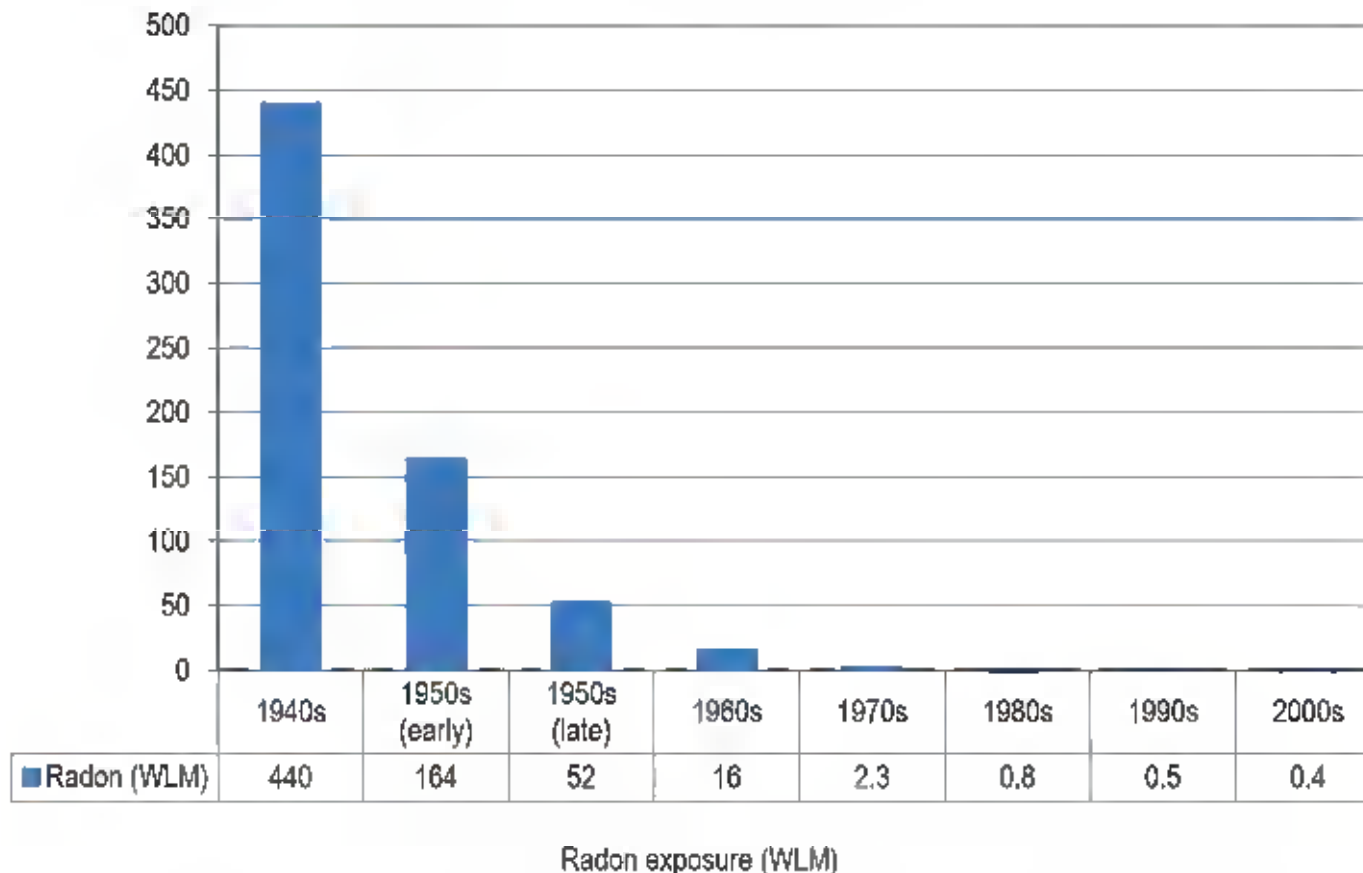
- Workers only had significantly higher lung cancer rates:
  - Lung cancer was due to past high workplace radon progeny exposures
  - Risk of lung cancer increases with radon progeny exposure
  - Radon progeny did not cause any other cancer or any other cause of death





# Radon and Radon Progeny (RDP) Exposure Over Time

**Figure 2.5. Levels of RDP exposure in UG mines expressed in working level months (WLMs\*) in Canada from 1940**



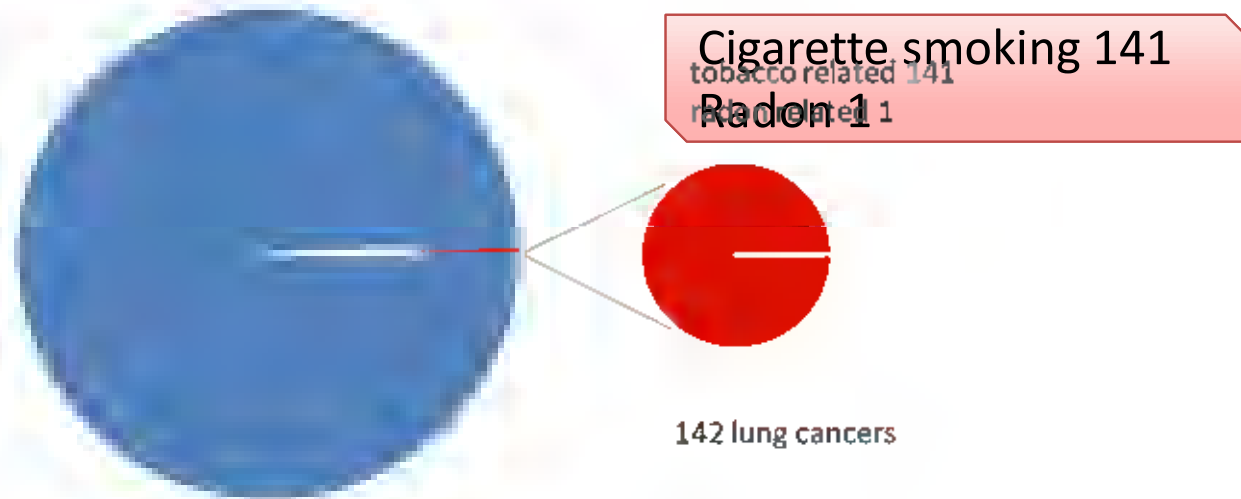
\* Cumulative radon exposure in mining is specified in WLMs. If 2 000 working hours are assumed per year, then 1 WLM = 5 mSv. A working level (WL) is equivalent to any combination of short-lived RDPs in 1 L of air that generates an emission of  $1.3 \times 10^5$  MeV of potential alpha particle energy. A WLM equals the exposure to 1 WL for 170 hours (working hours per month).  $1 \text{ Bq m}^{-3} = 0.00445 \text{ mJ h m}^{-3}$  and  $1 \text{ mJ h m}^{-3} = 1.4 \text{ mSv}$  (ICRP, 1993).

Source: AREVA, 2011; CNSC, 2011.



# Feasibility Study: Saskatchewan Miners

Feasibility Study - 24,000 Saskatchewan Miners, 1975 – 2030



- 24,000 miners at a Saskatchewan uranium mine (1975–2030)
- Looked at cancer rates, employment, cigarette smoking, residential radon
- Actual and projected data for ~45 years of follow-up
- During this time, 142 miners expected to develop lung cancer
  - **141** lung cancers would be primarily due to cigarette smoking
  - **1** lung cancer would be due to occupational radon exposure



# The Canadian Uranium Workers Study

- Study of the long-term health of 80,000 Canadian uranium workers:
  - Eldorado uranium workers
  - Ontario uranium workers
  - Northern Saskatchewan uranium workers
- Analysis of health data:
  - 50 years of cancer and 70 years of mortality data
- Study of overall health and the radon-lung cancer relationship



Mine workers listen to presentation of Eldorado Study



# Take Home Message (1)

- Overall, workers were as healthy as the general Canadian male population
- Heart disease, cancer, injury and poisonings, and respiratory diseases were the leading causes of death
- Workers only had significantly higher lung cancer rates:
  - Lung cancer was due to past high workplace radon progeny exposures
  - Risk of lung cancer increases with radon progeny exposure
  - Radon progeny did not cause any other cancer or any other cause of death



# Take Home Message (2)

- Radiation protection measures significantly reduced radon exposures in mines
- The risk of getting lung cancer from working in a current uranium mine is low because current radon progeny exposures are low and therefore the risk is low
- Studies of long-term health of uranium workers are important to:
  - monitor the long-term health of workers
  - build knowledge of radon and lung cancer



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

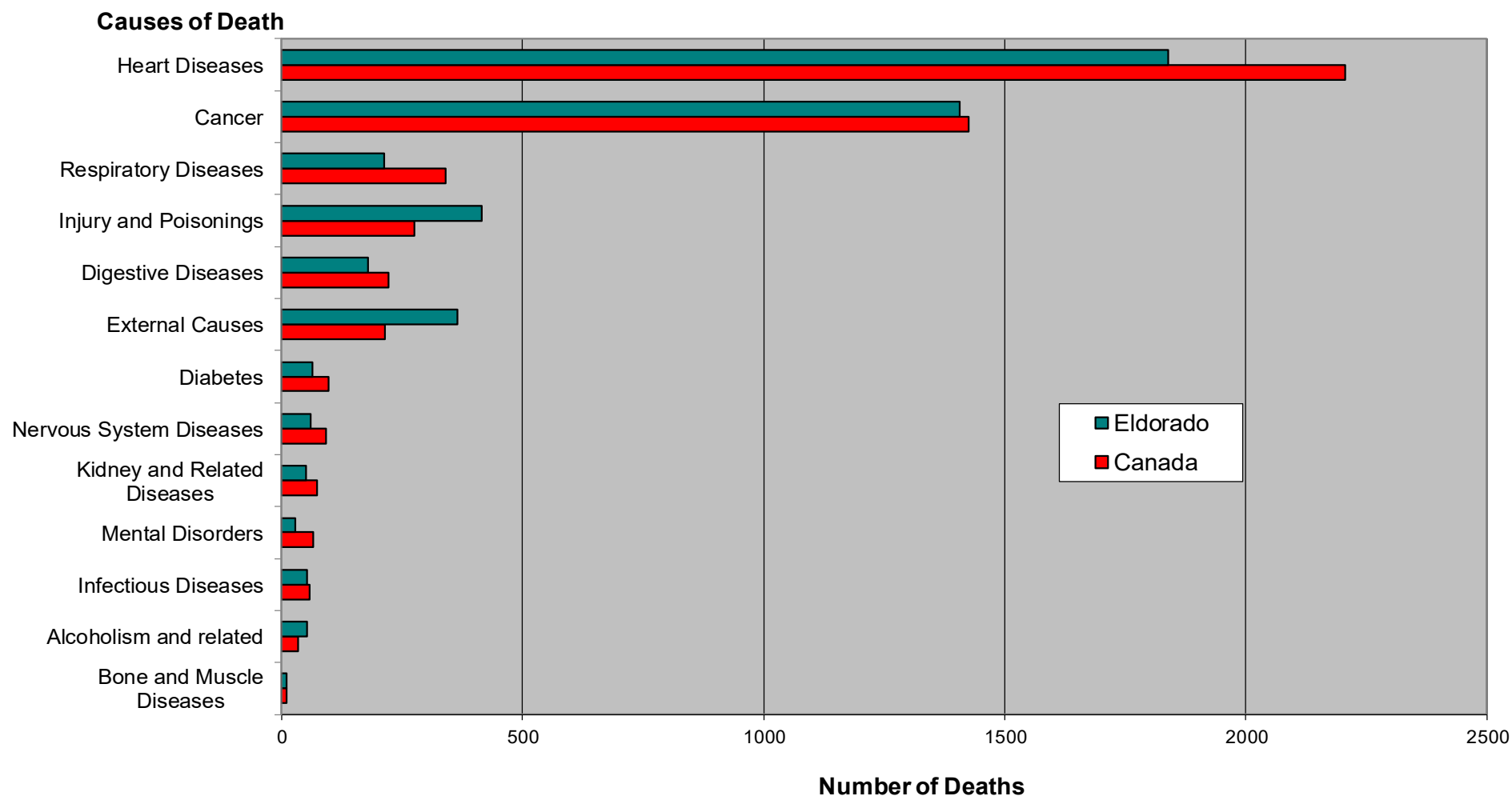
# Questions?

## Thank You!



# Observed and Expected Number of Deaths for All Causes, Males, Eldorado (1950–1999)

## Number of Deaths for Males (1950-1999) for All Causes

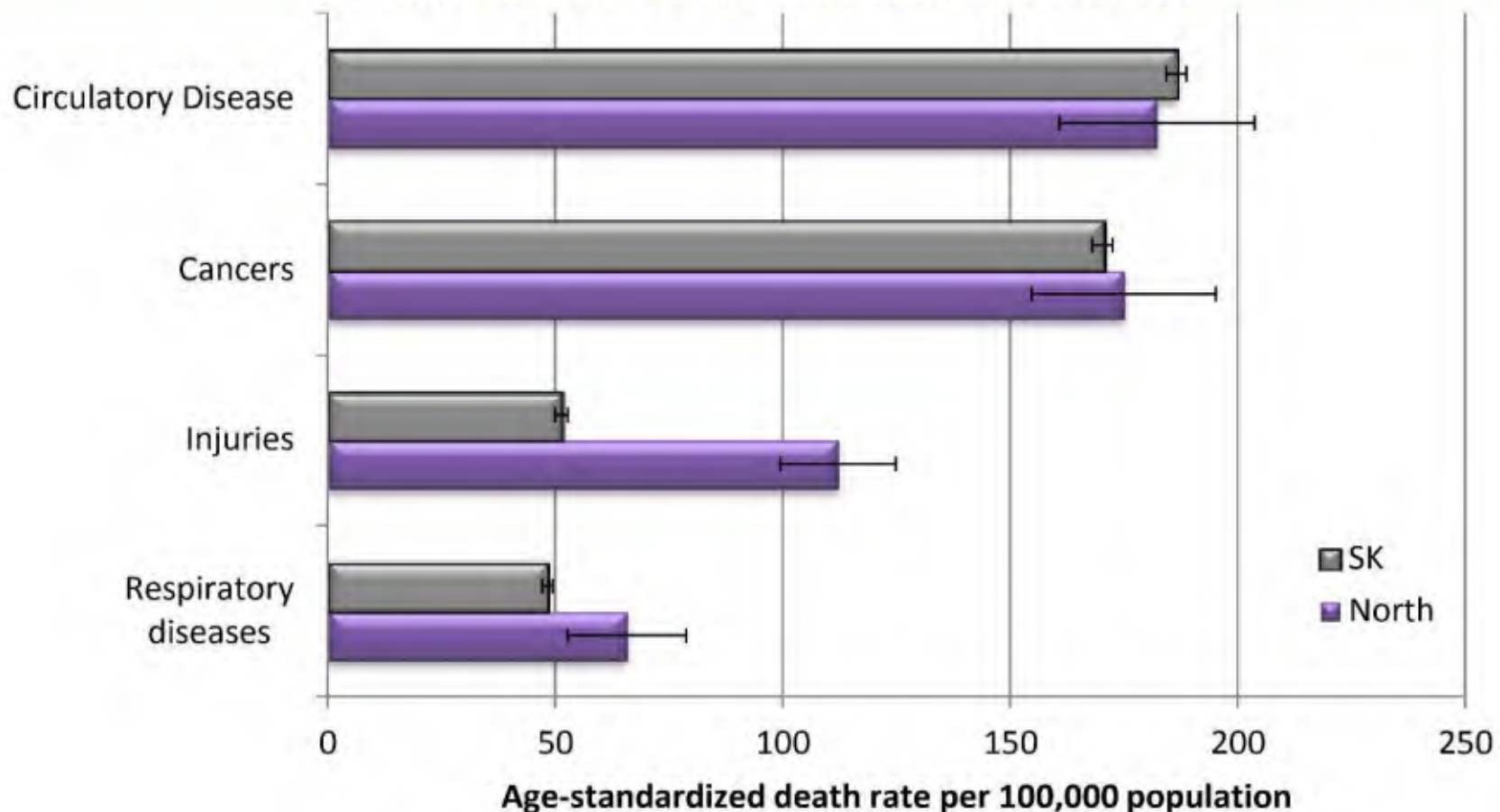




# Age-standardized Mortality Rates in Northern Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan, 2000–2009



**Figure 115 Age-standardized mortality rates, 10-year average, by cause, northern Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan, 2000-2009**

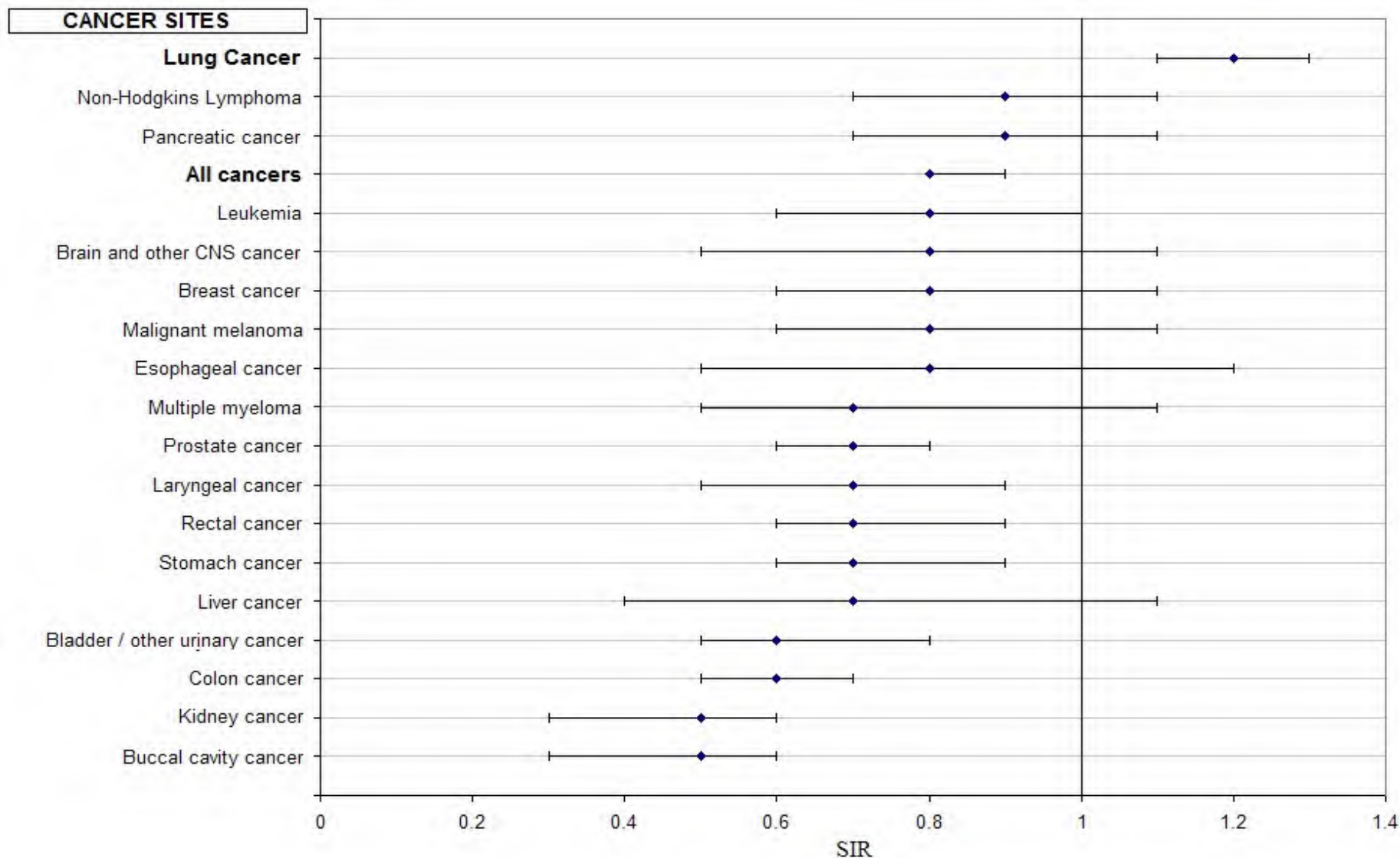


Source: SaskHealth 2011, Prepared by PHU Jan 2011

# Standardized Incidence Ratios (SIR) by Cancer Site, Males, Eldorado Cohort (1969-1999)

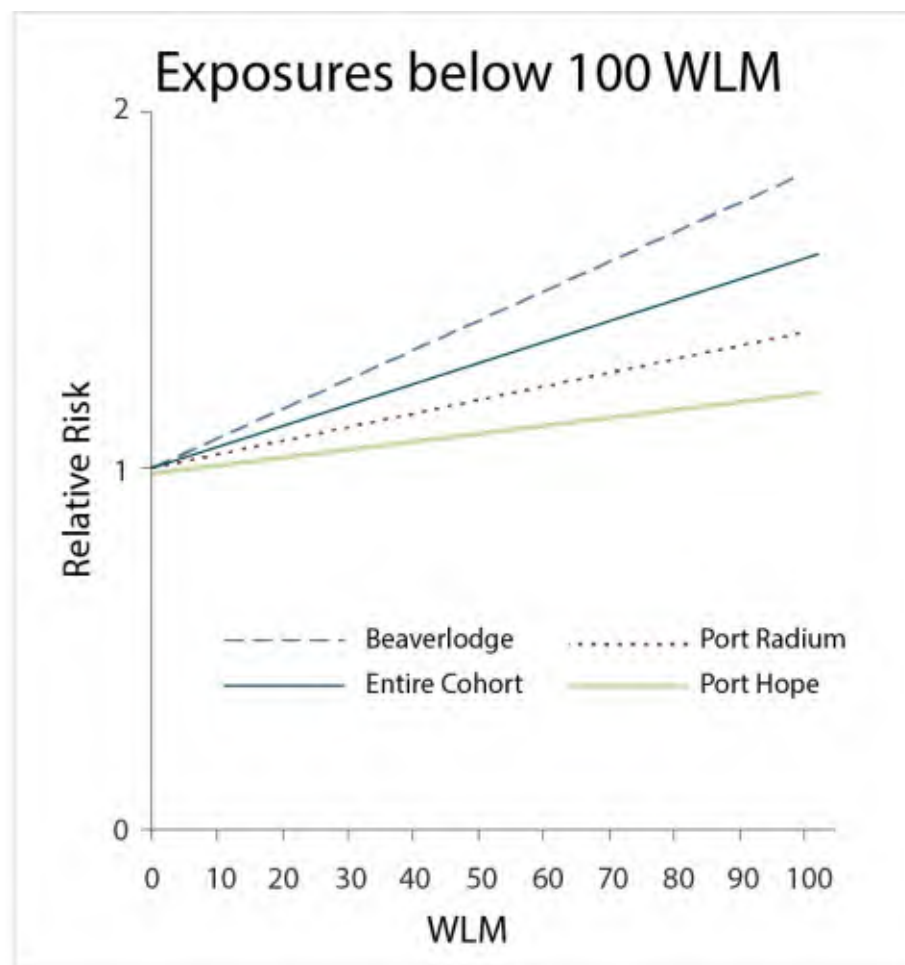
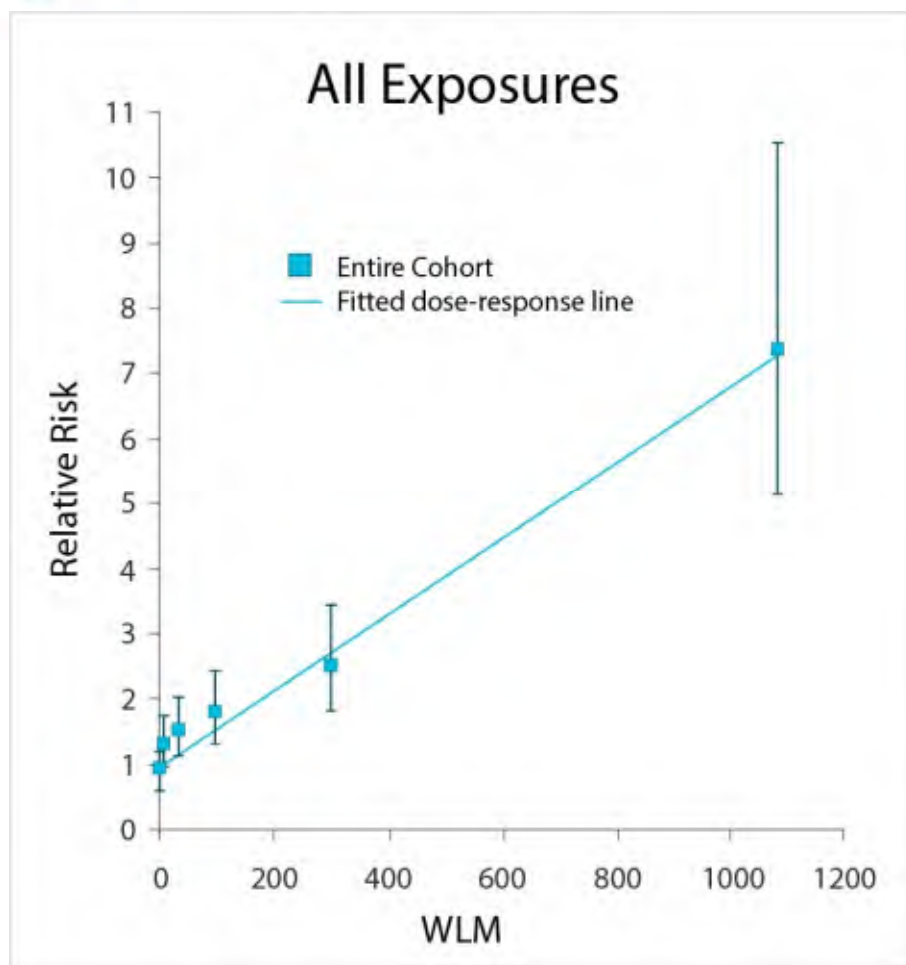


\*Adjusted for age (five-year intervals) and calendar year at risk (five-year intervals)





# Risk of Lung Cancer Mortality by Radon Exposure, Males, Eldorado Cohort (1950–1999)



Plot of the relative risk estimates of lung cancer mortality and 95% CI for the categorical analysis and fitted dose-response line for males.

Relative risk estimates were plotted as a function of person-year-weighted means in WLM exposure categories (Lane et al, 2010).

Working level month (WLM) is based on the radon concentration (workplace level) in the workplace air and the time (month) in the workplace

# The Canadian Uranium Workers Study (CANUWS)

Rachel Lane, PhD. and Kristi Randhawa, MPH, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Ottawa, Ontario

## Introduction

- Radon and its progeny are human carcinogens
- Canada is one of the world's top uranium producers with the world's largest uranium mine (McArthur River) and the world's two highest grade ore deposits (McArthur River and Cigar Lake)
- Canadian cohorts of radon-exposed miners have advanced our understanding of radon risk, supported regulatory advice, and are presented regularly as part of outreach activities
- There remains uncertainty of the radon-lung cancer mortality risk at low occupational radon exposures

## Rationale

- Need updated mortality and cancer incidence follow-up of Canadian cohorts of uranium miners
- Ability to extend miners cohorts to include all Canadian uranium workers (mine, mill and processing) using data from the National Dose Registry (NDR)

## Objective

To assess the relationship between occupational radon exposure and lung cancer incidence and mortality among Canadian uranium workers.

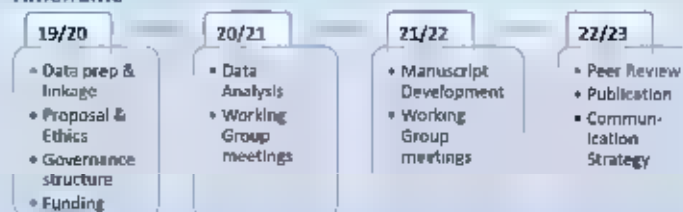
## Methods



## Matrix

Cohorts/Sites	Work History and Exposure Follow-up	Number of Workers
Eldorado cohort	1932 – 1962 (update follow-up to 2017)	19,223
Ontario cohort	1954 – 2006 (update follow-up to 2017)	32,212
Saskatchewan uranium miners/mills	1975 – 2017	43,943
Ontario uranium processing/fabrication facilities	1955 – 2017	6,123
Total (includes duplicates)	1932 – 2017	103,501

## Timeframe



## Stakeholders

Jurisdiction	Stakeholders
Federal Government	Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Health Canada (NDR)
Provincial Government	Saskatchewan Ministry of Government Relations Saskatchewan Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Saskatchewan Health Authority Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment Saskatchewan Workers Compensation Board Saskatchewan Cancer Agency Cancer Care Ontario
Industry	Cameco Corporation ORANO Canada Inc. BWXT Canada Ltd.
Workers	Worker Health and Safety Committees United Steel Workers
Indigenous	Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee Potentially interested Indigenous communities in Saskatchewan and Ontario

## Governance Structure

The study is supported through a co-funded arrangement between the federal and provincial governments and uranium industry. The CNSC will lead the project which will include a steering committee and a study working group. The project is supported by many stakeholders.

## Discussion

This information is relevant for radiation protection of current and future uranium workers with low cumulative exposures and exposure rates. Many additional investigations and analyses can be carried out using the existing data generated through this study, further informing knowledge on this unique and important population.

The study will improve the quality of Canadian information included in future international collaboration studies, such as the current Pooled Uranium Miners Analysis and the International Pooled Analysis of Uranium Workers.

This work will advance the international understanding of radiation risk and support the International Radiation Protection Framework, more specifically, the International Commission on Radiological Protection's recommendations on radon.

The findings will also support the CNSC's mandate to protect the health and safety of workers and to disseminate objective scientific information.



Figure 1. Occupational health and safety representative at Cigar Lake Uranium Mine



Figure 2. Cigar Lake Uranium Mine

[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)





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# NexGen Community Update

07/14/2021

- **Signs Impact Benefit Agreement with Buffalo River Dene Nation,**
- **Signs Mutual Benefit Agreement with Birch Narrows Dene Nation,**
- **Appoints Community Based Project Liaison Manager, and**
- **The Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan Dismisses MN-S Application,**

VANCOUVER, BC , July 14, 2021 /CNW/ - **NexGen Energy Ltd.** ("**NexGen**" or the "**Company**") (TSX: NXE) (NYSE MKT: NXE) is pleased to announce the signing of an **Impact Benefit Agreement ("IBA")** with the **Buffalo River Dene Nation ("BRDN")**, and the signing of a **Mutual Benefit Agreement ("MBA")** with the **Birch Narrows Dene Nation ("BNDN")**, covering all phases of the **Rook I Project ("Rook I" or the "Project")**, which hosts the 100% owned **Arrow uranium deposit**.

The Rook I Project is located within the traditional territory of BRDN and BNDN. Both the IBA and MBA define the environmental, cultural, economic, employment and other benefits to be provided to the BRDN and BNDN by NexGen in respect of the Project and confirm the consent and support of both BRDN and BNDN for the Project throughout its complete lifecycle, including reclamation. The Agreements were negotiated and developed out of the Study Agreements signed in 2019. The Study Agreements formalized engagement with the communities to identify potential impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights and socio-economic interests, and identify potential avoidance and accommodation measures in relation to the Project whilst acknowledging the duty to consult remains with the Crown. Note, the Agreements do not abrogate, extinguish, or constitute the abandonment of any existing Aboriginal, inherent, or treaty rights of the BRDN and BNDN recognized and affirmed pursuant to Section 35 of the *Constitution Act* , 1982. Importantly, the Agreements are entered into in recognition of the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of the BRDN and the BNDN.

**Chief Elmer Campbell of Buffalo River Dene Nation, commented:** "The jobs and business opportunities that our members will be able to obtain with the Project incorporating elite environmental and cultural practices is very exciting. Our community and NexGen have built a meaningful relationship over the past six years based on trust, respect and confidence. The Agreement reflects those key principles. We look

Project is still going through the regulatory process to determine its safety and we are participating in that process. On meeting the regulatory requirements, our community stands to benefit with environmental monitoring, jobs, business opportunities, and payments to support community priorities. NexGen has been working with us in a respectful way."

Furthermore, Chief Jonathan Sylvester released a video with his message to BNDN regarding the MBA. The video is available here: [BNDN MBA Video](#)

**Eric Sylvestre , Birch Narrows Dene Nation Economic Development Officer, commented:** "We are pleased to be involved in a project that creates opportunities for our community while still protecting the environment. Past projects from industry passed us by. This represents a major opportunity for us."

**Leigh Curyer, Chief Executive Officer of NexGen, commented:** "The signing of the Agreements reflects the meaningful respect, trust and commitment developed over the past six years between NexGen and the communities of BRDN and BNDN. The Agreements formalize NexGen's commitment to work in partnership with all local communities, with the mutual objective to responsibly develop the Rook I Project. The genuine commitment to their communities displayed by Chief Campbell and Chief Sylvester, along with their respective Councils and teams, and NexGen's approach to sustainable development of the Rook I project, is reflected in the signing of these industry leading Agreements. We look forward to immediately advancing the exciting elements of these Agreements and our genuine approach to all communities in the Local Project Area."

#### **[Appointment of Robert St. Pierre to Project Liaison Manager](#)**

Further, NexGen is pleased to announce that in support of NexGen's commitment to local communities, Robert St. Pierre will be joining the team as Project Liaison Manager based out of the Company's office in La Loche . Robert brings a wealth of experience as past President, Local Métis 39, and having served as the mayor of La Loche from 2016 to 2020. NexGen has had the privilege of working closely with Robert since 2016, and his deep commitment to the advancement of local communities will support bringing prosperity and meaningful benefits to the communities where we operate.

#### **[The Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan Dismisses MN-S Application](#)**

[Skip to main content](#)

NexGen continues to progress the development of a sustainable and responsible Project, that in turn has the power to create sustainable long-term benefit and opportunity for all local communities in the Project Area over multiple generations.

**Troy Boisjoli , Vice-President, Exploration and Community,** commented: "Since 2013, we have been working with all of the communities local to the Project, as evidenced by the successful development and implementation of meaningful community programs focused on education, health and wellness, and economic capacity building. NexGen has and always will be committed to providing significant sustainable benefits and opportunities in a respectful and responsible manner. Effective partnerships developed with local communities is a key aspect of that commitment, and we continue to welcome constructive negotiations with the MN-S to deliver substantial benefits to the members of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan-Northern Region II across all phases of the Project."

### About NexGen

NexGen is a British Columbia corporation with a focus on developing the Rook I Project located in the southwestern Athabasca Basin, Saskatchewan, Canada into production. Rook I hosts the Arrow Deposit with a Measured Mineral Resources of 209.6 M lbs of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> contained in 2.18 M tonnes grading 4.35% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, Indicated Mineral Resources of 47.1 M lbs of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> contained in 1.57 M tonnes grading 1.36% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, and Inferred Mineral Resources of 80.7 M lbs of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> contained in 4.40 M tonnes grading 0.83% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>. Arrow's development is supported by a NI 43-101 compliant Feasibility Study which outlines industry leading environmental performance and economics.

NexGen has a highly experienced team of uranium industry professionals with a successful track record in the discovery of uranium deposits and in developing projects through discovery to production. The Company is the recipient of the 2018 PDAC Bill Dennis Award for Canadian mineral discovery and the 2019 PDAC Environmental and Social Responsibility Award.

### Forward-Looking Information

*The information contained herein contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and "forward-looking information" within the meaning of*

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[expects](#), [is expected](#), [budget](#), [schedule](#), [estimates](#), [forecasts](#), [intends](#), [anticipates](#), or [believes](#) or the negative connotation thereof or variations of such words and phrases or state that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved" or the negative connotation thereof. Forward looking information in this press release includes, but is not limited to, statements regarding use of proceeds.

Forward-looking information and statements are based on the then current expectations, beliefs, assumptions, estimates and forecasts about NexGen's business and the industry and markets in which it operates. Forward-looking information and statements are made based upon numerous assumptions, including among others, that the proposed financing transaction will be completed, the results of planned exploration activities are as anticipated, the price of uranium, the cost of planned exploration activities, that financing will be available if and when needed and on reasonable terms, that third party contractors, equipment, supplies and governmental and other approvals required to conduct NexGen's planned exploration activities will be available on reasonable terms and in a timely manner and that general business and economic conditions will not change in a material adverse manner. Although the assumptions made by the Company in providing forward looking information or making forward looking statements are considered reasonable by management at the time, there can be no assurance that such assumptions will prove to be accurate.

Forward-looking information and statements also involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors, which may cause actual results, performances and achievements of NexGen to differ materially from any projections of results, performances and achievements of NexGen expressed or implied by such forward-looking information or statements, including, among others, negative operating cash flow and dependence on third party financing, uncertainty of the availability of additional financing, impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including related to the length, severity and spread of the pandemic and measures taken by governmental authorities and public health officials in respect of the pandemic, the risk that pending assay results will not confirm previously announced preliminary results, imprecision of mineral resource estimates, the appeal of alternate sources of energy and sustained low uranium prices, aboriginal title and consultation issues, exploration risks, reliance upon key management and other personnel, deficiencies in the Company's title to its properties, uninsurable risks, failure to manage conflicts of interest, failure to obtain or maintain required permits and licenses, changes in laws, regulations and policy, competition for resources and financing, and other factors discussed or referred to in the Company's Annual Information Form dated March 19, 2021 under "Risk Factors".



*There can be no assurance that forward-looking information and statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated, estimated or intended. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or reissue forward-looking information as a result of new information or events except as required by applicable securities laws.*

• View original content: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/nexgen-community-update-301333388.html>

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• View original content:  
<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/July2021/14/c1482.html>



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Governance

Economic Benefits

Mineral Reserves

Stock Information

Analyst Coverage

Share Structure

## SUSTAINABILITY

Our Commitment

ESG

Stewardship

Our Sustainability Practice

Indigenous & Community Relations

## EXPLORATION

Overview

Arrow

Bow

Harpoon

South Arrow

SW1

SW2

SW3

IsoEnergy

## CLEAN ENERGY

## NEWS

## CAREERS

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**From:** [Keegan McGrath](#)  
**To:** [Levine, Adam](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [Eric Sylvestre](#);  
**Cc:** [John Glover](#); [Adam Engdahl](#); [Melissa Scansen](#);  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)  
**Attachments:** [BNDN\\_NexGenTUS\\_FINALReport\\_20DEC2019.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2022-04-25 9:38:04 AM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed  
EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hello Adam,

I hope you had a good weekend. Please see the attached.

Kind regards,

Keegan

—  
**Keegan McGrath MES, B.Sc.**  
Aquatic Biologist  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(902) 999-2260  
[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 22, 2022 1:15 PM  
**To:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>; Snider, Richard <[richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mescansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mescansen@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hi Keegan! I just wanted to follow up on this message from April 13<sup>th</sup> to see if you and BNDN had any questions. Please let us know if you are able to share the IK study report with us at this time to complete the confidentiality process and so we can start our review. Happy to chat if you would like, thanks!

Adam

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**From:** Levine, Adam  
**Sent:** April 13, 2022 11:49 AM  
**To:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>; Snider, Richard <[richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mescansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mescansen@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hi Keegan, thanks so much for getting this back to us, looks good! I am ready to send this to our Information Management team for review. As part of their review to confirm the level of classification and the potentially appropriate ATIA exemption clause that could apply should the information be subject to an access to information request, they require the actual report. Would you be able to provide us with the document and we will ensure that is managed as agreed upon in the form you completed now and moving forward. We will not save it in our system until we get confirmation from our Information Management team on how best to classify the information etc. Please let us know if that works and you can send it to us via email as an attachment if that works on your end.

Adam

---

**From:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** April 13, 2022 11:03 AM  
**To:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon

<[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>; Snider, Richard <[richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Hello Adam et al.,  
Please see attached for the signed confidentiality request form for Rook I. Please let us know if you have any questions.  
Thanks,  
Keegan

—  
**Keegan McGrath MES, B.Sc.**  
Aquatic Biologist  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(902) 999-2260  
[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

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**From:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** March 31, 2022 9:37 AM  
**To:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Snider, Richard <[richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hi Keegan et al., thanks for sending us the revised confidentiality request form. This looks good! I have made a few suggested edits to ensure the language and request are consistent with how our processes work for confidentiality requests and the Access to Information Act (ATIA). The bottom line is that CNSC staff will not be publishing or posting the IK study or information within it without direct consultation and consent from BNDN. Should the CNSC receive an Access to Information Request under the Access to Information under the ATIA that implicates BNDN's IK report, the CNSC would consult BNDN about the request and would work with BNDN to identify an appropriate exemption clause, redactions or returning of the information to BNDN (i.e. deletion from our systems) as needed to protect the information from release to the public, all in compliance with our responsibilities and processes under the ATIA.

Please take a look and if you are ok with these edits then you can have Eric sign off on the form (digital signature is ok) and you can submit the report to us so we can provide the request form and report to our Information Management experts to confirm the level of protection appropriate for the information being provided (usually would be considered Protected B). Happy to chat about if you would like, thanks!

Adam

---

**From:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** March 30, 2022 3:52 PM  
**To:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Snider, Richard <[richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:richard.snider@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hello All,

Thanks for meeting with us back on March 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the confidentiality aspects of the NexGen Rook I study. Please see attached for the updated Request to Protect Confidentiality from BNDN. Let us know if you have any questions or want to have a follow up discussion.

If everything looks good on this then we can move forward with signing and then sharing of the info.

Kind regards,  
Keegan

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**From:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 22, 2022 3:07 PM  
**To:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon

<[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>;  
Snider, Richard <[richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:richard.snider@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hi Keegan! Thank you very much for submitting these documents. We will take a look and get back to you soon with any questions or comments before we move to the next steps.

Adam

---

**From:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 22, 2022 2:58 PM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hello Ryan,

Thanks for your patience. I've attached a draft of the Confidentiality Agreement from BNDN and the questionnaire that was shared.

Please let us know if have any questions and how you would like to proceed with finalizing the agreement.  
Keegan

—  
**Keegan McGrath MES, B.Sc.**  
Aquatic Biologist  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(902) 999-2260  
[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 7, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hi Keegan,

Thanks this approach works for the CNSC.

If you would like to fill out the documents we sent that would be helpful as well and we will await your draft document. Let us know if they have any questions on the forms and we can review the agreement when it comes in and we can set up a meeting later this month to discuss if you would like?

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2022 9:34 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Melissa Scansen <[mscansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:mscansen@nxe-energy.ca)>; Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hello Ryan (FYI Melissa and Adam),

Thanks for following up. We've had a chance to review the IK Policy and discuss internally.

BNDN has decided that the best way forward is to submit the TK Report as a **confidential document**. We reviewed the report and there isn't a need to redact anything. However, we would like prepare a **confidentiality agreement between CNSC and BNDN**. This will provide clarity around how the study and data can be used/shared/protected, including:

- Ensuring that the TK data/info isn't used for other projects without consent
- Ensuring the data isn't shared with other provincial or federal government departments/agencies without consent
- Ensuring that BNDN maintains ownership, control and access

BNDN will prepare a draft agreement that we can share. We should have a draft to circulate by Feb 15<sup>th</sup> or thereabouts.

Will this approach work for the CNSC?

Thanks,  
Keegan

—  
**Keegan McGrath MES, B.Sc.**  
Aquatic Biologist  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(902) 999-2260  
[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

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**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 12:04 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Cc:** Levine, Adam <[Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Adam.Levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Wylie, Doug <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Good morning Eric, John, and Keegan,

I am just following up to see if you had any further questions on the option of sharing of the Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use that was completed by Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) for the Nexgen Project? Let us know and we would be happy to set up a call if you would like.

We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with Birch Narrows Dene Nation and/or the BNDN Working Group to discuss any other topics of interest or concern in relation to the Nexgen Rook 1 Project. Feel free to reach out and I would be happy to set something up.

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** January 18, 2022 1:50 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Cc:** Adam Levine ([adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Nicole Frigault ([nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Doug Wylie ([doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Hi sorry my apologies as I was informed I sent internal links to these docs so they won't open for you folks. I have attached a copy of the one document that you should review and see below the link to our IK Policy. Let me know if you have questions!

Thanks,  
Ryan

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** January 18, 2022 1:34 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Cc:** Adam Levine ([adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:adam.levine@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; DeCoste, Laura <[laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:laura.decoste@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Nicole Frigault ([nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; O'Neill, Shannon <[shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.oneill@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Doug Wylie ([doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)) <[doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:doug.wylie@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC/BNDN follow-up discussion on TK/IK (Rook 1)

Good afternoon Eric, John, and Keegan,

Thanks for taking the time to meet with CNSC/Nexgen/Province to discuss the sharing of the Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use that was completed by Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) for the Nexgen Project. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) welcomes this valuable knowledge from BNDN (should you choose to share it) as it is critical to help us assess the projects potential impacts on the BNDN rights and interests.

As discussed in today's meeting I have attached a few different documents for BNDN to have a look at internally and if you have any further questions or would like to set-up a meeting specifically to discuss and walk you through and answer more questions.

Here is a link to the CNSC's IK Policy [Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#) and attached confidentiality form for IK that Nations and communities can submit to us should they wish to submit an IK study confidentially (i.e. not posted publicly or released to the public). The other document attached goes more into detail about our confidentiality process at the CNSC for IK and info shared with us from Indigenous Nations and communities. I hope that these help BNDN in making its decision on how to best share this valuable knowledge with the CNSC for the Rook 1 Project.

Let me know what works and I can set-up a follow-up meeting in early February with BNDN to get more into the details on this front and talk about next steps if you would like or any other topics of interest in relation to the Rook 1 Project.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
| Cell: 306-914-7892



**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)  
**Cc:** [eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca); [Froess, Ryan](#);  
**Subject:** Nexgen Energy Proposed Rook I Project - Proposed Consultation Approach and Upcoming EIS Submission  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#6754426-v1-BNDN\\_NexGen\\_Rook\\_I\\_Letter\\_FIRT\\_EIS\\_phase.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2022-03-11 3:15:25 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Chief Sylvestre,

Attached, please find a letter outlining a proposed consultation approach between CNSC and BNDN on the remaining steps of the regulatory review process, including the Environmental Assessment (EA), for the proposed NexGen Rook I Project.

As outlined in the attached letter, NexGen is on track to submit their draft EIS to the CNSC at the end of March 2022, therefore we, CNSC staff, are interested in learning your interest in being part of the Federal Indigenous Review Team for the draft EIS technical review.

Please review the proposed consultation process outlined in the attached letter, and if possible, we would ask that BNDN **provide any feedback back to me by April 8, 2022.**

We are also happy to meet at your convenience to chat and to answer any questions you might have. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail or telephone any time.

Best Regards,  
Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Agente en évaluation environnementale, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657



**March 11, 2022**

CIAR NO.: 80171

e-Doc: 6754426

Chief Jonathan Sylvestre  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
Turnor Lake, Saskatchewan  
S0M 3E0

**Subject: Proposed Consultation Approach with Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) for the Regulatory Review Process for Nexgen Energy Proposed Rook I Project**

Dear Chief Sylvestre:

The purpose of this letter is for the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) to share a proposed consultation approach with BNDN on the regulatory review process, including the Environmental Assessment (EA), for the proposed Rook I Project.

Building on the ongoing consultation, relationship building, and engagement that started in 2019 between BNDN and the CNSC in relation to this Project, the consultation approach proposed by CNSC staff is outlined in Appendix 1 and the subsequent Table 1 of this letter, which detail the suggested consultation activities for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process for the Project. Key regulatory steps for consultation, as outlined in this table, include the participation as part of the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) for the review of NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the development of the draft EA Report, the development of a Rights Impact Assessment, inclusion of relevant BNDN knowledge, and participation in the public Commission hearing process.

The activities outlined in the proposed consultation approach are flexible, and CNSC staff would like to invite BNDN to discuss how we could collaborate over the remainder of the regulatory review process if BNDN chooses. Some potential topics for discussion may include:

- Participation as part of the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) for the EIS review
- collaborative approach to developing sections of the EA Report, specifically related to information on BNDN, knowledge, land use, concerns, and rights
- development of a mutually agreeable consultation protocol or Terms of Reference
- other topics or activities of interest and proposed by the BNDN (leadership meetings, community outreach, visits, and education.)

BNDN was awarded Participant Funding on January 15, 2021 to review and provide comment on the Draft EIS and engage with the CNSC on the first phase of the NexGen Rook 1 EA. The CNSC will

also be offering additional funding opportunity for the public and Indigenous Nations and communities to review and provide comment on the for the Final EA. Should the BNDN require additional funding to support ongoing engagement in the process with the CNSC, requests or applications for additional funding through the CNSC's Participant Funding Program (PFP) will be considered by the CNSC on a case-by-case basis.

### Current Status and Next Steps

Once NexGen submits their draft EIS (expected in end of March 2022) to CNSC, CNSC staff will conduct a completeness check of the submission to determine whether the information provided is sufficient for conducting the next stage of the process. Should the completeness check be successful, the 90-day technical review of the Draft EIS would commence, of which 8 weeks would be allocated to the FIRT to perform their review. A walkthrough meeting will be scheduled at the very beginning of the technical review period, to allow NexGen to present to the FIRT EIS and supporting documentation. CNSC staff would be happy to organize a meeting with BNDN as soon as we have a more information on a potential submission date for the draft EIS.

A public review period of the draft EIS will also take place at the same time as the FIRT EIS review. Therefore, this is another place for BNDN to submit any comments and/or concerns you might have with the proposed project.

CNSC staff are committed to being flexible and to collaborating with BNDN to ensure that consultation for the Project is meaningful, addresses BNDN concerns, and upholds the honour of the Crown, and also takes into account the need for additional flexibility at this time, as a result of the current pandemic situation related to COVID-19 across Canada. To discuss any matters related to the regulatory review process of the Project, please contact me directly by phone at 343-542-7657, or by email at [nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca).

Please review the proposed consultation process for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process of the Rook I Project (Appendix 1) and if possible, we would ask that BNDN **provide any feedback to Nicole Frigault by April 8, 2022**

The CNSC looks forward to continuing to build a long-term collaborative relationship with BNDN and working together throughout the regulatory review process for the proposed NexGen Rook I Project.

Yours sincerely,

**Frigault,  
Nicole**

Digitally signed by Frigault, Nicole  
DN: C=CA, O=GC, OU=CNSC-CCSN,  
CN="Frigault, Nicole"  
Reason: I am the author of this  
document  
Location: your signing location here  
Date: 2022-03-11 14:57:47  
Foxit PhantomPDF Version: 9.7.1

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Enclosure: (1) Proposed consultation process with BNDN for the regulatory review process of the proposed Rook I Project

**References:**

- [1] CNSC, Regulatory Guide, *REGDOC- 3.2.2: Indigenous Engagement*, Version 1.2, February, 2022  
<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/acts-and-regulations/regulatory-documents/published/html/regdoc3-2-2-ver1.1/index.cfm>
- [2] CNSC, *Generic Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement*, May 2016,  
<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/pdfs/Environmental-Assessments/CEAA-2012-Generic-EIS-Guidelines-eng.pdf>

## Appendix 1

### Proposed Consultation Process with BNDN for the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process of the proposed Rook I Project

#### 1. Introduction

These proposed next steps in the consultation process, which started in 2019, are intended to guide federal Crown consultation activities with BNDN during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process of the Rook I Project (the Project). They communicate the federal Crown's objectives for consultation, the proposed structure for integrating consultation into the regulatory review process, and the proposed activities in which the CNSC and BNDN can work together to address BNDN's concerns regarding the Project. This document is intended to be a "living document" that can be updated as necessary during the regulatory review process, as a result of ongoing discussions between the CNSC and BNDN.

#### 2. Federal Crown's Consultation Objectives

- To continue to build a positive and productive working relationship with BNDN during the regulatory review process.
- To communicate with BNDN about the Project and developments during the regulatory review process in a timely manner.
- To establish how BNDN would like to be consulted during the remaining steps of the regulatory review process and establish a flexible and responsive consultation approach.
- To work with BNDN to:
  1. identify potential environmental effects of the Project, including those on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, health and socio-economic conditions, and heritage resources
  2. identify adverse impacts of the Project on your community's potential or established rights
  3. ensure options for avoiding, mitigating, or accommodating adverse impacts are considered
- To work with BNDN and the proponent to respond to specific questions and requests regarding issues raised related to the Project.
- To listen to and understand the concerns raised, and consider the feedback, perspectives, and issues raised by BNDN in order to inform decision-making.

We invite BNDN to share their consultation objectives with the CNSC and would be happy to set a meeting to answer any questions or concerns you may have on the Federal Crown's (CNSC) consultation objectives.

### 3. Integrating Consultation into the Regulatory Review Process

Table 1. provides a description of the main remaining steps in the regulatory review process and a description of how the federal Crown (the CNSC) proposes to integrate consultation activities into those steps. This table describes what BNDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the CNSC, on behalf of the Federal Crown, and what BNDN could share (if they choose) and be involved to the regulatory review process.

**Table 1. Integrating Consultation into the Remaining Steps of the Regulatory Review Process<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Regulatory Review Step</b>	<b>Description of Activities<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>What BNDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))</b>	<b>Information BNDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BNDN may want to participate</b>
Project Description Review and Scoping Decision <i>(Completed in May 2019)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity for the BNDN to provide comments on the Project Description – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter from CNSC notifying BNDN of the project and project description review process – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>PPF offering – <b>Completed</b></li> <li>Early information sharing and offers to have consultation meetings – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments on the project description – <b>Completed</b></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from a template developed by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) (CEAA references the BC First Nations Environmental Assessment Technical Working Group Toolkit Workshop as a basis for this document).

<sup>2</sup> NexGen's activities during this step of the regulatory review process are not specifically steps of the regulatory review process, but these are expectations of NexGen, by CNSC staff.

<p>Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Review (2022)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for BNDN to participate in the FIRT is to bring specific Indigenous knowledge and expertise with respect to their community to the EIS technical review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scope of the technical review by a representative of an Indigenous group on the FIRT would be to review sections of the EIS and supporting documents (e.g. the Indigenous Engagement Report) that contain information or relate directly to impacts on the representative's community or nation.</li> <li>• BNDN would provide CNSC staff with Information Requests (IRs) where they found the EIS to be insufficient for the purposes of moving forward with the technical review. CNSC staff will inform the proponent and identify any information required in the form of IRs.</li> <li>• The CNSC would have final say as to which IRs are in or out of scope. Out-of-scope IRs can be addressed in other ways (forwarding directly to the proponent; through the public comment period, etc.)</li> <li>• Upon receiving responses to IRs, CNSC staff would perform a completeness check. Should the response package be deemed complete, the IR responses would proceed to the FIRT for technical review.</li> <li>• This cycle of IR review would continue until all IR responses have been deemed acceptable by the FIRT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide comments on the draft EIS</li> <li>• Participate in technical discussions with CNSC staff / the proponent to address BNDN outstanding comments and concerns.</li> </ul>
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Regulatory Review Step	Description of Activities <sup>2</sup>	What BNDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))	Information BNDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BNDN may want to participate
Development of draft EA Report <i>(Future phase – tentative 2023)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The EA Report presents the CNSC staff's views on the findings of the EA, including conclusions and recommendations regarding the adverse environmental effects that are likely to result from the project, appropriate measures that would mitigate those effects, the significance of residual effects after implementation of the mitigation measures, as well as the components of the follow-up program.</li><li>The EA Report also includes a summary of consultation with Indigenous peoples, potential impacts to potential or established rights of Indigenous peoples, views and concerns expressed by Indigenous Nations and communities and the Crown's response to those concerns, and potential mitigation and/or accommodation measures.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Opportunity to collaboratively develop sections of the draft EA Report specific to BNDN such as TKLU information, potential impacts of the Project on BNDN rights and traditional uses, and concerns expressed.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A collaborative drafting process refers to CNSC staff writing these draft sections and providing to BNDN for review and comment.</li><li>The objective is to obtain mutually agreed upon text, between CNSC staff and BNDN (as noted in the next step, where BNDN has diverging views with CNSC staff's analysis and findings, these will be reflected in the EA Report, and we also invite BNDN to capture this information in their written and/or oral intervention to the Commission).</li></ul></li><li>Opportunity for direct discussions between BNDN and the Crown (e.g. teleconferences and/or meetings with Chief and Council, community open houses).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review and provide comment on sections of the draft EA Report specific to BNDN.</li></ul>

Regulatory Review Step	Description of Activities <sup>2</sup>	What BNDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))	Information BNDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BNDN may want to participate
EA Report and Licensing CMD Review  <b>AND</b> Commission Public Hearings  <i>(Future phase – TBD)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNSC staff will submit and make publicly available, for review, the draft EA Report and licensing CMD in advance of public hearings (timing to be determined by CNSC the Commission Registry).</li> <li>The licensing CMD presents CNSC staff's findings, recommendations and conclusions from the technical review of NexGen's licence application and supporting documentation.</li> <li>The Commission will hold public hearings with opportunities for public and Indigenous groups to submit oral and/or written interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to review draft EA Report and licensing CMD to inform oral and/or written intervention.</li> <li>Opportunity for direct discussions between BNDN and the Crown (e.g. teleconferences and/or meetings with Chief and Council, community open houses) in advance of the public Commission hearings.</li> <li>PFP offering for Review of Final EA and opportunity for public and Indigenous groups to submit oral and/or written interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present BNDN views to the Commission by providing information orally and/or in writing.</li> <li>It is recommended that any diverging views with CNSC staff's analysis and findings in the EA Report be captured in BNDN written and/or oral intervention to the Commission, if required.</li> </ul>

Regulatory Review Step	Description of Activities <sup>2</sup>	What BNDN should receive, have access to, or expect from the Federal Crown (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC))	Information BNDN may want to consider providing to the federal Crown, and ways BNDN may want to participate
<p>Commission's EA and Licensing Decisions</p> <p><i>(Future phase – TBD)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Commission considers the EA Report and interventions from the public and Indigenous groups and determines whether, taking into account the mitigation measures proposed, the Project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects and if the duty to consult was met.</li> <li>Should the Commission issue an EA decision statement allowing the Project to proceed, the Commission will also include legally binding conditions with which NexGen must comply to implement appropriate mitigation measures and a follow-up program.</li> <li>Should the Commission issue an EA decision statement that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, the Commission considers licensing CMD and interventions from the public and Indigenous groups, in making a licensing decision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notification and sharing of the Commission's Detailed Record of Decisions (EA and licensing).</li> <li>Meetings with BNDN to discuss the Commission's decision and next steps for ongoing engagement and collaboration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback on preferred approach to ongoing engagement, information sharing, and collaboration.</li> </ul>

**From:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**To:** [Eric Sylvestre; chief1@birchnarrows.ca](#);  
**Cc:** [Wylie, Doug](#)  
**Subject:** CNSC Northwestern Saskatchewan Visit - June 20-25, 2022  
**Sent:** 2022-05-20 7:34:00 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre and Eric,

Eric it was good to catch up the other day and I hope that everything is well in your community and that everyone is starting to enjoy some spring weather after the long winter.

Eric as discussed, I am writing to you today to inform you that a group of Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission staff (CNSC) staff are planning on coming to Northwestern Saskatchewan in June and we would like to set up a day for an in-person meetings that works for you and other members of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) and leadership. The meetings with CNSC staff in particular would be focused on covering the CNSC's regulatory role and framework, and to discuss NexGen's Rook 1 Project. NexGen's Rook 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is scheduled to be submitted to the regulators (CNSC and the Province) this month, after some delays. The CNSC group would include staff with expertise in the licensing process, Indigenous consultation, the environmental assessment process, environmental compliance, environmental risk assessment, and health sciences.

We would also like to do a community open house and information session event later on the same day, in the afternoon/evening, where community members would be able to speak to CNSC staff and learn more about the CNSC's role and the projects we regulate if the community would like? We are currently working with NexGen (the proponent) to plan this community event and would be open to working directly with your Nation to better understand if this is something BNDN would be interested in and if so how both NexGen and CNSC can help to support BNDN to set this up at the community level.

We are currently planning for the week of June 20-25, 2022 and would like to work with BNDN on finding a date that works for all those involved.

As an Indigenous Nation with interest in this project, the CNSC is interested in hearing any views you may have with respect to the NexGen Rook 1 project. As Canada's Nuclear regulator we would be happy to provide the community, the BNDN Working Group and/or leadership with any information of who the CNSC is, what we do and how we regulate nuclear projects in Canada. We are also open to other answering any other questions or providing presentations to leadership on other topics of that be of interest to BNDN.

In closing, the CNSC is interested in meeting directly with BNDN to provide an update on the NexGen Rook 1 project and is open to meeting to have further discussions on these topics and setting up more formal and regular meetings between the CNSC and BNDN moving forward as part of the consultation and engagement process. Please feel free to reach out at any time via email or give me a call (see my number below) as we would be happy to set up a meeting develop a plan for next steps on the proposed community visit and the NexGen project and help explain our role in the Environmental Assessment process.

Eric free to give me a call whenever if you would like to chat or have questions? We look forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting you and your community in June!

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Cell: 306-914-7892



## TRIP REPORT

## RAPPORT DE VOYAGE

To  
À

From  
De

Patrick Burton  
Dana Pandolfi  
Ryan Froess  
Laura DeCoste  
Jeffrey Lam  
Rachel Lane  
Doug Wylie  
Shannon O'Neill

Security Classification – Classification de sécurité UNCLASSIFIED	
File - Référence 6827433	
Your File – Votre référence N/A	
Date  10 August 2022	Tel. No. – N° de tél.  N/A

Subject  
Object

**Trip Report – 2022 Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour**

**Location:** Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, Turnor Lake, Dillon, Clearwater River Dene First Nation (CRDN) Reservation, Buffalo River Dene First Nation (BRDN) Reservation, Birch Narrows Dene First Nation (BNDN) reservation

**Dates:** June 18-27, 2022

**CNSC Participants (in person):** Patrick Burton (UMMD), Dana Pandolfi (UMMD), Jeffrey Lam (HSECD), Rachel Lane (HSECD), Ryan Froess (ISRD), Laura DeCoste (ISRD), Shannon O'Neill (EAD), Doug Wylie (EAD)

### Summary:

The objective of the trip was for CNSC staff to travel to communities in the Western Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan to take part in open houses, hosted by NexGen. The trip's goal was to foster relationship building in the region and inform the community in the region about the CNSC's role as Canada's nuclear regulator, with a focus on regarding NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill project. CNSC staff also held meetings to discuss/consult with Indigenous leadership in the region, including the mayor and a councillor of the municipality of Buffalo Narrows, two Metis Nation of Saskatchewan local presidents and the Northern Region 2 president, as well as the Chief and a Council member of Birch Narrows Dene Nation.

### Report:

Over 4 days, CNSC staff participated in 5 separate open house information sessions in 5 different communities, alongside NexGen, consulting with members of the 4 Indigenous nations in the region and members of the public (see Appendix 1 for full itinerary). At each event, the number of participants (excluding CNSC staff, Province of Saskatchewan staff, NexGen staff and other members of industry) ranged from approximately 30 to 100 people a day. Two of these events

took place on treaty grounds during Treaty Days where community events and dinners were being held. This resulted in a lot of community exposure to the outreach sessions.

Topics discussed at the open houses consisted of introducing the CNSC and its mandate, the NexGen project in general, opportunities to get involved with the CNSC process, traditional lifestyles, general questions regarding environmental protection and human health (especially quality of the drinking water), and legacy issues with sites such as the decommissioned Cluff Lake Mine Site. Some community members still do not feel that the Cluff Lake site was decommissioned properly and that traditional activities can take place safely on that site.

Other frequently raised topics included the need for better roads in the area, school breakfast programs, youth activities for education, and training for, and better job opportunities from NexGen for the Rook 1 Project. Decommissioning was another main issue that was brought up. People want to use the land for traditional uses. They see the current decommissioned sites (Beaverlodge, Gunnar, Lorado, Cluff Lake, etc.) and are concerned that NexGen may end up just like them. In addition, due to the proximity to Fort McMurray, a lot of people mentioned the pollution and impacts from the oil sands.

When CNSC staff spoke with leadership, discussions tended to be more project and EA process focused. These discussions included the NexGen's Rook 1, Fission's Patterson Lake South projects, and Cluff Lake's Decommissioning. Discussions included the status of these three projects and the CNSC's current and future roles in each, as well as community participation opportunities and the Participant Funding Program. Topics of environmental protection, compliance monitoring and how Indigenous nations can participate were also raised during the meeting with Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), as well as the sacredness of the area, the need for better trust building exercises through direct involvement (i.e., Indigenous led environmental monitoring) and the need to continue to be able to freely practice a traditional lifestyle.

CNSC staff also participated in a site tour of the NexGen Rook 1 site and were able to see the current infrastructure, including the main camp, the future site of the mine entrance, and the core sample storage area and its auxiliary structures.

### **Conclusions:**

CNSC staff had a tremendous experience in the communities interacting directly with community members and leadership. It was also invaluable to experience the communities firsthand to better understand the people and the region, and to gain an appreciation/understanding of the socio-demographic and economic issues currently affecting the communities (i.e., age distribution, housing, education, job opportunities, community drug/alcohol issues, community political structures, etc.). Communities were overwhelmingly positive and inviting to CNSC staff being in the area and several people remarked how long it had been since seeing the CNSC in the communities, if ever. CNSC staff had many good conversations throughout the open houses, attendance was good throughout the week, and the promotional items offered were popular and helped to bring in people to the CNSC tables.

CNSC staff's visit and tour of the NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill site was invaluable. CNSC staff gained early insight into the site's remoteness, site layout, company values, and overall impressions of the site and senior management, that cannot be observed through desk top reviews or virtual meetings.

#### **Follow-up Actions / Recommendations:**

1. CNSC staff heard repeatedly how good it was seeing a CNSC presence in the community and being able to speak to staff one on one. While this was very encouraging, we also heard how long it had been since this type of outreach had happened. These statements are firsthand testimonials to the importance of this outreach but also highlights how the CNSC should explore more regular outreach activities to form relationships in the communities and foster trust with CNSC staff and in turn the organization.
2. While the trip was large, with 8 CNSC staff, it was good to have such a presence at the open house events as there were lots of people to interact with, and days were long. Future outreach events may not require as many staff but the value of a large and multidisciplinary team on this type of tour should not be overlooked. The multidiscipline team of junior-senior staff enabled lots of knowledge sharing and learning opportunities for all staff. The size of such events and number of CNSC staff should depend on the region/nations being visited, the topics expected to arise, and the last time CNSC attended events in the area.
3. Early planning of an outreach tour like this is a necessity in lowering costs. This tour had issues getting commitments from the Indigenous Nations being visited, which led to delays and increased costs. Further complications from the approval of and payment logistics of the site tour via float plane led to further delays.
4. The planning and coordination of this tour represented significant effort from the responsible CNSC staff and the proponent, NexGen, that booked lots of the locations and community centres. A centralized outreach planning team would have helped with logistical planning but also as a knowledge holder resource for navigating internal processes and requirements.
5. In future outreach events in northern Saskatchewan, all the posters and handouts would benefit from having audio versions available, translated into Dene and Cree.
6. During this event, CNSC staff benefitted from NexGen's logistics work and their existing connections to the communities visited. However, in general outreach carried out with the proponent or licensee should be minimized. In future, as NexGen, Fission and Cluff each progress, CNSC staff could consider visiting these communities independently of proponents and licensees, to better demonstrate our independence from industry.
7. In future outreach events in northern Saskatchewan, some items to give out at the open houses should include fishing lures, and hats with the CNSC logo. This is because fishing hooks and hats are frequently used and are very prominent in the communities, and the CNSC providing fishing equipment speaks to our confidence that it is safe to fish near CNSC-regulated facilities. NexGen's colouring station for kids, using locally appropriate

colouring sheets such as caribou and northern plants, was also popular and could be emulated by CNSC staff for outreach.

8. CNSC staff brought a donation of gently used children's clothing to give to the local Healthy Moms and Baby Program, which was greatly appreciated. For trips of this magnitude, CNSC staff can look for opportunities like this to contribute to the communities being visited and should tailor donations to the context of the community in question.

**Appendix 1 – Trip itinerary**

**Appendix 2 – Photos from the Western Athabasca Basin Tour trip**



### Appendix 1 – Trip itinerary

Day	Time	Topics and presentation for discussion	Location
<b>Day 1 – Saturday, June 18</b>	All day	Travel Day - Ottawa staff fly to Saskatoon	Ottawa to Saskatoon
<b>Day 2 – Sunday, June 19</b>	All day	Travel Day - CNSC staff drive from Saskatoon to Buffalo Narrows (approx. 6 hour drive)	Saskatoon to Buffalo Narrows
<b>Day 3 – Monday, June 20</b>	10am – 12pm	Meeting with Buffalo Narrows Mayor and Council	Buffalo Narrows
	1 – 6pm	Float plane to NexGen site for tour	NexGen site
<b>Day 4 – Tuesday, June 21</b>	All day	Observe June 21 <sup>st</sup> (National Indigenous Peoples Day) community events in Buffalo Narrows and attend celebrations in CRDN in the evening.	Buffalo Narrows & CRDN
<b>Day 5 – Wednesday, June 22</b>	10am – 3pm	Open house in La Loche	La Loche Friendship Center

	5pm – 8 pm	Open house in Buffalo Narrows	Buffalo Narrows Friendship Center
<b>Day 6 – Thursday, June 23</b>	11am – 5pm	Open house in CRDN	CRDN Treaty Grounds in CRDN
	6 – 9pm	CRDN Celebration/community dinner hosted by NexGen	
<b>Day 7 – Friday, June 24</b>	11am – 3pm	BNDN Open house	Turnor Lake
	3:30 – 6pm	Meet with BNDN Chief and Council	Birch Narrows hockey arena
<b>Day 8 - Saturday, June 25 - Dillion SK.</b>	11am – 5pm	Open house in BRDN	BRDN Treaty Grounds in BRDN
	6 – 9pm	BRDN Celebration/community dinner	
<b>Day 9 - Sunday, June 26 – see Note 2</b>	All day	Travel Day – CNSC staff drive from Buffalo Narrows to Saskatoon (approx. 6 hour drive)	Buffalo Narrows to Saskatoon
<b>Day 10 - Monday, June 27</b>	Morning - Afternoon	Travel Day – Ottawa staff fly back to Ottawa	Saskatoon to Ottawa

**Appendix 2 – Photos from the Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour**  
Aerial view of NexGen Rook 1 exploration camp.



CNSC and NexGen staff at the site of NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill.



CNSC staff learning about NexGen core sampling.



CNSC staff speaking with students about CNSC's regulatory role in the EA process.



CNSC staff discussing with community members in Buffalo Narrows.



CNSC staff (foreground) and NexGen staff (background) discussing with community members at Birch Narrows Dene Nation.



CNSC staff and NexGen staff speaking to community members at Birch Narrows Dene Nation.



CNSC staff and NexGen staff speaking to community members at Birch Narrows Dene Nation.





Members of CRDN playing Dene hand-games.



Overview of outreach event held on treaty grounds in Buffalo Narrows Dene Nation.



---

**From:** [Andrew Bubar](#)  
**To:** [Rook1 Project - Projet Rook1; environmental.assessment@gov.sk.ca;](#)  
[Jonathon Sylvestre; Trevor Moberly; kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca; conrad.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca;](#)  
**Cc:** [robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca; Eric Sylvestre; douglas.barks@birchnarrows.ca; John Glover; Keegan](#)  
[McGrath;](#)  
**Subject:** BNDN Review of Rook 1 draft EIS  
**Attachments:** [BNDN\\_NexGen\\_DraftEIS\\_Review\\_2022.10.12.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2022-10-12 8:14:25 PM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Nicole,

I'm emailing on behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN).

BNDN has prepared a submission on the draft EIS for the NexGen Rook 1 Project which includes a series of comments and recommendations on the draft EIS.

The submission is attached as a pdf to this email.

We look forward to receiving responses from NexGen and continued engagement with the CNSC, SMOE and NexGen throughout the Rook 1 Environmental Assessment.

Regards,

**Andrew Bubar**  
Water and Geochemistry Specialist Consultant  
**Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.**  
(519) 803-9165  
[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)





# CNSC/BNDN Meeting

## Room I – EIS Submission and Next Steps



October 26/27, 2022



## OUTLINE

- ✓ Overview of Rook I project
- ✓ EIS timeline
- ✓ Issues and concerns identified in EIS
- ✓ Next Steps



## Rook I Overview

- NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen) is proposing to develop an underground uranium mine on the Patterson Lake peninsula in the southwestern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan
- The proposed Rook I mine would produce up to 14 million kg of  $U_3O_8$  annually for twenty-four years.
- Under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act, NexGen's proposal requires approval and licensing by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
- An environmental assessment (EA) conducted under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012

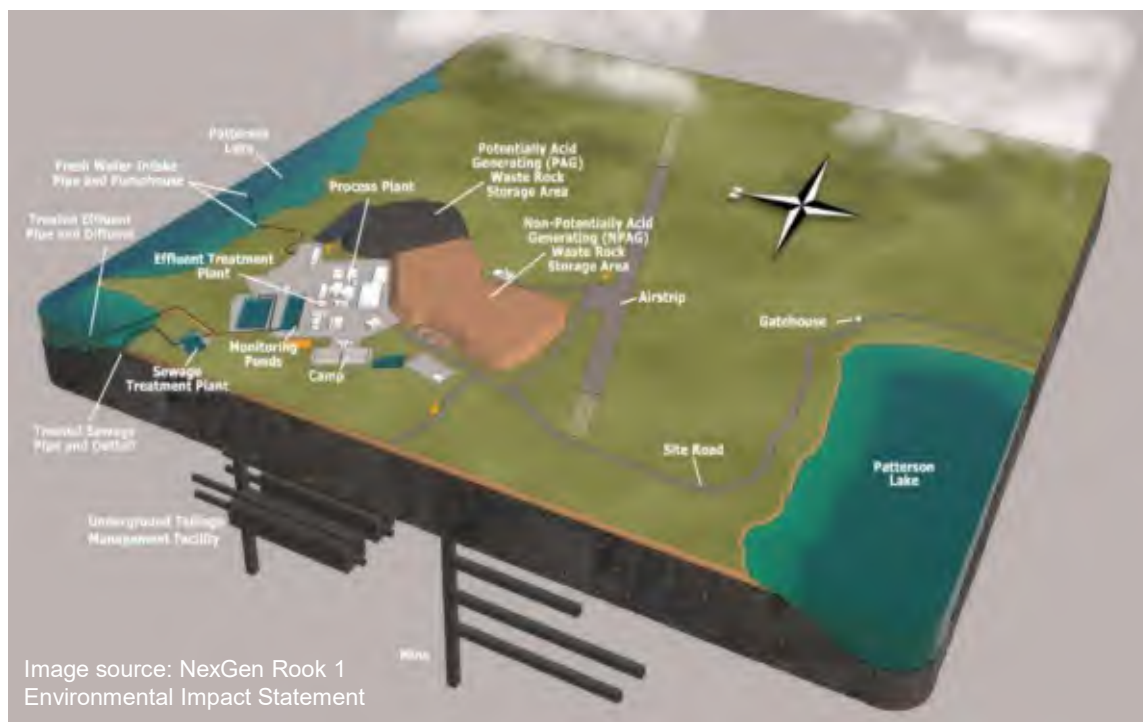
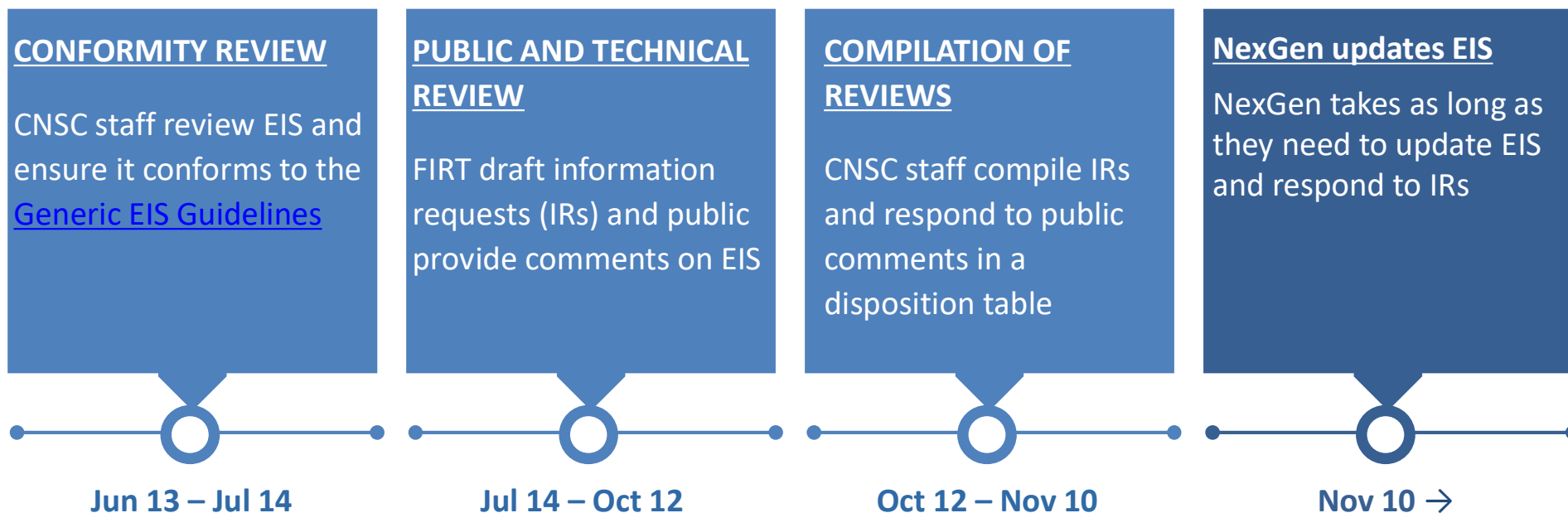


Image source: NexGen Rook 1  
Environmental Impact Statement



## EIS Process





## Issues and Concerns

- NexGen's EIS included the following issues and concerns expressed by BNDN:
  - Access to land and ability to hunt and travel
  - Transfer of traditional knowledge to younger generations
  - Radon emissions on food sources, wildlife and water
  - Engagement participation
  - Cumulative effects
  - Human health risks



## Issues and Concerns cont..

- Accidents and spills and safety procedures
- Uranium's potential to harm the environment
- Socio-economic conditions (substance abuse etc.)
- Traffic impact on wildlife
- Ability to harvest country foods
  - Marten, lynx, wolf, mink, squirrel, fisher, beaver and muskrat
- Waste management and reclamation
- Water quality
- Safety of tailings stored underground



## Discussion

- Has NexGen adequately addressed these issues in the EIS?
- Is there any additional information you need from NexGen regarding these concerns?
- Are there any mitigation measures that you would recommend to address these concerns?
- How has this information been shared with the community?
- Are there any concerns not identified in the list above?



## Next Steps

- CNSC staff will compile the Information Requests (IRs) drafted by the federal and Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) and send them to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
- CNSC will post the public comment table as well as the FIRT comment table to the Registry on or shortly after submission to NexGen on November 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Only the comments are posted to the Registry for now. NexGen responses are only posted once the EIS is deemed acceptable.
- NexGen will be required to update the EIS and respond to the IRs. This will take as long as needed.





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Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

# Connect With Us

Thank You! Questions?



[nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)



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**From:** [Anthony Clark](#)  
**To:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [Rook1 Project / Projet Rook1 \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [Trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Robert.Sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Kim Sylvestre](#);  
[conrad.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](#);  
**Subject:** Birch Narrows Dene Nation - Letter to CNSC Re NexGen Energy Rook I - Arrow Project  
**Attachments:** [20221115\\_BNDN\\_DEIS\\_Letter\\_final - Signed.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2022-11-21 6:46:02 PM

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<b>Follow Up Flag:</b>	Follow up
<b>Flag Status:</b>	Completed
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Good evening Nicole

Please find attached a letter to the CNSC from Chief Jonathon Sylvestre on behalf of the Birch Narrows Dene Nation related to the NexGen Energy – Rook I – Arrow Project – Draft Environmental Impact Study.

Should you have any queries or wish to discuss this further I'll be happy to coordinate this accordingly.

Regards

Anthony Clark *PMP*

Chief Executive Officer  
Birch Narrows Dene Development Inc.

Mobile: +1 306 222 0780  
[www.bnddi.ca](http://www.bnddi.ca)





# Birch Narrows Dene Nation

## Administration

P.O. Box 40

Tumor Lake, Sask

S0M 3E0

Telephone 306 894 2030

Facsimile 306 894 2060

Email: [officemanager@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:officemanager@birchnarrows.ca)

November 15, 2022

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

(Per E-mail)

Attention: Nicole Frigault,

On behalf of the Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), I am writing this communication in relation to the development of NexGen's Rook I Project located in Saskatchewan's south Athabasca Basin.

In response to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (CNSC) 90-day federal public review of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for NexGen's Rook I Project, this letter is intended to express BNDN's sentiment for the Rook I Project and confirm that through various long-term collaborative engagement processes, BNDN has been made aware of, contributed to the information provided in the Rook I Project draft EIS. As you will have seen, the BNDN community took the time to review and provide commentary on the Draft EIS, both from a community perspective as well as with the aid of Tamarack from a more technical perspective.

NexGen's approach to Indigenous engagement has been evident from the start, beginning with respectful honest dialogue with BNDN since 2017, to create the conditions for community feedback on the potential impacts of the proposed Rook I Project and intentional collaboration for the development of meaningful community programs that stand to benefit current and future generations in the Local Priority Area (LPA). Since 2017, BNDN and NexGen have been working together to review and amend these community initiatives as required to meet our changing needs. The community initiatives span from supporting our minor sports teams, to providing ongoing funding for continual development of our communities, including a Traditional Land Use (TLU) study and supporting our community food center, just to name a few. We work closely with NexGen to define community needs and requirements that can maximize community involvement and provide positive and sustainable support for our community members.

On September 30, 2019, BNDN and NexGen entered into a Study Agreement, formalizing our collective commitment to work collaboratively with the community members and BNDN Leadership to review and provide insight on the Rook I Project. Joint Working Groups were established and a self-directed TLU (both fully funded by NexGen) was conducted to facilitate the inclusion of BNDN's traditional knowledge throughout the EA process, and ultimately the EIS.

The result of this genuine approach to engagement has led to an industry leading Mutual Benefit Agreement between NexGen and BNDN, providing BNDN certainty for our community members around continued community programs that focus on culture, education, and health and wellness, as well as significant economic capacity building opportunities through infrastructure, employment, and business development.



## Birch Narrows Dene Nation

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As noted in the MBA video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekB1t2URkng>, community enhancement and economic capacity building is a massive benefit but the environmental protection is of utmost importance to BNDN community members. Through the MBA, an Environmental Committee (EC) was established providing a collaborative platform for BNDN and NexGen to work together throughout the life of the Project. The EC provides further environmental assurances and oversight on the Project directly by the community while maintaining our strong ties to the land. BNDN acknowledges NexGen's long-standing commitment to an open transparent engagement process whereby BNDN was engaged early by NexGen, and provided with opportunity throughout the EA process to bring forward questions, feedback, and input that helped to inform the Rook I Project draft EIS. The Rook I Project EIS that was released by the CNSC on July 13<sup>th</sup> for public review reflects BNDN's input throughout the engagement process, and confirms NexGen's commitment to setting new standards for environmental performance that include maintaining a small surface footprint and ongoing reclamation throughout the lifespan of the Project.

In conclusion, BNDN have submitted comments to the CNSC related to the Rook I Project draft EIS. BNDN is confident that based on the collaborative working history between BNDN and NexGen these comments will be addressed satisfactorily along with Community Information Sessions to ensure the community are fully aware of the planned approach to the Rook I Project. BNDN confirms by way of this letter the sincere and authentic approach that has been taken by NexGen since 2017 to ensure effective and impactful engagement with BNDN for the most responsible development possible of the Rook I Project. Furthermore, NexGen's proven commitment to the communities where it operates is setting new standards for both social and environmental stewardship in the mining industry in Saskatchewan and Canada.

We look forward to working in partnership with NexGen to responsibly advance this generational project that will deliver significant economic and social benefits for current and future BNDN community members.

Thank you,



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

Birch Narrows Dene Nation

## **BRIEFING NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT**

### **Meeting with Chiefs of Clearwater River, Buffalo River, and Birch Narrows Dene Nations and CEO of NexGen Energy Ltd.**

**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST**

**Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission – President's Office - 280 Slater Street, Ottawa,  
Ontario.**

### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

President Velshi, Ramzi Jammal and Michael DeJong, will be meeting with the Chiefs of three Saskatchewan First Nations and the CEO of NexGen Energy. The meeting request came from NexGen and the Nations to meet with President Velshi to discuss the Rook 1 Project and how they are all working together on this project and supportive of it advancing.

Proposed Agenda (annotated):

1. Introductions
  - President Velshi to introduce herself as President and CEO of the CNSC and explain her role with regards to CNSC staff and President of the Commission tribunal and clarify that she is not able to discuss any specific matters that may be brought before the Commission
  - President Velshi can also start the meeting with a land acknowledgement:
  - President Velshi would like to acknowledge that the land on which we are gathered on today (Ottawa) is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg peoples and would also like to recognize that the NexGen Rook 1 Project is located in Treaty 8 territory and is within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples.
2. Overview of the Rook 1 Uranium Project and Partnerships with Indigenous Nations
  - NexGen plans to provide an overview of the Rook 1 Project, work to date with Indigenous partners and how the project can support Canada playing a sustainable, long-term supply of Uranium well into the future. The three Chiefs may also want to provide an update on how working with NexGen has been to date on the Rook 1 project.
3. Overview of the CNSC's role and mandate
  - CNSC to provide a summary of our role and mandate as Canada's nuclear regulator.
4. Roundtable discussion
  - Recommend emphasizing that the CNSC is committed to building long-term relationships and engaging directly with Indigenous Nations and communities and their leadership and appreciate the Chiefs' efforts to engage with CNSC staff to date on this Project and others in their territories.
  - Recommend that President Velshi recuse herself for any potential detailed discussions with regards to the ongoing regulatory process for the NexGen project that may be before the Commission for decision in the coming months.

### **PARTICIPANTS**

- President Velshi (President and CEO – CNSC)
- Ramzi Jammal (EVP- ROB- CNSC)

- Michael DeJong (VP-RAB - CNSC)
- Chief Teddy Clark (Clearwater River Dene Nation)
- Chief Jonathon Sylvestre (Birch Narrows Dene Nation)
- Chief Norma Catarat (Buffalo River Dene Nation)
- Leigh Curyer (CEO - NexGen Energy Ltd.)
- Phillipe Bolduc (Wellington Advocacy Group)

## **KEY MESSAGES:**

### **Commitment to Meaningful Consultation and Relationships**

- The CNSC is appreciative of the three Chiefs taking time out of their busy schedules to come to Ottawa to meet and discuss their priorities and share their perspectives.
- The CNSC is fully committed to building strong, collaborative long-term relationships with Indigenous Nations and communities in the region (northwestern Saskatchewan). Reconciliation is a priority for the CNSC and the Government of Canada.
- The CNSC is proud of the positive relationships that we have developed with Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN), Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) and Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN). CNSC signed a Terms of Reference for consultation on the NexGen Environmental Assessment with Clearwater River Dene Nation in 2021.

### **The CNSC's Mandate and Role in Relation to the Rook 1 Project:**

- The CNSC's mandate is focused on health and safety by ensuring that there is no unreasonable risk for people and the environment with regards to nuclear energy and materials. The CNSC's mandate does not include economic considerations.
- The CNSC is responsible for making all licensing decisions under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA) and environmental assessment decisions under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) on nuclear facilities in Canada and conduct life-cycle oversight, regulation, and engagement with Indigenous Nations on all nuclear facilities.
- The CNSC is committed to conducting a thorough and efficient regulatory process for all nuclear projects, including the NexGen Rook 1 project. We will never compromise safety but will also not be an impediment to innovation and development that meets our regulatory requirements.

### **CNSC's Approach to Consultation on the Rook 1 Project:**

- The CNSC must ensure the proposed project meets all environmental and safety standards, and that the Duty to Consult and Accommodate is met before the Commission can make a decision.
- CNSC staff have been carrying out a thorough consultation and engagement process in relation to the NexGen Rook 1 project in line with best practices across the Government of Canada.
- CNSC staff were very happy to participate in meetings and visit your communities in June 2022

### **The President's Role as a Commission Member:**

- As the President of the Commission, I am not able to discuss in detail any matter that may before the Commission tribunal for a decision in the coming months. For any specific matters and details

regarding the ongoing regulatory process for the Rook 1 project I will have to recuse myself and my colleagues, VP- Ramzi Jammal and VP-Michael DeJong will continue the conversations.

## **BACKGROUND**

- NexGen Energy submitted their Project Description for the new uranium mine and mill site in 2019. The project is located in northwestern Saskatchewan approximately 130 km north of the closest community La Loche and is within Treaty 8 territory and homeland of the Métis in Northern Region 2 (see Annex B for map).
- The Rook I Project, a proposed new uranium mining and milling operation, is currently undergoing review by the CNSC pursuant to CEAA 2012 and by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (ENV) pursuant to the Environmental Assessment Act. The Project is also undergoing a licensing and technical review by the CNSC under the NSCA.

### **CNSC's Indigenous consultation and engagement:**

- The CNSC has a strong working relationship with a number of Indigenous Nations who are located within the region. In 2021 CNSC signed a Terms of Reference for consultation for the NexGen project with CRDN and the Métis Nation Saskatchewan (MN-S). CNSC staff have met regularly with representatives from CRDN, NexGen and other Indigenous Nations' and communities in the region since 2019. PFP was provided to both Nations to provide comments and work with CNSC.
- CNSC staff have met with BNDN and BRDN on a number of occasions including with leadership in their communities and have offered to meet as requested with these Nations throughout the EA process. PFP was provided to support these Nations as well to comment on NexGen's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and participate in the EA process.
- The CNSC/NexGen are also engaging and consulting with other Indigenous Nations and communities including the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resource Office (YNLR) and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN). PFP was also provided to these Nations to provide comments on Draft EIS and participate in the EA process.
- In June of 2022, CNSC staff (8) travelled to the region and the NexGen site and the three Nations (CRDN, BNDN and BRDN) during Treaty Days to meet with leadership and community members (Edoc# [6832731](#)). CNSC's staff completed outreach on our role as Canada's nuclear regulator, with a focus on regarding NexGen's Rook 1 proposed uranium mine and mill project. CNSC staff participated in 5 separate open house information sessions in 4 different Indigenous communities, and the public alongside NexGen and the province of Saskatchewan's EA division.
- Topics of concern to date have included environmental protection, impacts on treaty rights, socio-economic impacts, cumulative impacts, economic partnerships. Other topics included the need for better roads in the area, youth activities, education and training for jobs from NexGen.
- Long-term legacy impacts are also a concern and people use the land for traditional uses now and into the future. They see the legacy sites (Beaverlodge, Gunnar, Lorado) and decommissioned sites of Cluff Lake and have concerns new projects will end up the same once decommissioned.

### **NexGen's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**



- NexGen Draft EIS passed conformity review by CNSC staff on July 13, 2022, kicking off a 90 day technical review period. CNSC staff along with the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) completed their review and provided their technical information requests (IRs) in November of 2022 to NexGen's on the Draft EIS Edoc# [6916550](#)). The technical review resulted in 271 IRs as well as 40 Advice to Proponent comments.
- CNSC's last meeting with the three First Nations on the NexGen project was in October of 2022 when EAD/ISRD staff travelled to Saskatoon and met directly with leadership/engagement teams to discuss comments on the Draft EIS as well as the CNSC regulatory process
- All three Chiefs (CRDN, BRDN and BNDN) have each sent a letter to the CNSC signalling their support for the Rook 1 project to proceed to the CNSC. The letters have been posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (CIAR) [project page](#) alongside their comments on the Draft EIS.

### **NexGen's Proposed Temporary Airstrip**

- On April 26, 2022, CNSC staff were made aware of NexGen's plans from the Prairie and Northern Region of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), who received a designation request from the MN-S for a temporary airstrip on the NexGen property. A copy of the designation request was provided to CNSC staff.
  - As per section 5 of the CNSC-IAAC MOU, the Agency commits to consult with the CNSC prior to making recommendations to the Minister regarding any requests to designate projects that are received under the IAA.
- The Request for Designation was regarding NexGen's request to build a temporary airstrip as part of their Rook 1 Property – 2022 Site Program Application (Revision 1 – April 2022). This application was submitted to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment.
- Once CNSC staff were made aware of NexGen's plans, CNSC staff reached out to NexGen for further information. CNSC staff met separately with NexGen, IAAC, the province of SK EA division to gather information.
- CNSC staff reviewed the designation request from MN-S along with the additional information provided by NexGen and compared it to the proposed work detailed in the project description for the NexGen's Rook 1 project that is currently undergoing an EA under the CEAA 2012. Based on the information provided to the CNSC (and to the Province of SK), the proposed activities appeared to be very similar to the activities that are currently within the scope of the ongoing CEAA 2012 EA.
- CNSC therefore recommended that NexGen not proceed with the construction of a temporary airstrip until after provincial and federal environmental assessment decisions have been issued as an airstrip of similar size and location was scoped into the EA for the Rook 1 project. Aspects of the project scoped into the project description for the CEAA 2012 EA can not proceed until the EA decision is made by the Commission.
- Refer to E-doc # [6817614](#) for a copy of the Ministerial Decision and reply to MN-S stating that as per section 182 of the IAA, a project that is already undergoing a federal environmental assessment under CEAA 2012 will continue to be assessed under that Act.
- NexGen and the three Nations do not agree with the CNSC's recommendation with regards to the airstrip as they believe the construction of the airstrip and associated roads some facilities of the



site should be allowed to begin. The Nations and NexGen believe the proposed temporary airstrip will address health, safety, and environmental impacts by reducing the traffic on the highways.

### **NexGen's work with Indigenous Nations and communities**

- NexGen Energy has signed Impact Benefit Agreements (IBAs) with the three First Nations participating in the meeting (CRDN, BNDN and BRDN). NexGen has not signed IBA agreements with MN-S, ACFN or YNLR to date. As a result of these IBAs being signed, the three First Nations and NexGen have signalled to the CNSC that they would like to see the Rook 1 Project to move forward to construction and development as soon as possible.
- CNSC staff are not a party to the IBAs and are not aware of the specific details of each agreement, however, in general IBAs typically define the environmental, cultural, economic, employment and other benefits to be provided to the Nations by proponents in respect of the Project, and to confirm the consent and support for the Project throughout its complete lifecycle, including reclamation with these Nations.
- The three First Nations are supportive of the project proceeding as quickly and safely as possible and working directly with NexGen to gain economic opportunities that would benefit the First Nation and community members and the broader region.

### **DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

- As the life cycle regulator for the Rook 1 Project the CNSC is committed to the relationships with the Indigenous Nations and communities in the region, hearing their concerns and addressing them, conducting a thorough and efficient regulatory process for the Project that meets all applicable regulatory requirements and expectations, including the Duty to Consult and Accommodate.
- It is important to emphasize, that although the CNSC is pleased to hear that the Nations have signed agreements with NexGen and would like to see the project move forward as soon as possible, that the CNSC's is an independent regulatory body and must follow our legal statutes and mandate under the NSCA and CEAA 2012 for all proposed nuclear projects. Decisions are made based on all available facts, including those gathered through Commission hearings and interventions including those by the public and Indigenous Nations and communities.
- The CNSC encourages all Nations to continue to be engaged in the regulatory and consultation process with CNSC staff and to participate in the Commission hearing process for the Rook 1 project when it is scheduled. We look forward to our ongoing work with NexGen and the three First Nations moving forward.

ANNEXES (2):

ANNEX A: BACKGROUND ON ATTENDEES

ANNEX B: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INDIGENOUS AND TREATY RIGHTS

**Prepared by:** Ryan Froess, Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous Consultation, ISRD, SPD

**Prepared by:** Sydney Nickolet, Policy Officer, Indigenous Consultation, ISRD, SPD

**Reviewed by:** Adam Levine, Team Leader-Indigenous Consultation and Participant Funding, ISRD

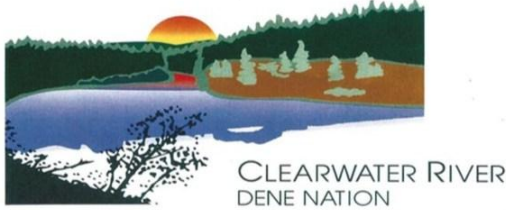
**Reviewed by:** Clare Cattryse, Director, ISRD, SPD

**Approved by:** Keith Dewar, Director General, SPD

**Date:** 20/01/2023

## Annex A: Background on Attendees

### Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN):



The Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) is a Dene First Nations band government in the boreal forest area of northern Saskatchewan, Canada is also the closest First Nation community to the Rook 1 Project and a signatory of Treaty 8. It maintains offices in the village of Clearwater River situated on the eastern shore of Lac La Loche. The CRDN reserve of Clearwater River shares its southern border with the village of La Loche.

The CRDN has a long-established presence in north-western Saskatchewan and northeastern Alberta. The CRDN is a Dene speaking community. As of September 2013, there were 1,875 registered members with 804 members living on-reserve and 1,071 members living off-reserve. CRDN is also represented by Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located within the treaty and traditional territories of CRDN; the Project is located approximately 120km from the main Clearwater reserve, near La Loche. NexGen has been engaging with CRDN since May 2014 and signed an Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) with NexGen in April of 2022.



Chief Teddy Clark of CRDN and his daughter Traya

CRDN Chief and Council: Teddy Clark (Chief re-elected in 2021), Brenda Janvier (Councillor), Roy Sean Cheecham (Councillor), Randy Janvier (Councillor), Sandy Herman (Councillor), Clifford Laprise (Councillor), Janelle Kokan (Band Manager)

### **Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN):**



Buffalo River Dene Nation is a Dene speaking nation situated approximately 84 kilometres northwest of Ile a La Crosse, SK on the western shore of Peter Pond Lake near Dillon, SK and is a signatory to Treaty 10. The Nation is approximately 8,259 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 1,233 with an on-reserve population of 640 members. The village of Dillon is the administrative headquarters of the Buffalo River Dene First Nations band government and is accessed by Highway 925 from Highway 155. The Nation is also affiliated with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC) and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN).

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located approximately 190 km from the main BRDN reserve and is within BRDN's traditional territory. NexGen has been engaging with BRDN since February of 2017 and signed an Impact Benefit Agreement with BRDN in 2021.

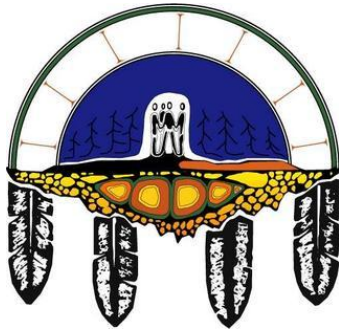


Chief Norma Catarat of BRDN

BRDN Chief and Council: Norma Catarat (Chief), Louise Chanalquay (Councillor), Dallas Billette (Councillor), Merle Catarat (Councillor), Colin Catarat (Councillor), Terrence Byhette (Councillor)

As a mother and a grandmother of five, Norma Catarat knows the importance of supporting members to grow a strong future. Catarat's priorities include supports for families, economic development, education and health services. Catarat is ready to work with Council to generate more resources for the community. She was elected as Chief in February 2022.

### **Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN):**



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), a Dene speaking nation, is situated in northern Saskatchewan north of Buffalo Narrows on Wasekamio Lake and is a signatory to Treaty 10. The Nation is approximately 2,693 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 807 members with an on-reserve population of 431 members. The Nation has year-round road access. BNDN is affiliated with Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

The NexGen Rook 1 Project is located approximately 130 km from the main Birch Narrows reserve and in BNDN's traditional territory. NexGen has been engaging with BNDN February of 2017.

BNDN Chief and Council: Jonathon Sylvestre (Chief re-elected in 2022), Trevor Moberly (Councillor), Conrad Sylvestre (Councillor), Robert Sylvestre (Councillor), Kimberly Sylvestre (Councillor), Douglas Barks (Band Manager)

Chief Jonathon Sylvestre represents the Meadow Lake Tribal Council. He is the Chief of BNDN. Previous to being Chief, he was a Councillor for 4 years and before that, Recreation Director for his community. Chief Sylvestre has lived in Birch Narrows for his entire life. He completed high school is La Loche, and Arts & Science at the Northlands College in Buffalo Narrows, as well as beginning his career in health care, before representing his community became his job. Chief Sylvestre enjoys the outdoors, camping, travel and reading.

### **NexGen Energy Ltd. (NexGen):**

NexGen Energy is a Canadian company focused on optimally developing the Rook I Project into the largest low cost producing uranium mine globally, incorporating the highest levels of environmental and social governance. The Company has a strong portfolio of highly prospective projects, including the Company's 100% owned Rook I property that is the host to the high-grade Arrow Deposit (discovered February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014), South Arrow (discovered July 2017), Harpoon (discovered August 2016), Bow (discovered March 2015) and the Cannon area (discovered April 2016). NexGen is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia, with an operations office in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



CEO of NexGen Leigh R. Curyer

The Rook I Project is a proposed new uranium mining and milling operation owned and operated by NexGen, a Canadian uranium development company. The Project is located adjacent to Patterson Lake in the southern Athabasca Basin in northern Saskatchewan, approximately 155 km north of the town of La Loche, 80 km south of the former Cluff Lake mine site, and 640 km northwest of Saskatoon. The scope of the Licence Application is intended to cover the construction and commissioning of all underground and surface structures, systems, and components with ore to support future operations, which includes the production of up to 31 million pounds (14 million kilograms) of U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> per annum. The NexGen Rook 1 project is currently undergoing a Federal Environmental Assessment under CEAA 2012 and a licensing review under the NSCA, both led by the CNSC, as well as a Provincial EA led by the Province of Saskatchewan.

Leigh R. Curyer has over 20 years' experience in the resources and corporate sector. Mr. Curyer is the founder, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NexGen Energy Ltd. and was previously the Head of Corporate Development Accord Nuclear Resource Management assessing uranium projects worldwide for First Reserve Corporation, a global energy focused private equity and infrastructure investment firm. Prior to Accord, he was Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of Southern Cross Resources (now Uranium One).

Mr. Curyer's uranium project assessment experience has been focused on assets located in Canada, Australia, USA, Africa, Central Asia and Europe, incorporating operating mines, advanced development projects and exploration prospects.

## **Wellington Advocacy:**



Phillippe Bolduc

Wellington Advocacy is a national full-service public affairs team with decades of combined professional experience serving as senior advisors in Canada's highest political offices.

Wellington Advocacy creates comprehensive plans to get people noticed. This includes leveraging their unique relationships and backgrounds to develop a story, reach more people and execute fresh engagement strategies. Their services include government and stakeholder relations, campaign services, digital advocacy, strategic communications and executive coaching, and international development.

Fluently bilingual, Philippe Bolduc brings a strong background in legislative processes and the Canadian regulatory environment. Drawn from his many years as a senior advisor and Chief of Staff on Parliament Hill, his experience includes familiarity with the Cabinet process, communications and issues management. Phil has deep political relationships in both the political and public service realms across Canada. As an expert in parliamentary procedure, Phil brings an understanding to the way things work in Ottawa that few have.



## Annex B: Additional information on Indigenous/Treaty rights

### **Treaty 8 (1899):**

The Rook 1 Project falls within the territory of Treaty No. 8 (signed in 1899) which covers approximately 841,487 square kilometres in the Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta, and the northwest quadrant of Saskatchewan. Treaty 8 is home to 39 First Nations, including three nations in Saskatchewan, 24 nations in Alberta, 6 nations in Northwest Territories, and 6 in British Columbia.

There are three signatories to Treaty 8 in Saskatchewan and one in Alberta that CNSC staff are consulting with on the NexGen Rook 1 project:

#### **Clearwater River Dene Nation (located approximately 120 km from Project site)**

Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation (located approximately 370 km from Project site) and represented by the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resources Office.

Black Lake Denesuline First Nation (located approximately 380 km from Project site) and represented by the Ya Thi Nene Lands and Resources Office.

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (located in Northeastern Alberta)

### **Treaty 10 (1906):**

There are seven signatories to Treaty 10. While the Rook 1 Project is not located in Treaty 10 territory it is in close proximity to some of the signatory Nations (see figure 2) and therefore CNSC has identified three Treaty 10 Nations as having a potential interest in the Rook 1 Project, due to their proximity to the project and claimed traditional territories.

English River First Nation (located approximately 130 km from the Project site)

**Birch Narrows First Nation (located approximately 135 km from the Project site)**

**Buffalo River Dene Nation (located approximately 190 km from the Project site)**

Treaty 10 covers 220,000 square kilometres including the northeast quadrant of Saskatchewan to the border with Manitoba, north to the border with Northwest Territories, south to central Saskatchewan and west into Alberta.



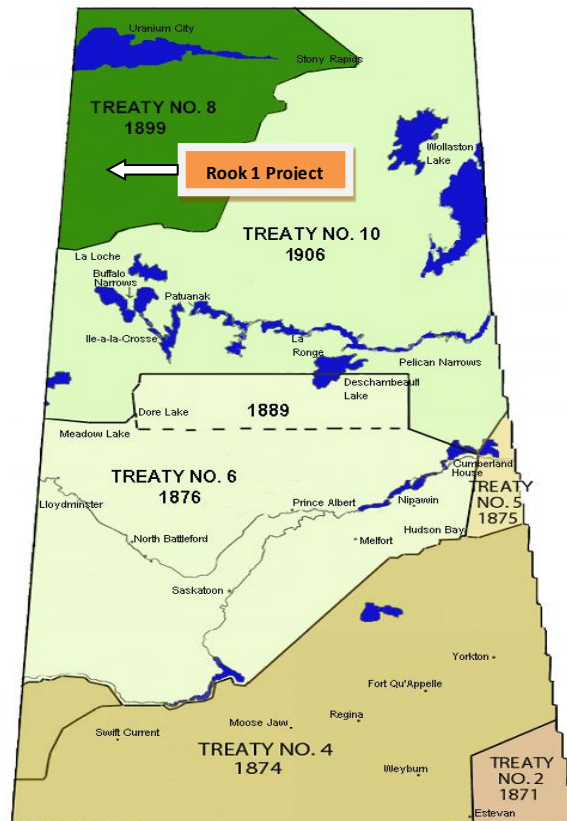
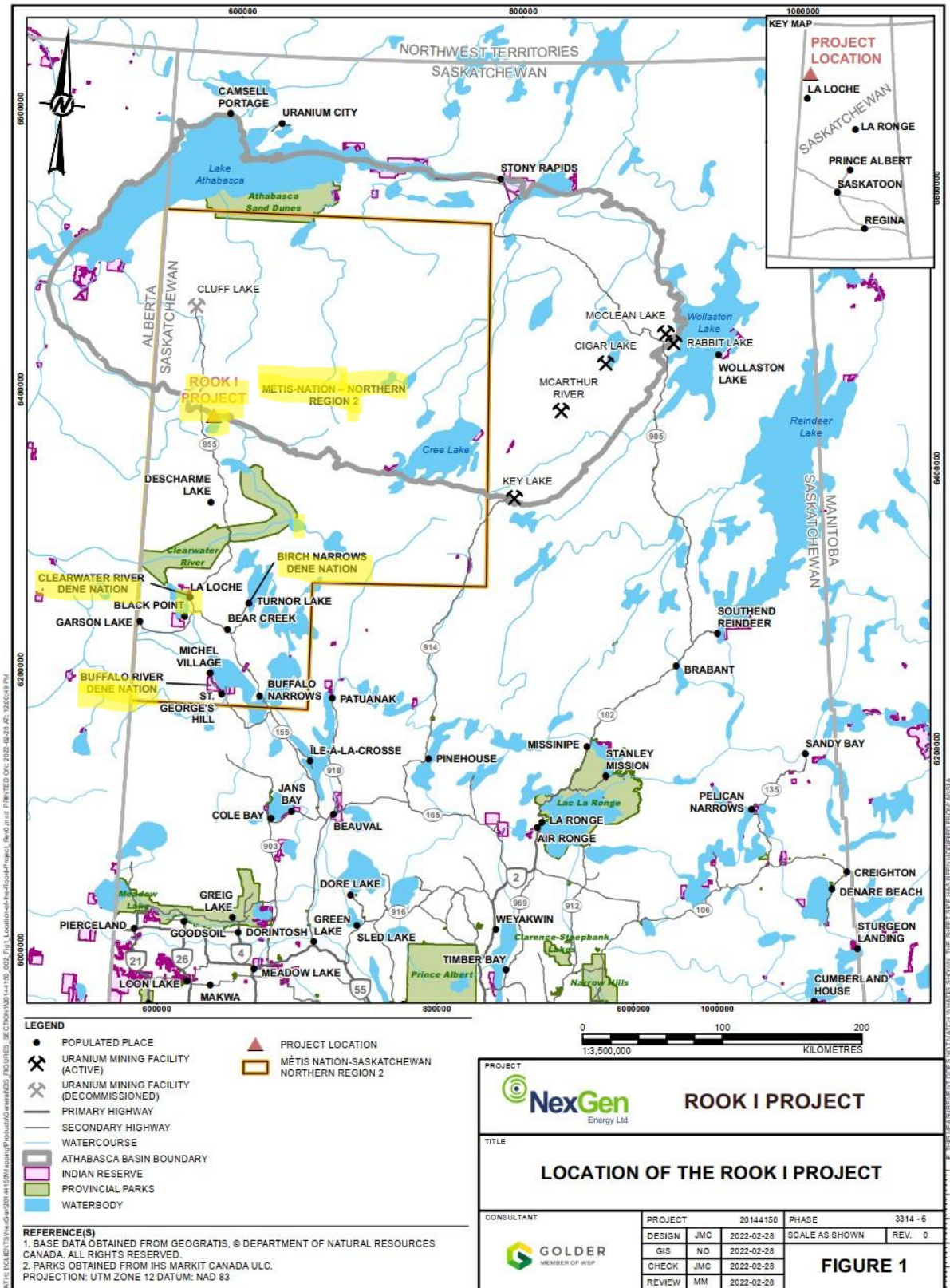


Figure 2. Treaty map of Saskatchewan and Rook 1 Project



**From:** [Levine, Adam](#)  
**To:** [Boser, Sydney](#); [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Way, Jessica](#); [Wylie, Doug](#); [Pandolfi, Dana](#); [Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Andrew Bubar](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [Yen, Wish](#);  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC Meeting  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#6641182-v1-TEMPLATE\\_-Draft\\_Terms\\_of\\_Reference\\_for\\_Long-term\\_Engagement\\_-\\_Generic\\_-\\_Feb\\_2022.DOCX](#)  
**Sent:** 2023-02-14 4:41:44 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi everyone, thanks for the great meeting! As discussed, here is the template for our Terms of Reference for long-term engagement with Indigenous Nations and communities. Please take a look and let us know if you have any questions and happy to discuss further when you are ready. We would also be happy to discuss the Cluff Lake file in more detail next week if you would like as well.

Adam

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** January 27, 2023 4:02 PM

**To:** Nickolet, Sydney; Levine, Adam; Frigault, Nicole; Way, Jessica; Wylie, Doug; Pandolfi, Dana; Jonathon Sylvestre; Trevor Moberly; Andrew Bubar; Froess, Ryan

**Cc:** Yen, Wish; Stenson, Ron; Duhaime, Brenda

**Subject:** BNDN & CNSC Meeting

**When:** February 14, 2023 2:30 PM-4:30 PM (UTC-06:00) Saskatchewan.

**Where:** Saskatoon Inn & Conference Centre (2002 Airport Dr, Saskatoon SK S7L 6M4)

**\*Updating the invite as the location for those attending in-person has changed. We will now be meeting at the Saskatoon Inn on Airport Drive. There will still be the hybrid option for those attending virtually\***

Good afternoon All,

Please see the following invite for a meeting between BNDN and CNSC on Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> from 2:30pm-4:30pm CST. The proposed agenda is as follows –

- Introductions
- CNSC Overview - Who we are what we do
- EA Project Updates (NexGen, Fission and Denison)
- Cluff Lake Hearing
- Opportunities to work together/next steps
- Closing

Sydney Nickolet, CNSC

---

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---

**From:** [Froess, Ryan](#)  
**To:** [Eric Sylvestre](#); [Anthony Clark](#);  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Wylie, Doug](#); [Levine, Adam](#); [O'Neill, Shannon](#); [DeCoste, Laura](#);  
**Subject:** BNDN/CNSC - Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2023.  
**Attachments:** [Rook CEAA 2012 EA Process\\_.pdf](#); [RIA Algonquins of Ontario - NSDF..pdf](#);  
**Sent:** 2023-05-19 1:59:00 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Eric and Anthony ,

Apologies for the delay but following up with the meeting notes and actions that came out of meeting on May 8, 2023. Let us know if you have any questions on any of the below.

- **BNDN/CNSC Meeting Minutes**

May 8, 2023 11-12:00 EST

Anthony Clark (BNDN), Eric Sylvestre (BNDN), Ryan Froess, Nicole Frigault, Adam Levine, Doug Wylie, Shannon O'Neill (All CNSC)

Discussed that Anthony and Eric are the main points of contact for moving forward for the NexGen file and they will disseminate information as required to BNDN.

**NexGen – Rook I**

- NexGen has shared with CNSC they intend to re-submit at the end of June/July however timelines might change
- BNDN has been meeting with NexGen to go over comments on the draft EIS and have a process with EC on how they will be responding
- CNSC is looking to book an in-person meeting with BNDN during the visit to northern Saskatchewan in June
  - Potential to have a meeting on June 14 when CNSC staff are up in the community.
- BNDN requested materials to outline the CEAA 2012 process
  - **ACTION 1:** CNSC to share CEAA 2012 material – see attached timeline (**complete**)
- Discussed Rights Impact Assessment (RIA) work
  - RIAs document and assess how a project will impact rights as well as analyzes mitigation measures/residual impacts etc.
  - May begin this work in the fall/early winter depending on quality of NexGen EIS submission
  - **ACTION 2:** CNSC to share example RIAs – see attached RIA example (**complete**)

**Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund**

- CNSC launched the Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund last week as a result from the requests for more funding to support Indigenous Nations and communities
- Funding provided through the Impact Assessment Renewal Initiative budget ask
- Funding is not project based and there are 3 streams
  - 1. Indigenous Capacity Support Stream
  - 2. Policy Dialogue Support
  - 3. Collaboration and Engagement Support
- BNDN noted concern with the use of the word “Stakeholder” as Indigenous peoples are not stakeholders
  - CNSC clarified that the fund includes NGOs, municipalities etc and that the term “stakeholder” does not apply to Indigenous Nations and communities
- **ACTION 3:** CNSC to share details on the Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund (**complete**) and can provide a more detailed presentation on the new funding program - meeting on May 15 (**did not take place due to power outage from fires**)

**Fission**

- CNSC noted that Fission is undergoing a provincial EA but does not require a federal EA/IA
  - CNSC is participating as a federal expert in the Provincial EA
- Fission will still undergo the CNSC licensing process
  - CNSC's consultation process still applies including opportunities for funding support through the CNSC's PFP (funding opportunities and timelines still being determined)
- Fission submitted their licence application with the CNSC in March 2023
- Fission is anticipating to submit their Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in Q4

**Next meeting** – CNSC are hoping to meet in BNDN with leadership/others in **June 14, 2023**. Ryan to follow-up with Anthony/Eric to discuss time and location.

Stay safe we have been following fires closely and are thinking of all those in BNDN and the Northwest at this time and hoping for some rain!

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire



# Domestic Outreach Report / Rapport sur les relations externes nationales

To / À : CNSC.F ExecutiveTeamMembers / MembresdelÉquipedirection F.CCSN

Cc. Engagement / Engagement (CNSC/CCSN)

**Date of activity/Date de l'activité:** June 12 to June 16, 2023

**Title of activity/Titre de l'activité:** CNSC Western Athabasca Basin Outreach Tour 2023

**Location (city and province)/ Lieu (ville et province):** Communities/Nations located in the Saskatchewan North Western Athabasca Basin (Buffalo Narrows, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, La Loche, Clearwater River Dene Nation, Turnor Lake, Birch Narrows Dene Nation, Dillon, Buffalo River Dene Nation)

**CNSC representative (s) + (directorate)/ Représentant(s) de la CCSN et direction:** Dana Pandolfi and Brenda Duhaime (DNCFR), Ryan Froess and Katherine Manickum (SPD), Doug Wylie and Nicole Frigault (DERPA)

**Other representative (s) + (name of organization)/ Autre(s) représentant(s) et nom de l'organisation:** Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, NexGen Energy Ltd (NexGen)., Fission Energy

**Objective/ Objectif:**

The objective of the trip was for CNSC staff to travel to communities in the Western Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan to take part in open houses, hosted by NexGen. The trip's goal was to foster relationship building in the region and to answer questions about the CNSC's Licensing and Environmental Assessment processes and how nuclear projects are regulated in Canada.

**Highlights/ Faits saillants:**

Participating in this tour for the second year in a row allowed staff to demonstrate CNSC's ongoing commitment for meaningful engagement with the Indigenous Nations and communities in the region. For staff that participated in the 2022 tour, this experience helped to build on relationships established last year. For staff that were visiting the communities for the first time, the outreach trip provided invaluable experience in relationship building, knowledge exchange, and improving their understanding of the NexGen project and its potential impact on the Indigenous communities in the area.

CNSC staff were also able to interact with leadership, such as band council members, and elders in more informal settings of the open houses. These interactions provided additional opportunities to build relationships and better understand leaderships' perspectives on the NexGen project.

For many CNSC staff, there is little opportunity to engage "face-to-face" with community members from these remote locations. This trip allowed CNSC staff to see the communities firsthand and better understand the sort of challenges faced and also gave community members opportunities to ask questions and better understand what CNSC does as a life-cycle regulator.

Orano's Cluff Lake site was raised by several community members. One Elder (pictured below) explained his experience and fears from his time working at Cluff Lake, and how he would like to see the NexGen

site and explain to his community the differences between the projects.

Improved roads, training/job opportunities, protection of the environment, and questions about what CNSC does as a regulator were the most common topics of discussion. Other topics heard throughout the community information sessions included economic reconciliation, health and safety concerns and involvement and inclusion of the communities early in the project's life cycle.

**Presentation(s) (e-Doc#)/ Présentation(s) – numéro e-Doc:** [7041981](#)

**Lessons Learned:**

Based on the experience gained from participating in this outreach tour for the last two years, CNSC staff would recommend considering the following for future outreach tours:

- Consider planning the tour for earlier in the year when schools are still in session. CNSC staff could work with schools to provide educational activities or presentations to engage youth in the communities.
- Consider changing the time of day for the community events. This year most engagement sessions were held on weekdays, during working hours, which may have decreased the number of community members able to attend. Suggest holding community outreach events in the late afternoon / evening with a community dinner. This would also allow CNSC staff to plan leadership meetings and visit schools during work/school hours.
- Consider having CNSC lead the organization of the community tours so that there can be more of a focus on building the CNSC relationship with the communities and on CNSC regulatory activities.
- Consider providing CNSC branded clothing (i.e. shirts, baseball hats, etc) and name tags to CNSC staff performing outreach. CNSC staff are often confused with the proponent/licensee at these events and uniformity in clothing could help clarify this or at least establish some differentiation. Furthermore, using the Government of Canada logo would further help clarify CNSC is apart of the federal government.

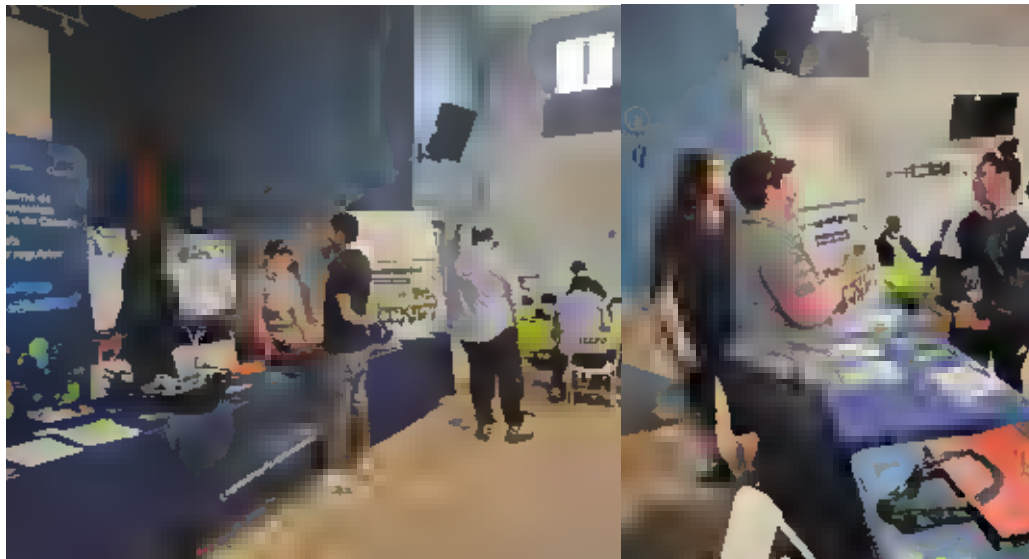


**Photos:**

**CNSC and NexGen staff preparing for engagement session at Buffalo Narrows Friendship Centre.**



**CNSC staff discussing with community members at La Loche Friendship Centre.**





CNSC booth at Turnor Lake/Birch Narrows Community Centre outreach event.



CNSC staff with an Elder at Buffalo River Dene Nation outreach event.



**Opening ceremonies at the Clearwater River Dene Nation Treaty Days.**



**From:** [Boser, Sydney](#)  
**To:** [Jonathon Sylvestre](#)  
**Cc:** [Froess, Ryan](#); [Frigault, Nicole](#); [DeCoste, Laura](#); [O'Neill, Shannon](#); [Anthony Clark](#); [eric.sylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Trevor Moberly](#);  
**Subject:** BNDN WWH Report - for feedback  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#6818862-v3-What\_We\_Heard\_Report\_-\_Rook\_1\_-\_BNDN.docx  
**Sent:** 2023-07-25 12:48:10 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged  
Good morning Chief Sylvestre ,

Over the recent months, CNSC staff have been implementing a new practice of developing “What We Heard” reports, in response to Indigenous Knowledge studies. The purpose of this document is to summarize what CNSC staff understood from BNDN’s Traditional Knowledge and Use Study, for discussion purposes. We welcome comments from BNDN on how we have captured this information and would be happy to meet and discuss further if needed. Once finalized, CNSC would work with BNDN to ensure that the information captured is accurate for sharing with CNSC subject matter experts to ensure a fulsome review of future iterations of the Rook I draft EIS.

We are seeking feedback on the report by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Thank you,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis  
Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [Trina Schmid](#)  
**Cc:** [Chief Jonathon P Sylvestre](#); [Eric Sylvestre](#); [jimmymontgrand50@gmail.com](#); [lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca](#); [Luke Moger](#); [Melissa Scansen](#); [Simon Pollard](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [Boser, Sydney](#);  
**Subject:** RE: Birch Narrows Dene Nation Issues Validation Letter  
**Sent:** 2023-11-02 11:14:04 AM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Chief Sylvestre,

Thank you very much for this correspondence. I will be in touch shortly with the current status and next steps on the EA process. We will also be posting this letter to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry once the Federal Indigenous Review Team technical review is complete.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss, please reach out any time!

Best Regards,

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657

---

**From:** Trina Schmid <[trina.schmid@bnddi.ca](mailto:trina.schmid@bnddi.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 31, 2023 3:49 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chief Jonathon P Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>; Eric Sylvestre <[eric\\_sylvestre@icloud.com](mailto:eric_sylvestre@icloud.com)>; [jimmymontgrand50@gmail.com](mailto:jimmymontgrand50@gmail.com); [lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:lcuryer@nxe-energy.ca); [Luke Moger@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:Luke Moger@nxe-energy.ca); [Melissa Scansen@mcsansen@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:Melissa Scansen@mcsansen@nxe-energy.ca); [Simon Pollard@bnddi.ca](mailto:Simon Pollard@bnddi.ca)  
**Subject:** Birch Narrows Dene Nation Issues Validation Letter

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Good afternoon,

On behalf of Chief Sylvestre from Birch Narrows Dene Nation, please find attached a letter sharing that through the work of the BNDN / NexGen environmental committee, the issues and concerns identified by BNDN in regards to Rook I that can be addressed at this time have been resolved. Regarding those issues and concerns that will need to be addressed during the Project lifespan, NexGen and BNDN have developed processes to resolve these concerns in the future.

For Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

Trina Schmid  
BNDDI



October 29, 2023

Nicole Frigault  
Environmental Assessment Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

**RE: Rook I Project – Issues and Concerns Validation**

Dear Ms. Frigault,


On behalf of the Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), please accept this letter as BNDN's formal notice that NexGen has responded to our issues and concerns raised during advancement of the Rook I Project (Project) and through the environmental assessment (EA) process conducted for the Project.

NexGen and the BNDN continue to meaningfully engage throughout the EA process for the Project. During engagement activities with NexGen, we have had the opportunity to share issues and concerns identified by the BNDN with respect to the Project and the ongoing EA process. In 2021, the BNDN and NexGen signed a Mutual Benefit Agreement (MBA) with respect to the Project; under this MBA, the BNDN and NexGen jointly participate in committees formed in connection with the Project and its ongoing EA, which have provided additional opportunities to convey our issues and concerns and have NexGen respond to them.

The Environmental Committee, established under the MBA, completed a review and validation process to address the issues and concerns identified by the BNDN with respect to the Project; this process was completed to satisfy the Federal EA validation requirement. As part of this process through the Environmental Committee, a consolidated list of issues and concerns, along with NexGen's responses and the mutually agreed upon key accommodations and mitigations that either have been or will be implemented to resolve the issues and concerns, underwent review through a series of meetings and activities undertaken by the Environmental Committee. Final validation of the consolidated list of issues and concerns, responses provided by NexGen, and mutually agreed upon key mitigations and accommodations occurred during an in-person workshop conducted between NexGen and the BNDN on 15 August 2023. The final issues and concerns documentation resulting from this validation workshop has been provided as an attachment to this cover letter. BNDN's understanding is that this documentation will also be provided within NexGen's Final EIS submission to the CNSC.

Please consider this letter as confirmation that the BNDN and NexGen have collaboratively identified, discussed, and resolved the issues and concerns identified by BNDN with respect to the Project. We confirm that all issues and concerns that can be addressed at this time have been resolved, and for issues and concerns that can only be addressed during the Project lifespan, NexGen and BNDN have developed the necessary approaches and methods to resolve these concerns at the appropriate times in the future.

Marci cho,



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre

Cc: BNDN Council Elect  
Trina Schmid, BNDN Implementation Coordinator – NexGen/BNDN Mutual Benefit Agreement  
Eric Sylvestre, BNDN Regulatory Lead – NexGen/BNDN Mutual Benefit Agreement  
Jimmy Montgrand, BNDN Environmental Committee Member – NexGen/BNDN Mutual Benefit Agreement  
Leigh Curyer, President of NexGen  
Adam Engdahl, Vice President – Community, NexGen  
Luke Moger, Vice President – Environment, Permitting & Licensing, NexGen  
Melissa Scansen, NexGen Regulatory Lead – NexGen/BNDN Mutual Benefit Agreement

**From:** [Boser, Sydney](#)  
**To:** [Keegan McGrath](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Rory Duncan](#); [John Glover](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); [Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [simon.pollard@bnddi.ca](mailto:simon.pollard@bnddi.ca); [norma.catarat@brdn.ca](mailto:norma.catarat@brdn.ca);  
**Cc:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Froess, Ryan](#);  
**Subject:** BNDN, BRDN & CNSC Meeting on NexGen - Summary Notes May 21st  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#7032579-v2-ISCF-Contribution-Funding-Application-Form\\_EN.PDF](#); [BNDN & BRDN CNSC Meeting Notes - May 21st 2024.docx](#);  
**Sent:** 2024-05-23 12:09:21 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning,

Thank you everyone for taking the time to meet with us earlier this week on the NexGen project. Above I have attached the notes from our meeting – please let me know if you have any comments on the notes and I will make those changes. I have also attached our funding application for anyone who may be interested. For Stream 1 funding the deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup> and then Stream 3 doesn't have a deadline so it could be submitted at anytime.

Here is the link to the Provincial EA Approval for NexGen - [provincial EA ministerial approval](#) and then under Condition #13, it talks about the road maintenance and upgrades that NexGen must enter into prior to the construction of the project.

Once NexGen EIS is deemed acceptable and we have moved into the 90-day technical review, CNSC will reach out to begin setting up a meeting for early September to discuss the review more in-depth and bring in our technical experts to answer any questions.

Looking forward to our future discussions and potentially seeing some of you next week in community!

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
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Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

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Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

## **BNDN, BRDN & CNSC Meeting**

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
Virtual

<b>CNSC Attendees</b>	<b>BNDN &amp; BRDN Attendees</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sydney Nickolet</li><li>• Nicole Frigault</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keegan McGrath</li><li>• Trevor Moberly</li><li>• Rory Duncan</li><li>• Simon Pollard</li><li>• John Glover</li><li>• Terrie Campbell</li><li>• Chief Norma Catarat</li><li>• Chief Jonathon Sylvestre</li></ul>

### **Agenda**

- 1) Status Update on the NexGen Rook I Project
- 2) CNSC Fall Tour

### **Meeting Notes**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Status Update on the NexGen Rook I Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC hasn't gotten the official package information for the EIS but is planning for it to come in at some point today from NexGen. This package will include NexGen's responses to outstanding information requests (IR's), an updated revised EIS and technical supporting documents, as well as a Commitments Report that will outline all mitigation measures, follow up measures, as well as all commitments that have been made to Indigenous Nations and communities.</li><li>• Upon receipt of NexGen's submission, CNSC staff will carry out a 30-day completeness check on the information to ensure there is enough information to carry out a technical review, and once the submission passes the completeness check, a 90-day Federal Indigenous review team (FIRT) technical review will commence.</li><li>• The FIRT is made up of several different subject matter experts (SMEs) from a variety of federal departments including Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Health Canada (HC) as well as members of the Clearwater River Dene Nation, and Métis Nation Saskatchewan.</li><li>• There are several outstanding IRs that are in relation to a variety of things including effluent discharge, protection of surface water and groundwater, air quality, worker health and safety, protection of species at risk – including Caribou, as well as protection of wetlands, to name a few. NexGen will need to address all of these outstanding IRs to the satisfaction of the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) prior to the EIS being accepted as Final and prior to proceeding to preparing for a public commission hearing.</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BNDN and BRDN would like to set up a technical meeting with the SME's to hear from them and their review on the EIS once the technical review is wrapping up. CNSC can set up this meeting for mid-August to early-September to give BNDN and BRDN an update on the technical review and answer any questions that may arise. This would be a longer meeting where we would walk through the IRs and outstanding comments raised by SME's.</li> <li>• BNDN and BRDN will be asking NexGen for the EIS document once ready after the 30-day completeness check. CNSC will also post the documents on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry <a href="#">project page</a> once it passes the completeness check.</li> <li>• BNDN asked about how the cumulative effects from the proposed Fission project have been / will be taken into account and considered in the Rook I EA – being that there is now more information available on the proposed Fission project than what would have been available at the time the Rook EIS was first drafted. CNSC will take this question back to the SME's who have reviewed both projects and CNSC staff suggested that BNDN also raise this directly to NexGen for them to be consistent in models with Fission to reduce cumulative impacts in the Region.</li> <li>• BNDN mentioned that they have concerns with all industry happening in their territory. "Anything that grows under the sun is concerning."</li> <li>• BNDN mentioned that the communities want this done right and want the environment protected. There are IBA's signed and there is talk of communities wanting it to move faster but BNDN wants to state that they have all the time in the world and want this to be done right and the proper protocols in place before the project moves to the next stage.</li> <li>• BNDN sent a letter to NexGen with a request to meet with NexGen executive on multiple items and will brief CNSC afterwards.</li> <li>• BRDN asked about road quality and how CNSC looks at that in terms of cumulative effects. This is a concern for BRDN as the roads are not safe and will have a lot of traffic on them with both projects advancing.</li> </ul>
<b>CNSC Fall Tour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNSC is planning a potential west side tour which would be CNSC lead for the fall of 2024. This would be an opportunity for CNSC to get into the region and provide the communities with updates on who the CNSC is, get into the schools and answer any questions the community may have.</li> <li>• CNSC is looking at early October for this – potentially the week of October 7<sup>th</sup> but CNSC will work with the communities to ensure it is a week that works for them.</li> <li>• CNSC would look to hold evening sessions with a supper which would include a presentation and an open house style booths. We would also plan to get into the schools in the afternoons.</li> <li>• BNDN and BRDN are interested in this and can support CNSC on planning this event.</li> <li>• CNSC will also be in the communities next week for the NexGen community information sessions where we will have a booth set up to discuss the project and answer any questions.</li> </ul>

### Action Item Summary

Responsible Party	Action Item
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will share the Stream 3 funding application with BNDN and BRDN (complete)</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will set up a meeting later this summer on the NexGen Rook I project to discuss the technical comments with the subject matter experts with BNDN and BRDN</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will share information and links on road quality in relation to provincial requirements with BNDN and BRDN (complete)</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will work with BNDN and BRDN representatives on the fall tour to narrow down dates</li></ul>
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will look into if BNDN and BRDN could include a representative on the FIRT for the NexGen project</li></ul>



Subject  
Objet

NexGen Northern Community Tour – Trip Report for UMMD, ERD & ISRD: Northern Saskatchewan – May 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Location:** Dillon, Turnor Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche and Clearwater River in Northern Saskatchewan

**Dates:** Monday May 27<sup>th</sup>-Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**CNSC Participants:** Dana Pandolfi, Senior Project Officer, UMMD; Maria Healy, Project Officer, UMMD; Shannon O'Neill, Environmental Review Officer, ERD; Sydney Nickolet, Policy Officer, ISRD and Rachel Lane, Radiation and Health Science Specialist, HSECD

**Event:** NexGen Northern Community Tour

**Background:** CNSC staff from UMMD, ERD, HSECD and ISRD attended the NexGen Northern Community Tour from Monday May 27<sup>th</sup> until Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup> in multiple northern Saskatchewan communities including Turnor Lake, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, and Clearwater River. This is the third year that CNSC has accompanied NexGen on this community tour where CNSC set up a booth in 5 different northern communities to talk about who we are, our role on the NexGen project as well as answer any questions that community members have about the CNSC. Due to the Fission Patterson Lake South (PLS) project being located across the lake from the NexGen Rook I project, CNSC was also able to speak to community members and share information regarding both projects. The display booth included outreach materials and information pamphlets.

### Highlights:

- NexGen invited the high school students to participate in the events which allowed for many youth to attend the CNSC booth. Approximately 100 community members visited the booth over the course of the three days.
- NexGen also invited different northern educational supports to also set up a booth in all communities where they were able to support students on applying for post secondary education and employment after high school.
- Many of the questions posed by community members consisted of our role and of nuclear activities in Canada, timelines for the NexGen project, protection of the environment and monitoring. We also heard concerns regarding the NexGen and Fission projects being right door next to each other and cumulative effects we may see developing due close proximity of the proposed projects. Lastly, there were also concerns regarding the length of the approval process, and many community members were supportive of NexGen moving forward for economic reasons.
- CNSC staff were also able to provide information about the difference between CNSC's role with respect to the NexGen federal environmental assessment and the Fission provincial environmental assessment.

### Lessons Learned:

- At this event, most of our outreach materials were very popular with the community members. For example, the fishing lures and camping mugs were very popular at this event. However, most people were struggling to carry around all the swag from each booth in their hands. In the future and if available, CNSC should order the CNSC branded bags for outreach events to make it easier for booth attendees to receive a bit of everything including the hand outs. Creative Services should ensure that CNSC branded bags are always in stock.
- Having some type of game at the booth in order to limit the amount of swag that is given out would also be beneficial (i.e., a prize wheel or plinko style game).
- The CNSC's booth would be more eye-catching if it involved more dimension (such as acrylic stands for pamphlets and displays for outreach materials).

### Next Steps:

- It is recommended that CNSC staff continue attending the NexGen Northern Community Tour every year as it is a great opportunity to talk with members directly in their community and to hear about concerns and questions relating to the NexGen and Fission projects.
- CNSC is planning a regulator-led community tour for the fall of 2024 where we are planning to visit the same communities, give a presentation in the schools and provide a supper and community meeting in the evenings. Ideally, this would be done in coordination with the Province of Saskatchewan.



Figure 1: CNSC team at the booth in Turnor Lake, SK

**From:** [Boser, Sydney](#)  
**To:** [Keegan McGrath](#); [John Glover](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](#);  
**Cc:** [McKeown, Justin](#); [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Froess, Ryan](#);  
**Subject:** CNSC & BNDN - Aug 26th Meeting Notes and Next Meeting Times  
**Attachments:** [E-DOCS-#7350780-v1-BNDN\\_&\\_CNSC\\_Meeting\\_Notes\\_on\\_Fission\\_and\\_NexGen\\_-\\_Aug\\_26th.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2024-08-28 12:14:53 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Everyone,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us and see attached the notes from our meeting on Monday. As for our next meeting to discuss the NexGen project, please see below some days/times that CNSC is available. Please let me know if any of these work for BNDN and I can send out an invite –

- Friday September 13<sup>th</sup> 10am-11am CST
- Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> 10am-11am CST
- Friday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm-2pm CST
- Monday September 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:30am-10:30am CST

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nickolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis  
Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

## **BNDN & CNSC Fission/NexGen Meeting**

August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Virtual

<b>CNSC Attendees</b>	<b>BNDN &amp; BRDN Attendees</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sydney Nickolet</li><li>• Justin McKeown</li><li>• Maria Healy</li><li>• Nicole Frigault</li><li>• Rain Noakes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keegan McGrath</li><li>• John Glover</li><li>• Trevor Moberly</li><li>• Terrie Campbell</li><li>• Robert Sylvester</li></ul>

### **Agenda**

- 1) **Project Update on the Fission Patterson South Project**
- 2) **Project Update on the NexGen Rook I Project**
- 3) **CNSC Fall Tour**

### **Meeting Notes**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Project Update on the Fission Patterson South Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fission is still in the early stages of the licensing process and is focusing more heavily of the EA process with the Province right now.</li><li>• BNDN has looked at the Fission EIS and has submitted comments back to Fission and are waiting for responses to their comments; Fission has indicated they want to wait to respond until approval of the EA and BNDN disagreed with this approach and has requested the responses be submitted before EA approval.</li><li>• BNDN is very interested in being a part of the conversations on water quality for licensing as those move forward with CNSC and Fission.</li><li>• BNDN will be meeting with the Province in September to talk through their concerns on the EIS as a follow-up from the meeting BNDN had earlier this year.</li><li>• Fission has submitted their responses to the comments from both the Province and CNSC and both parties are reviewing those responses now. The review is due back to the Province in mid-September.</li><li>• BNDN raised the letter from MN-S and concerns on the Metis potentially trying to halt the project. It was noted to BNDN representatives that no Nation has veto power over project decisions.</li></ul>
<b>Project Update on the NexGen Rook I Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC is currently wrapping up the technical review for this round of NexGen responses and the revised EIS. The comments from the Federal Indigenous Review Team (FIRT) were submitted to CNSC on Friday so CNSC is currently reviewing those comments from subject matter experts.</li><li>• CNSC should be getting back to NexGen with everyone's review from the FIRT by September 21<sup>st</sup></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BNDN has attended a workshop with NexGen on caribou and the off-setting plan as part of NexGen's Caribou Working Group, but NexGen hasn't shared the plan with BNDN yet. BNDN's involvement has been very superficial to date. BNDN wants to see the full report not just slides related to it.</li> <li>• CNSC recommends putting in another request to see that report again</li> <li>• What level is the Province involved in the off-setting plan? The Province has a big role to play and they look at the big picture of the region. NexGen has to work with the Province on this plan and caribou off-setting.</li> <li>• Caribou off-setting and mitigation is a condition of the approved provincial EA for NexGen and needs to be satisfied before full approval.</li> <li>• Fire protection is considered within the plan due to forest fires</li> <li>• BNDN is having troubles getting responses from NexGen. There has been some changes from BNDN's side on consultation as BNDDI (economic development arm) was running that process before and in June 2024. Chief and council made the decision to change to a community-based approach for consultation with NexGen.</li> <li>• Currently there are 127 comments from BNDN that haven't been responded to by NexGen. BNDN wants NexGen to respond to those comments by August 30<sup>th</sup> latest and will keep CNSC in the loop on how that develops.</li> <li>• CNSC reviews the issue and concerns tables to ensure the Nations are satisfied with the tables that are presented in the EIS and have been validated by the community. If something has changed and the Nation is no longer satisfied with the tables, that is something CNSC takes seriously.</li> <li>• The issues and concerns tables are not validated by BNDN and comments have not been responded to by NexGen to BNDN</li> <li>• Before the EIS is deemed final, CNSC confirms with each Nation that their issues and concerns tables have been accepted by the community.</li> <li>• Forest fires and protection of the environment are a huge concern to BNDN not just on NexGen project but with many projects in the territory including exploration.</li> <li>• BNDN shares concerns on the cumulative effects on Patterson Lake and in the region with the 2 projects. BNDN is very supportive of a regional cumulative effects assessment to determine the effects of both projects in the Region and sees the lack of a regional assessment as a deficiency in the assessment process.</li> </ul>
<b>CNSC Fall Tour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNSC is planning a potential west side tour which would be CNSC lead for the fall of 2024. This would be an opportunity for CNSC to get into the region and provide the communities with updates on who the CNSC is, get into the schools and answer any questions the community may have regarding the NexGen and Fission projects.</li> <li>• CNSC is looking at the week of October 7<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• CNSC would look to hold evening sessions with a supper which would include a presentation and an open house style booths. We would also plan to get into the schools in the afternoons for community outreach.</li> </ul>

### Action Item Summary

Responsible Party	Action Item
CNSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CNSC will send out dates for our next meeting sometime in mid-September and follow up on next steps (complete)</li></ul>
BNDN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To confirm if the week of October 7<sup>th</sup> works for the community for CNSC to come down and have meetings in the community</li></ul>
BNDN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To let CNSC know how the process is going with NexGen and if they have responded to their comments on the EIS by Aug 30<sup>th</sup></li></ul>



## **BNDN & CNSC NexGen Meeting**

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Virtual

<b>CNSC Attendees</b>	<b>BNDN Attendees</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sydney Nickolet</li><li>• Nicole Frigault</li><li>• Ryan Froess</li><li>• Dana Pandolfi</li><li>• Adam Levine</li><li>• Rain Noakes</li><li>• Justin McKeown</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• John Glover (Tamarack)</li><li>• Trevor Moberly (BNDN)</li><li>• Terrie Campbell (BNDN)</li><li>• Robert Sylvester (BNDN)</li><li>• Rodney Laprise (BNDN)</li><li>• Chief Jonathon Sylvestre (BNDN)</li><li>• Kate Kempton (legal counsel)</li><li>• Andrew Bubar (Tamarack)</li><li>• Nick Leeson (legal counsel)</li></ul>

### **Agenda**

- 1) **Project Update on the NexGen Rook I Project**
  - a. **Updates from CNSC**
  - b. **Updates from BNDN**

### **Meeting Notes**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Project Update on the NexGen Rook I Project – BNDN Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BNDN requested that NexGen reply to BNDN’s comments on the EIS by Aug 30<sup>th</sup> and NexGen didn’t meet that deadline, but BNDN did receive the comments on Monday from NexGen.</li><li>• BNDN is seeing in the responses that NexGen claims that at least half of the comments have been addressed by BNDN however, they are not as the workshop groups/committees included the economic arm and not BNDN directly. BNDN has requested updates on discussions from these workshops from NexGen but hasn’t got substantial information provided.</li><li>• BNDN has been working to put together new EC committees and new workshop groups to work through the comments and outstanding concerns on the project with NexGen.</li><li>• BNDN has concerns on water quality and that is what a lot of the technical comments revolve around.</li><li>• BNDN does not have any clarity or record on how these comments or concerns have been addressed or resolved in the updated EIS.</li><li>• BNDN wants to review these plans i.e. water quality plans prior to NexGen or others approving these plans.</li><li>• NexGen told BNDN that they don’t ‘need to’ respond to the comments as part of the process right now but BNDN believes they sent the responses due to BNDN raising this with CNSC or else they wouldn’t have received them when they did.</li></ul>



<b>From:</b>	<a href="#">Rodney Laprise</a>
<b>To:</b>	<a href="#">Rook1 Project / Projet Rook1 (CNSC/CCSN)</a> ; <a href="#">Froess, Ryan</a> ; <a href="#">Frigault, Nicole</a> ; <a href="#">Boser, Sydney</a> ; <a href="#">McKeown, Justin</a> ; <a href="#">Chief Jonathon P Sylvestre</a> ; <a href="#">Trevor Moberly</a> ; <a href="#">Robert Sylvester</a> ; <a href="#">Kim Sylvestre</a> ; <a href="#">Conrad Sylvester</a> ; <a href="#">Terrie Campbell</a> ; <a href="#">Keegan McGrath</a> ; <a href="#">John Glover</a> ; <a href="#">kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com</a> ;
<b>Cc:</b>	
<b>Subject:</b>	Letter from Birch Narrows Dene Nation on NexGen Rook I Project
<b>Attachments:</b>	<a href="#">BNDN_NexGen_Rook1_EIS Responses_2024.10.03_FINAL.pdf</a>
<b>Sent:</b>	2024-10-03 3:53:26 PM
<b>Follow Up Flag:</b>	Follow up
<b>Flag Status:</b>	Flagged
EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE	

Good afternoon Nicole,

As a follow up to our previous meetings, please find attached a letter from Birch Narrows Dene Nation regarding the rescindment of previous letters from BNDN, and an update on the EIS issues resolution process with NexGen. This includes a detailed table of the status of all comments. We have shared this table with NexGen as well.

We are happy to discuss with CNSC further, and are very much interested in meeting with CNSC in our community in November.

Marci cho,

Rodney Laprise  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation – Implementation Coordinator



**Birch Narrows Dene  
Nation**

General Delivery  
Turnor Lake, SK  
S0M 3E0

October 3, 2024

Nicole Frigault  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9  
Canada

Dear Ms. Frigault,

**Re: Birch Narrows Dene Nation - Outstanding Issues on the Rook 1 Environmental  
Impact Statement**

I am writing this letter to communicate two important messages on behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN).

**1. Rescindment of letters dated November 15, 2022 and October 29, 2023.**

Firstly, BNDN is writing to inform the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC; the Commission) that we are formally rescinding our letters on the public registry dated November 15, 2022 and October 29, 2023 that indicated that our Nation deems all of our comments and concerns with the Rook 1 Project (the Project) draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) addressed or solely to be addressed at the Environmental Committee in our agreement with NexGen Energy (NexGen; the Proponent). Our Nation was profoundly misled by a former employee of our economic development corporation into submitting these letters.

Our concerns with the Project, which were developed through rigorous engagement with our membership and endorsed by our leadership, were provided to the CNSC in our EIS Review submitted on October 12, 2022. These comments have not in fact been addressed by NexGen either in writing or at the Environmental Committee. The comments and recommendations in our review of the draft EIS are significant concerns to our membership. Given the potential impacts of the Project on our

ability to exercise our Treaty and Aboriginal rights, it is important to our Nation that NexGen provide written responses to all of our comments in writing so that we can work with them and the CNSC to address our concerns.

We wish to engage in good faith with both the Proponent and the CNSC in respect of the Federal Environmental Assessment with the goal of avoiding and mitigating to the maximum possible extent the potential impacts to our rights from the Project. For this to occur, it is necessary to undertake an issue resolution process on our draft EIS comments in order to satisfy the duty to consult. That duty, under Canadian law that binds the Proponent and CNSC, always includes the duty to substantially address the First Nation’s concerns (which is called “accommodation”). The duty cannot be met otherwise. Our Nation is committed to addressing our numerous outstanding concerns with the Project in as expedient of a manner as possible, working with both the CNSC and NexGen. We have included more information on this process below.

**2. Issue Resolution on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

Secondly, as noted above, BNDN is rescinding the table titled “Summary of Issues and Concerns Received from the Birch Narrows Dene Nation and Responses” shared as an attachment to the Oct 29, 2023 letter. This summary misrepresented and oversimplified the concerns raised by our Nation.

In its place, BNDN is providing an updated summary of issues on the Rook I EIS (Appendix A). These comments were drawn directly from internal community engagement sessions with our membership and were approved by Chief and Council to be submitted formally to the federal impact assessment registry. Our submission included 99 comments with 150 recommendations that focused on means by which the Crown and the Proponent could avoid, mitigate and apply other measures to accommodate some of the potential impacts to our Nation’s ability to exercise our Treaty and Aboriginal rights.

On September 9, 2024, NexGen finally provided written responses to our October 12, 2022 comments on the draft EIS. In the table below we have provided our assessment of whether NexGen has satisfactorily addressed the concerns raised, and our rationale for the assessment. Based on our assessment of NexGen responses (Appendix A), the status of the recommendations in our review are as follows:

- Addressed: 18
- Provisionally Addressed: 12
- Partially Addressed: 5
- Not Addressed: 93
- N/A 1

All unaddressed comments within the attached table are considered key outstanding concerns for BNDN. We emphasize that all comments require thorough review and resolution.

### **Path Forward**

We have shared the attached table with NexGen and hope to work through these issues over the coming weeks and months to find adequate resolution. We look forward to working collaboratively with both the Proponent and the CNSC to address these outstanding environmental issues which are of significant concern to our Nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathon Sylvestre', is written over a light gray circular background.

Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation

**From:** [Frigault, Nicole](#)  
**To:** [John Glover](#); [McKeown, Justin](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [Jonathon Sylvestre](#);  
**Cc:** [Trevor Moberly](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](#); [Andrew Bubar](#); [Boser, Sydney](#); [Keegan McGrath](#); [Levine, Adam](#);  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up  
**Sent:** 2024-11-20 12:14:41 PM

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**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged  
Good morning Jon,

The EIS has not yet been accepted as Final. The recent correspondence between CNSC and NexGen was to communicate to NexGen that all responses to (Federal Indigenous Review Team) FIRT information requests (IRs) and Advice to the Proponent comments are now deemed as accepted.

As outlined in the correspondence, NexGen must now submit a Final EIS package, including responses to the Consolidated Comments from Indigenous Nations and Communities and the Public on the NexGen Rook I Project, updated technical support documents, as well as an updated Commitments Report and an updated Indigenous Engagement Report (IER). Once received, the submission will undergo a 30-day review by CNSC staff to ensure all documents have been updated accordingly **and that all comments from Indigenous Nations and Communities and members of the public have been addressed in an acceptable manner.**

**IF** and when CNSC staff deems the submission as acceptable, staff will notify NexGen that the EIS has been accepted as Final and that CNSC staff will draft the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) EA Report summarizing the results of the technical review and staff's recommendations to the Commission.

With regards to the community meeting, would some time during the week of December 9 work for BNDN? If you could please let me know asap on dates/interest that would be great – thank you!

Best Regards,

Nicole  
**Nicole Frigault**  
Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 343-542-7657

---

**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:55 AM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](mailto:rodney_laprise@hotmail.com); [andrew.bubar@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew.bubar@tamarackenvironmental.ca); Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Good morning Nicole and Ryan,

I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of BNDN we are writing to express concern with the decision to deem the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the NexGen Rook 1 project complete. This conclusion comes as a surprise, especially given the unresolved issues and the lack of meaningful engagement with BNDN. We are particularly disheartened that this decision was made without holding the community and technical sessions we were planning for December. These consultations are crucial for addressing BNDN's concerns and ensuring that community voices are heard. We urge the CNSC to prioritize resolving all outstanding issues related to the Rook 1 project before moving any further in the regulatory process. Continued consultation with BNDN is essential for fostering trust, collaboration and fulfilling the Duty to Consult.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

John

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**John Glover**  
Director, Environmental & Management Consultant

**Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.**  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

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**From:** McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 29, 2024 3:18 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca; rodney.laprise@hotmail.com; Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com; Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

Hi John,

Ryan is currently out of the office so I am helping pick up this discussion.

We completely understand the request for an in-person meeting with Chief and Council. Full disclosure we will be limited in the number of staff available to come to the community but we would look at sending 2-3 people for certain, and then have key subject matter experts available virtually for any technical questions being asked as indicated below.

With the above, would any dates work for the community during the week of December 2<sup>nd</sup>? This may represent the best chance for us to come up to the community before Christmas/New Year. However, if there is another time that works please advise.

Thanks for your time and if you wish to discuss over phone please do not hesitate to call.

Take care.

-Justin  
403-466-7185

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**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024 9:57 AM  
**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca; rodney.laprise@hotmail.com; Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com; Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Hi Ryan,

Thanks for getting back to us.

On the community meeting with CNSC: Chief and Council would prefer in-person. Virtual meetings have not been very successful in the past. **Chief and Council requests this Community Meeting takes place before the Project advances any further in the regulatory process.**

On the technical meeting for the comments: we are open to the proposed hybrid option. Please send us a few dates when you have them.

All the best,  
John

**John Glover**  
Director, Environmental & Management Consultant  
**Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.**  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 24, 2024 5:41 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca; rodney.laprise@hotmail.com; Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>



[kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com](mailto:kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com); Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

Good afternoon John and Chief Sylvestre,

Unfortunately, we will not be able to make later November work at this time to come to BNDN. I do think there may be possibility of setting something up in-person in the community in the future but we are also wondering if something virtual would be option? Has BNDN had virtual community meetings before and if so were how were they received by the community? We do have some funding that may be able to help if required to BNDN is lacking the cameras and tech needed through our ISCF program to help support. Let us know if that is something of interest and we can work on something together.

We would also like to set up a time in November to discuss some more of the technical comments that BNDN had that are outstanding with regards to certain topics. I will work with Nicole and our team to find a time when our SMEs can meet to discuss. Perhaps we can dig into a few different areas and that may require a few separate meetings. We can do a few hybrid meetings and host some in office in Saskatoon if that works better?

We will be in touch with some potential dates that work and hopefully we can find a few times to connect in the coming month.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2024 10:19 AM

**To:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; [robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca); [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](mailto:rodney_laprise@hotmail.com); Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; [kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com](mailto:kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com); Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Hi Ryan,

Thanks for reaching out on this it's a great idea, BNDN is very much interested having CSNC to the community. Unfortunately, the week of Nov 18<sup>th</sup> is crammed for Chief and Council with the MLTC Leadership Summit and travel to meetings in Saskatoon.

Council does have some availability the following week on both November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> to host CNSC.

Let us know if you can make those dates work.

All the best,  
John

**John Glover**  
Director, Environmental & Management Consultant  
**Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.**  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** October 11, 2024 12:59 PM

**To:** Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>

**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; [robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca); [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](mailto:rodney_laprise@hotmail.com); Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; [kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com](mailto:kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com); Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre ,

We are currently looking at heading up to northwestern Saskatchewan the week of **November 18 -22, 2024** and would like to come meet in and with BNDN (and with leadership in afternoon if available) but also to hold a community evening event and

host a supper. We were thinking from 4- 8 pm and we could help to support a supper and we would work with the community to advertise to get folks out to learn more about who we are and how we regulate uranium mining through a number presentations that would allow community to ask questions and for us to hear any ongoing concerns.

I have reached out and heard back from a number CNSC staff with different specialties as well as the provincial counterparts who help to regulate uranium mining in Saskatchewan. We have a number of people that are available and we would value any feedback and questions your community may have as we continue to advance through the regulatory process.

We had hoped we could get **2 potential dates the week of Nov 18 week that might work best for BNDN and confirmation if BNDN is interested next Friday if possible ?** We can support the community supper through our ISCF grants program and I can attach a funding application in my next response to help expediate the process if interested. I know we are also planning on setting up a technical meeting (s) as well in the coming month so we can discuss some logistics at these meetings as well if that works. Let us know what you think and if you had any further questions on the community visit please reach out.

Have a good long weekend,

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** Froess, Ryan  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2024 2:20 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; [robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca); [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](mailto:rodney_laprise@hotmail.com); Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; [kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com](mailto:kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com)  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

Hi John,

Thanks for the response. The CNSC had planned to look at something in October but unfortunately we have a Commission hearing taking place October 23-24 that is pulling away some staff and resources for that so we needed to reschedule. There is also a provincial election taking place here in Saskatchewan on October 28 and we would like to have the province to involved in the outreach opportunities and they will not be able to attend until after the election.

We are currently looking at heading up to the northwest the week of November 18 to meet with several Indigenous Nations and communities in the region. We would be happy to work with BNDN to meet and provide presentation and answer any questions community members have about the projects located at Patterson Lake area. We can support a community supper and some logistics (hall rental, other) through our Participant Funding Program to help support this event and would look to BNDN to help organize a venue and advertise the events in advance. We're in the early stages of planning but it will take some effort and community support to pull together so want to start planning early but wanted to check if there would be community interest in this type of event and if this week would work for your community first before we get too far. Let me know what your thoughts and we will be in touch as things advance and we begin planning for the fall.

In the meantime we would also be happy to reach out our subject mater experts and set up any meetings to help answer any questions BNDN may have on the technical side in support of your community sessions taking place on October 24 if this something that is of interest to BNDN.

Thanks,

Ryan Froess  
Senior Advisor/Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Conseiller principal/Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | Tél. Cell: 306-914-7892

---

**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2024 1:27 PM  
**To:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca; rodney\_laprise@hotmail.com; Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com

**Subject:** RE: BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Thanks Sydney, we will get back to you with any comments.

We are on an internal call now and the group is interested in having the community meeting with CNSC we discussed last call. What dates would the CNSC be available?

We have some work happening around Oct 24<sup>th</sup> that we could build around.

Best,  
John

**John Glover**  
Director, Environmental & Management Consultant  
**Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.**  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Nickolet, Sydney <[sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2024 1:57 PM  
**To:** Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; robert.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca; rodney\_laprise@hotmail.com; Andrew Bubar <[andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:andrew@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com  
**Subject:** BNDN & CNSC - September 13th Meeting Notes and Follow Up

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre,

I wanted to thank you and the BNDN team for taking the time to meet with us on Friday September 13<sup>th</sup> regarding the NexGen project. Above I have attached the notes from our discussion, please let us know if you have any comments on the notes provided.

I will be away for a few weeks but for any further questions regarding our meeting or to schedule another meeting to discuss any outstanding technical concerns that BNDN has, please reach out to Ryan Froess or Nicole Frigault who are copied on this email.

I hope you have a great weekend!

Thanks,

Sydney Nickolet (she/her/elle)

Policy Officer, Indigenous and Stakeholder Relations Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
Email: [sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

Agent(e) des politiques, Division des relations avec les Autochtones et les parties intéressées  
Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email: [sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.nicolet@cnscccsn.gc.ca)  
**New** Phone Number: 343-596-9556

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis  
Je reconnais que la terre sur laquelle je vis et travaille est le territoire traditionnel du Traité 6 et la patrie des Métis*

---

**Subject:** Agenda and comments to be discussed attached - BNDN-CNSC SME Meeting - Rook I Discussions - Water

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Start:** Thu 2025-01-16 2:00 PM

**End:** Thu 2025-01-16 4:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Frigault, Nicole

**Required Attendees:** Frigault, Nicole; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre; Trevor Moberly; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; rodney\_laprise@hotmail.com; Andrew Bubar; Keegan McGrath; John Glover; Levine, Adam; Froess, Ryan; McConnell, Mandy; Sauvé, Daniel; Ethier, Adrienne; Lam, Jeffrey; Hamlat, Said; Mulye, Hemendra; Zheng, Qinghuai; Williamson, Elizabeth

**Optional Attendees:** Ryan Smith; Rodney Laprise; Fabian Mendoza, Melissa

Rook I EIS Discussion between BNDN and CNSC subject matter experts - focus of discussion will be water quality

Meeting Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Discussion of water quality concerns/BNDN comments (refer to attached table)
3. Next steps and scheduling of next meeting

---

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Phone conference ID: 552 718 502#

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---

**From:** [John Glover](#)  
[Frigault, Nicole](#); [Chief Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](#); [Andrew Bubar](#); [Keegan McGrath](#); [Levine, Adam](#); [Froess, Ryan](#); [McConnell, Mandy](#); [Sauvé, Daniel](#); [Ethier, Adrienne](#); [Lam, Jeffrey](#); [Hamlat, Said](#); [Mulye, Hemendra](#); [Zheng, Qinghuai](#); [Williamson, Elizabeth](#);  
**To:** [Ryan Smith](#); [Rodney Laprise](#);  
**Cc:** [Ryan Smith](#); [Rodney Laprise](#);  
**Subject:** RE: Agenda and comments to be discussed attached - BNDN-CNSC SME Meeting - Rook I Discussions - Water  
**Attachments:** [BNDN\\_NexGen\\_LetterToCNSC\\_2025.01.27.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-01-28 3:59:15 PM

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed  
EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Hello Nicole and Ryan,

Please find attached a letter from Birch Narrows Chief and Council.

Thank you,  
John

—  
**John Glover**  
Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 19, 2024 3:35 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre; Trevor Moberly; [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); [rodney\\_laprise@hotmail.com](mailto:rodney_laprise@hotmail.com); Andrew Bubar; Keegan McGrath; John Glover; Levine, Adam; Froess, Ryan; McConnell, Mandy; Sauvé, Daniel; Ethier, Adrienne; Lam, Jeffrey; Hamlat, Said; Mulye, Hemendra; Zheng, Qinghuai; Williamson, Elizabeth  
**Cc:** Ryan Smith; Rodney Laprise  
**Subject:** Agenda and comments to be discussed attached - BNDN-CNSC SME Meeting - Rook I Discussions - Water  
**When:** January 16, 2025 2:00 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).  
**Where:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

Rook I EIS Discussion between BNDN and CNSC subject matter experts - focus of discussion will be water quality

Meeting Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Discussion of water quality concerns/BNDN comments (refer to attached table)
3. Next steps and scheduling of next meeting

---

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**Birch Narrows Dene Nation**  
General Delivery  
Turnor Lake, SK  
S0M 3E0

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Nicole Frigault  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9  
Canada

Ms. Frigault,

**Re: Disagreement with CNSC's Determination on NexGen Rook 1 Environmental Impact Statement**

On behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), I am writing to formally express our disagreement with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's determination that all concerns raised regarding the NexGen Rook 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) have been addressed. Specifically, we dispute the CNSC's conclusions regarding the adequacy of the water quality modeling and cumulative effects assessment, as outlined in our EIS comments #46, #47, and #48.

**Inadequate Water Quality Modeling and Flaws in Cumulative Effects Assessment**

The water quality modeling and cumulative effects assessment presented in the EIS are interconnected and suffer from critical flaws that, when considered together, highlight the fundamental inadequacy of the environmental assessment. While our Nation has provided substantial additional context in our regulatory submissions, the general concerns include the following:

1. **Sensitivity of Patterson Lake and Regional Acidification:** NexGen's data acknowledges the low buffering capacity of Patterson Lake and water bodies in the region, which makes them highly vulnerable to acidification. This issue is exacerbated by the documented cumulative impacts of sulfur dioxide emissions from Alberta's oil sands operations. Peer-reviewed evidence (e.g., Makar et al., 2018) indicates that lakes in this region are already exceeding critical acidity loads. Yet, NexGen's modeling entirely omits this critical regional factor, fundamentally undermining the credibility of its conclusions.
2. **Underestimation of Waste Rock Seepage Risks:** The EIS estimates that approximately 40% of the waste rock stored on-site will be potentially acid-generating (PAG). Despite this, NexGen's modeling unrealistically assumes that the remaining non-acid-generating (NAG) rock will sufficiently neutralize acid drainage. Given the region's existing acidification vulnerabilities, this assumption is overly optimistic and fails to account for the compounding effects of acidic precipitation on PAG rock that will consume neutralization potential. In addition, the geochemical modelling of waste rock seepage presented in the EIS excludes consideration of how seepage chemistry will evolve over time, exacerbating acidification and loading of contaminants to Patterson Lake (that already exceeds critical acidity loading).



3. **Incomplete Consideration of Long-Term Impacts:** The exclusion of cumulative regional acid deposition in water quality predictions results in an incomplete understanding of how Patterson Lake and surrounding ecosystems will respond to project activities. Combined with an absence of specific, enforceable mitigation measures, this oversight leaves dramatic environmental risks unaddressed.

When viewed together, these flaws reveal a systemic failure to account for the real and compounded risks posed by the Rook 1 Project to regional water quality and aquatic ecosystems through the Environmental Assessment Process. These inadequacies directly jeopardize the ecological health of our Nation's traditional lands and waters, as well as our ability to exercise constitutionally protected Treaty rights.

### Breach of Legal Obligations

The CNSC's acceptance of the NexGen Rook 1 EIS as complete in its current state risks breaching several obligations under CEAA 2012 and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Act (CNSA):

1. Section 19(1) of CEAA 2012: By not incorporating regional sulfur dioxide emissions and their cumulative impacts, the CNSC's assessment disregards a mandatory factor.
2. Section 5(1) of CEAA 2012: The failure to assess cumulative changes to water quality and subsequent impacts on Indigenous rights violates the requirement to evaluate environmental effects on Aboriginal peoples.
3. Section 9 of CNSA: The CNSC's mandate to prevent unreasonable risk to the environment is undermined when incomplete modeling and cumulative effects assessments are accepted.
4. Duty to Consult and Accommodate: By deeming all concerns addressed without meaningfully considering reasonable concerns raised by our Nation, the CNSC risks failing in its constitutional duty to meaningfully consult with and accommodate BNDN.

Furthermore, the CNSC is failing in its responsibility to assess the Project in accordance with the CNSA by not requiring NexGen to undertake a robust cumulative effects assessment despite our Nation submitting this request to the CNSC and NexGen in October 2022. This omission undermines the credibility of the environmental assessment process and fails to account for the compounding risks posed by regional and project-specific stressors. A thorough cumulative effects assessment is essential to ensure that the full scope of potential environmental and cultural impacts is properly understood.

The requested cumulative effects and water quality modelling will also ensure that any Project approval includes commensurate accommodation for our Nation and conditions of approval that are effective in mitigating impacts. The assessment as it currently stands, fails to consider the requisite information to uphold the Crown's honour and duty.

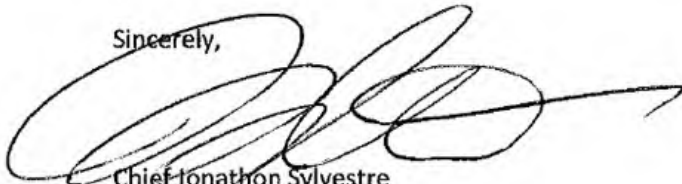
## Conclusion

BNDN maintains that the water quality modeling and cumulative effects assessment are incomplete and unreliable. Ignoring these deficiencies risks long-term, irreversible harm to our Nation's traditional lands and waters, cultural identity, and Treaty rights. We urge the CNSC to reconsider its determination and to require NexGen to:

1. Revise the water quality model to address Patterson Lake's sensitivity and include the cumulative impacts of regional acidic precipitation PRIOR to the EIS being deemed complete..
2. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the cumulative effects of the project, incorporating all relevant external stressors PRIOR to the EIS being deemed complete.
3. Develop enforceable, long-term mitigation measures in collaboration with BNDN to address these risks that must be consented to by BNDN prior to construction for the Project commencing.

Should these actions not be taken, BNDN may be compelled to explore all available avenues to ensure that our concerns are meaningfully addressed and that legal obligations are upheld.

Sincerely,



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation



**Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

General Delivery  
Turnor Lake, SK  
S0M 3E0

March 24, 2025

**Pierre Tremblay, President and CEO**

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater Street  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

**Re: Response to Clearwater River Dene Nation and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, Northern Region II Statement Regarding Immediate Approval of NexGen's Rook I Project**

President Tremblay,

On behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN), I am writing to respond to the statement issued by Clearwater River Dene Nation (CRDN) and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, Northern Region II, entitled *"Clearwater River Dene Nation and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, Northern Region II Calls for the Immediate Approval of NexGen's Rook I Project."*

BNDN does not agree with the assertion in CRDN's statement that: *"To be clear, the Province and all stakeholders have made it clear that this Project should and must be approved immediately."* We were not consulted in any way by CRDN and MNS before these statements were made. In fact, our Nation is highly supportive of the timeline proposed for the hearing to be prepared for properly, both by the Commission and by intervenors (such as our Nation). The CNSC, NexGen, and our Nation require time deal with unaddressed environmental and consultation issues. We have raised these issues with your staff. We must ensure the Project, if approved, is constructed and operated safely, in the best interest of impacted Indigenous Nations and Canadians more generally.

The handling of nuclear materials demands the highest standards of safety, transparency, and accountability. Any attempt to expedite or circumvent the established regulatory process for the sake of expediency would set an extraordinarily unacceptable precedent, particularly for a project of this magnitude and complexity. It is imperative that the Commission upholds its responsibility to ensure that all environmental, technical, and safety concerns are thoroughly examined and addressed before any decision is made, and that those considerations are fulsomely addressed in the Environmental Assessment Report and Conditions of Approval for the Project (which have not yet been drafted). It would be highly irresponsible of the CNSC and Canada to circumvent the law and critical procedural aspects of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Act (NSCA) when these procedural aspects form the guardrails against environmental disaster from projects handling nuclear material, such as the Rook 1 Project.

As you are aware, BNDN has raised several issues with CNSC staff regarding outstanding environmental, consultation and accommodation issues related to the Rook 1 Project. To date, those issues have not been rectified by CNSC or NexGen. As an agent of the Crown, the CNSC has a legal duty to consult and accommodate Indigenous peoples when its decisions may have an adverse impact on potential or established Indigenous and/or treaty rights. The CNSC's activities, including licensing and environmental reviews under the NSCA and other relevant legislation, must uphold the honour of the Crown and consider

Indigenous interests. BNDN considers any CNSC approval that purports to support and facilitate the emission of effluents into the environment, including into the water, that exceed regulatory limits, best available standards for environmental and human health and safety, would constitute a fundamental breach of BNDN's and its members' rights as follows:

- Its rights to life and security of the person under section 7 of the Charter;
- Its rights derived from Canada's fiduciary duties, to the necessities of life;
- Its rights, inherent and confirmed in the treaty, to maintain a way of life, such requiring a healthy and viable environment;
- Its rights pursuant to UNDRIP and the federal UNDRIP Act which Canada including the CNSC is obliged to follow (see *Kebaowek First Nation v. Canadian Nuclear Laboratories*, 2025 FC 319 at paras 81, 85, 124, 125 and 128) including Articles 1 (basic human rights), 7.1 (life, liberty and security of the person), 8.2 (redress for effective dispossession from lands and resources), 20 (right to subsistence), 24 (right to health), 25 (right to maintain connection to the land), 29 (right to protection of the environment and which they rely).

BNDN remains committed to engaging in the CNSC process in good faith and expects that all parties, including proponents and other Indigenous Nations, will respect the integrity and independence of the Commission's mandate.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. BNDN looks forward to collaborating with CNSC.

Sincerely,



Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation

Cc:  
BNDN Council  
Nicole Frigault, CNSC  
Ryan Froess, CNSC  
Kate Kempton, Woodward and Associates

---

**From:** [John Glover](#)  
**To:** [Frigault, Nicole](#); [Froess, Ryan](#);  
**Cc:** [Rodney Laprise](#); [Terrie Campbell](#); [Chief](#); [Trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:Trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca); [conrad.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:conrad.sylvester@birchnarrows.ca); [Kim Sylvestre](#); [Robert.Sylvester@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:Robert.Sylvester@birchnarrows.ca); [Keegan McGrath](#);  
**Subject:** Supplemental Comments from BNDN  
**Attachments:** [Hatley\\_Technical memorandum R6.pdf](#); [The Millennium Deposit Design of a New Uranium Mine in Canada D Beattie J Hatley T Smith.pdf](#);  
**Sent:** 2025-03-25 11:13:23 AM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Nicole and Ryan,

Please find attached a memo on behalf of BNDN's Engineering Consultant, Hatley Engineering, providing some technical comments on the Rook 1 Project. The other attachment is a source for one of the comments.

Once CNSC has had a chance to review, we could setup a call to discuss.

Thanks,  
John

–  
**John Glover**  
Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
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[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)



February 25, 2025

**Updated March 23, 2025**

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Dear John,

### **Technical Review on the NexGen Rook I Project**

This technical memorandum outlines the findings of a high-level engineering review of the proposed underground tailings management facility (“UGTMF”) for the NexGen Rook I Project, conducted by Hatley Engineering and Applied Technologies Inc. on behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation (“BNDN”). As stipulated in the *Hatley Engineering Review Proposal to Tamarack* (November 10, 2024), this review is constrained to 50 hours of effort under Schedule B, with a focus on identifying engineering risks associated with the UGTMF. The scope of work, led by Dr. Rashid Bashir (Senior Specialist Engineer) and Mr. Kimm Barker (Senior Safety Specialist), includes:

- Project set-up (5 hours),
- Document review (15 hours),
- Risk identification and analysis (10 hours),
- Reporting and administrative tasks (20 hours).
- **Additional time added for follow-up questions, and additions to this memo in blue (6 hours)**

The review follows a kickoff meeting held between the Hatley Engineering team Dr. Rashid Bashir and Mr. Kimm Barker and Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc. (“Tamarack”) John Glover and associates to align on objectives, timelines, and deliverables.

### **Key Context and Constraints:**

1. Client Structure: BNDN is the client of record, with NexGen Energy Ltd. (“NexGen”) funding the review. Invoices are to be directed to BNDN per contractual terms with Tamarack.



February 25, 2025, updated • 1

2. Potential Conflict of Interest: James Hatley, CEO of Hatley Engineering, recused himself due to prior employment with NexGen (years 2018–2020).
3. Document Basis: Analysis is confined to the following materials:
  - *Rook I N43-101 Feasibility Study (“Feasibility Study”),*
  - Project Description and Accidents and Malfunctions chapters from the EIS,
  - EA comment tracking table (BNDN/NexGen),
  - CNSC Information Requests and NexGen’s responses.
4. Limitations:
  - *The 50-hour cap permits only a high-level review, precluding granular technical assessments. For example, approximately 90-page hydrogeology section within the EIS—critical to evaluating groundwater interactions and long-term UGTMF stability and contaminant transport—would alone require extensive analysis exceeding the total allocated hours, please note that this doesn’t include the 67-page report “TSD XIV: Groundwater Flow and Solute Transport Modelling’.*
  - *This study, led by Mr. Kimm Barker and Dr. Rashid Bashir, prioritized high-risk areas under time constraints.*
  - *No risk register was evaluated, as it was not identified as part of the regulatory process.*

#### **Focus Areas:**

The review prioritizes alignment with regulatory concerns raised in the EA process, rightsholder feedback from BNDN, and engineering risks tied to the UGTMF’s design, hydrogeological interactions, and operational safety. Findings are preliminary and may require further validation with expanded hours or additional data.



## Health & Safety Risks and Recommendations for UGTMF & Mining Methods

Risk or Concern Identified	Recommendation
<b>The UGTMF is unproven, with no industry precedent in uranium mining.</b>	NexGen should provide detailed engineering studies and case comparisons from other underground uranium tailings storage facilities. If no comparable projects exist, a phased implementation with a test cell should be required before full underground tailings management facility (“UGTMF”) operation. A verification timeline should be established, ensuring system performance is evaluated before advancing to full-scale use.
<b>Placement of CPB in production stopes</b>	The use of cemented paste backfill (“CPB”) in production areas (67% of cemented paste tailings (“CPT”) based on steady state on yearly basis) would result in large amount of hazardous material in production side of the mine, its effect if any on the worker health and safety needs to be studied and documented.
<b>Stress redistribution from tailings placement may induce unexpected ground failure.</b>	NexGen should establish a geomechanical monitoring program using borehole extensometers, microseismic sensors, and stress meters to track load transfer as tailings are placed. These instruments should be operational and verified prior to tailings deposition. A documented critical path should outline when monitoring equipment must be installed and tested, with adherence tracked and reported.
<b>UGTMF backfill curing and long-term performance is unproven</b>	<p>NexGen should conduct in-situ curing trials to assess backfill consolidation rates, strength gain, and permeability under actual underground conditions. Curing trials should be completed well in advance of large-scale tailings deposition. A structured verification process should be developed to ensure curing effectiveness before subsequent tailings loads are placed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. While there are no documented examples of uranium-tailings paste being used in practical applications, a critical uncertainty lies in its long-term stability. Over decades, binder materials such as cement and fly ash within the paste may degrade due to chemical weathering, microbial activity, or physical stress. This deterioration could compromise structural integrity, potentially leading to subsidence, collapse, or failure of containment systems.</li> <li>2. Uranium tailings retain most of the radioactivity from the original ore (including uranium, radium, and their decay products such as radon gas). Over time, if the paste matrix degrades (for example, due to cracking</li> </ol>





	<p>or binder loss), increased radon release or direct exposure of contaminated material could occur</p> <p>3. The radon release from CPT in the long term might result in the formation of a large amount of radon underground, what is the potential of this to leak to surface in the long term (stacking or moving of gases due to temperature differences, natural pressure variations, and diffusion.</p> <p>4. Even when thickened, uranium tailings can contain heavy metals and radionuclides that may be mobilized if the paste's chemical stability is compromised. Factors such as pH changes, oxygen ingress, or interactions with groundwater may lead to gradual leaching into surroundings, a long-term plan to monitor and mitigate should be in place.</p> <p>5. In the Feasibility Study, Table 13-2 outlines the unconfined compression strength ("UCS") tests conducted for this Project. In the Feasibility Study, interestingly no "values" are reported, nor how many tests were done to provide any statistical significance, this also brings up the question of variability associated with ore and tailings produced resulting in variability in paste properties.</p>
<b>Sulphate attack on CPT and UGTMF structure.</b>	Sulphate effect or attack on CPT is affected by curing temperature and sulphate content in the tailings, these coupled effects need to be considered in the design of the CPT and the UGTMF structure.
<b>Emergency response procedures for underground tailings failures are insufficient.</b>	NexGen should conduct a Failure Mode and Effects Analysis ("FMEA") to assess potential failure scenarios, including tailings liquefaction, roof instability, and bulkhead failure. Emergency controls, such as secondary egress routes and refuge stations, must be fully established and tested prior to UGTMF operations. A schedule of emergency drills should be outlined, and compliance with these drills should be reported to stakeholders.
<b>Water ingress into the UGTMF may compromise tailings stability and accelerate geochemical reactions.</b>	NexGen should refine hydrogeological models with transient groundwater Model calibration. Mitigation strategies such as secondary grouting programs, impermeable bulkheads, or additional dewatering infrastructure should be identified and implemented before encountering high-risk zones. A project timeline should define key milestones where pumping capacity, grouting, and drainage systems must be verified before mining activities reach those areas.
<b>Transport of contaminants from</b>	<p>1. Hydrostratigraphic units are currently defined using a limited number of slug/packer tests, which provide localized hydraulic</p>



<p><b>the UGTMF to the shallow groundwater system and beyond.</b></p>	<p>conductivity estimates but lack regional-scale insights. Pump tests, however, are critical for characterizing aquifer properties (transmissivity, storativity, connectivity) and enabling transient model calibration, essential for simulating dynamic aquifer behavior and predicting impacts like mining-induced depressurization. While static calibration aids initial conceptualization, transient calibration with pump test data is vital for reliable groundwater management. Recommendations include prioritizing pump tests to enhance hydrostratigraphic characterization, assess depressurization risks, and identify pathways between aquifer units.</p> <p>2. Currently the solute transport modeling was completed using analytical modeling and above should be useful for improving its predictive capabilities and development of a numerical solute transport model.</p> <p>3. The hydrogeology section acknowledges climate change but argues increased precipitation will be offset by higher evapotranspiration (Page 75). This rationale oversimplifies the issue, as extreme precipitation events involve intense, short-duration rainfall (minutes/hours), whereas evapotranspiration operates on a gradual diurnal cycle. The offset assumption fails to address timing mismatches or cumulative impacts of intense storms. A more rigorous climate change assessment—evaluating transient hydrological responses and extreme event risks—is necessary to account for these dynamic.</p>
<p><b>Risk of contamination from WRSA over the long-term</b></p>	<p>The hydrogeology report addresses seepage from Waste Rock Storage Areas (“WRSA”) during all project phases (construction, operations, closure, and post-closure). While the proposed mitigation measure—installing engineered cover systems on Potentially Acid-Generating (“PAG”) and Non-Potentially Acid-Generating (“NPAG”) materials during reclamation—is critical, further details are required to assess its efficacy. Specifically, the cover system’s design (e.g., materials, thickness), long-term performance under climatic stressors, and capacity to minimize acid generation (given its role as a primary pathway) need rigorous evaluation.</p>
<p><b>Unexpected water inflows during shaft sinking or lateral development outside of the artificial freeze wall may lead to operational delays</b></p>	<p>Additional probe drilling and in-situ permeability testing should be performed at deeper horizons before advancing sinking operations and lateral development. Water management systems must be fully operational for planned extents of new mining areas before they are developed. NexGen should establish a critical path to ensure that pumping systems, piezometers, and secondary water control measures are in place before excavation advances beyond controlled zones. Regular progress updates should be shared with stakeholders.</p>



<b>and increased worker exposure to radon.</b>	
<b>Worker exposure to airborne contaminants (radon, silica, arsenic) during backfill placement is not well-documented.</b>	NexGen must maintain a robust air quality monitoring program in the UGTMF and production areas, incorporating real-time radon detectors and particulate sampling during backfill operations. The interaction between mining and backfilling activities requires close monitoring to mitigate radiological risks. Ventilation rates must be dynamically optimized in response to real-time exposure data. Upgraded monitoring systems must be installed, tested, and operational prior to backfilling, with data continuously tracked and transparently shared with safety personnel and stakeholders.
<b>Tailings distribution line failures underground could lead to localized flooding, worker entrapment and radiological exposure.</b>	NexGen should install pressure sensors and automated emergency shutoff valves on all UGTMF tailings distribution lines. Leak detection via fiber-optic sensing or mass balance deviation tracking should be implemented for early identification of failures. All tailings transport infrastructure must be verified through pre-operational testing before introducing slurry into the system. A critical path should outline when these verifications occur, with reporting to confirm adherence.
<b>Heat generated from cement hydration in the UGTMF may accelerate ground deterioration in weak rock zones or in the cemented paste tailings.</b>	<p>NexGen should conduct thermo-mechanical modeling to assess heat generation and dissipation from cemented backfill. Ground support designs should account for heat-induced expansion stresses, and cooling methods (e.g., chilled water injection) should be evaluated for high-risk zones. Similarly heat of hydration may compromise the integrity of the poured cemented paste tailings. NexGen must identify key validation points in the project timeline where ground temperature measurements will be taken to confirm predictions, with stakeholder reporting at these intervals.</p> <p>Key risks may be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thermal Cracking, the heat generated during the hydration process can cause thermal gradients within the paste backfill, leading to thermal cracking. Cracks can compromise the structural integrity of the backfill, reducing its effectiveness in providing ground support and containment</li> <li>2. Increased Temperature: Elevated temperatures can accelerate chemical reactions, potentially leading to the formation of undesirable compounds. This can affect the long-term stability and durability of the paste backfill.</li> <li>3. Ventilation Load: The heat generated can increase the temperature of the mine environment, placing additional load on the ventilation system.</li> </ol>



	<p>This can lead to higher operational costs and potential safety hazards for mine workers.</p> <p>4. Hydration Rate, Delayed, or Altered Hydration: While initially, higher temperatures can accelerate hydration, excessively high temperatures can disrupt the hydration process, leading to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flash Set: Rapid and uncontrolled setting of the cement, potentially reducing workability and strength development.</li> <li>• Delayed Strength Gain in the Long Term: High initial temperatures can lead to a less durable and weaker final product in the long run, even if early strength seems to be achieved</li> </ul> <p>UGTMF Specific Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confined Space: UGTMFs are confined underground environments, which can limit natural heat dissipation compared to surface placements.</li> <li>• Scale of Operation: UGTMFs often involve large volumes of paste placement, which can lead to significant total heat generation.</li> <li>• Ventilation Constraints: Underground ventilation systems have limitations and increasing ventilation in specific backfill areas might require significant infrastructure and energy.</li> <li>• Long-Term Access: Once a UGTMF section is backfilled, access for remediation or further cooling might be limited, making proactive heat management crucial during placement.</li> </ul>
<b>Limited worker training specific to UGTMF operations increases the risk of human error during commissioning and maintenance.</b>	<p>NexGen should develop a UGTMF-specific training program covering ground control, tailings rheology, emergency shutdown procedures, and exposure mitigation strategies. Training should be conducted before commissioning, with a structured assessment to confirm worker competency. A training verification schedule should be tied to UGTMF milestones, ensuring all personnel are trained before operating in high-risk zones.</p>
<b>Delays in UGTMF commissioning may require prolonged reliance on temporary surface tailings storage, increasing overall worker exposure.</b>	<p>NexGen should define alternative tailings storage contingencies in case of UGTMF construction delays. Worker exposure risks associated with surface storage should be assessed, and additional dust suppression and water treatment systems should be incorporated. The transition timeline between surface storage and underground deposition should be tracked against a critical path, ensuring delays do not lead to unsafe exposure conditions.</p>



<b>Shaft sinking risk</b>	<p>Shaft sinking in the Athabasca Basin contains significant risk. Although the Rook I Project plans to use ground freezing—which should mitigate risks similar to those experienced at Shaft No. 2 of Cigar Lake, a thorough geoscientific investigation remains essential.</p> <p>Review link below conference paper <i>Shaft sinking experience in Athabasca Basin and geoscientific investigations for future shafts</i> (2011).</p> <p>A summary of key techniques identified for hydrological and geotechnical assessments are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triple-tube coring, producing more complete core recovery with unconsolidated material,</li> <li>• Detailed geotechnical logging of joint staining and surface conditions, and vuggy quartz in sub-vertical fractures,</li> <li>• Correlation between previous shaft mapping and geotechnical logging,</li> <li>• Acoustical methods to determine orientation of joints and major structures,</li> <li>• Full waveform sonics for intact rock strength</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.hatleyengineering.com/academic-papers">https://www.hatleyengineering.com/academic-papers</a></p>
<b>Mine Inflow risk</b>	<p>One notable risk for uranium mines in Northern Saskatchewan is the potential for inflow. While the hydrogeological risk at the Rook I Project may not be as pronounced as at McArthur River or Cigar Lake, there remains a concern regarding inflow through boreholes as was experienced at the Eagle Point Mine.</p> <p>For further details, please refer to the attached journal paper on <i>Inflows in uranium mines of northern Saskatchewan: Risks and mitigation</i> (2013) which reviews mine inflows at McArthur River Operation, Cigar Lake Project, and Eagle Point Operation.</p> <p>Summary of Causal Factors among the three uranium mines:</p> <p><u>Design</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantifying how much dewater capacity needed</li> <li>• Alternative excavation and support methods for high-risk development</li> <li>• Better flood-related emergency preparedness</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal standards for mine development</li> <li>• Reliability of drillhole grouting status</li> </ul> <p><u>Execution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timely application of ground support for high-risk development</li> <li>• Need for comprehensive geotechnical assessment for design and monitoring</li> <li>• Improved general risk awareness</li> <li>• Change management of engineering design and risk assessment</li> </ul> <p><u>Human Factors</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roles and responsibility clarification</li> <li>• Oversight of engineering, specifically overall site water balance</li> <li>• Roles and responsibility clarification</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.hatleyengineering.com/academic-papers">https://www.hatleyengineering.com/academic-papers</a></p>
<b>Mining Method Risks</b>	<p>The proposed mining method of transverse long-hole open stoping is not as innovative as techniques such as jet-boring at Cigar Lake or raise-boring or box-hole boring at McArthur River, it still presents risks due to the presence of high-grade zones and closeness of mine workers to these zones. Lessons learned from the Eagle Point Mine and McArthur River Mine on the impacts of radiation on mine design is documented in the paper <i>The Millennium Deposit - Design of a New Uranium Mine in Canada</i> (2008). Requires subscription Ausimm.com to download. Key areas discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radioactive decay process</li> <li>• Regulatory dose limits</li> <li>• ALARA Principle</li> <li>• Design stage workplace radiation health risk study</li> <li>• Radiation Training</li> <li>• Radiation exposure control to gamma and radon progeny and long-lived radioactive dust (LLRD).</li> <li>• Monitoring Strategies</li> <li>• Personal protective equipment (PPE)</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radiation staffing levels of personnel</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.ausimm.com/publications/conference-proceedings/tenth-underground-operators-conference-2008/the-millennium-deposit---design-of-a-new-uranium-mine-in-canada/">https://www.ausimm.com/publications/conference-proceedings/tenth-underground-operators-conference-2008/the-millennium-deposit---design-of-a-new-uranium-mine-in-canada/</a></p> <p>Furthermore, the use of radioactive material in underground backfilling may pose significant human health challenges, particularly in terms of radiation protection. There is limited, indirect experience that can be applied to this specific issue.</p>
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### Next Steps:

Further collaboration with Tamarack and BNDN is recommended to address unresolved questions and refine risk mitigation strategies.

### Closure:

This memorandum serves as a preliminary assessment of engineering risks associated with the UGTMF, conducted within the constraints of the agreed number of hours. Further technical collaboration and detailed analysis are recommended to address uncertainties and validate findings.

### Prepared by:



Mr. Kimm Barker,  
Senior Safety Specialist



Dr. Rashid Bashir, P.Eng.  
Senior Specialist Engineer

Hatley Engineering and Applied Technologies Inc.



## **Hatley Engineering – Who are we?**

The founding of the company is based on the recognition that we are in an environment of global competition; our advantage is the successful implementation of new extraction methods, applied technologies and project execution to leap a project ahead of the competition. <https://www.hatleyengineering.com/>

## **Hatley Engineering - Innovation**

Hatley Engineering has sponsored and worked on several projects the involve academic, industry and government partnerships. We are funding partners and a member of the International Minerals Innovation Institute (“IMII”) of their Supply Chain Group, with positions on the Board of Directors, Research & Development Committee, and Innovation Committee. <https://www.imii.ca/>





# The Millennium Deposit – Design of a New Uranium Mine in Canada

D Beattie<sup>1</sup>, J Hatley<sup>2</sup> and T Smith<sup>3</sup>

## ABSTRACT

With the increased focus on the need for more uranium mines, this paper presents the design process currently underway for the development of the Millennium deposit in northern Saskatchewan, Canada. This deposit, located 630 - 750 m below surface, will be accessed by two shafts and will be mined by blasthole stoping methods at less than 500 t/d. Mining grade will approximate two per cent  $U_3O_8$  and mine life is expected to be six to seven years. The project is a joint venture between Cameco, AREVA and JCU. This paper discusses in detail methods used to predict worker radiation exposures, the methods used to monitor the work environment and procedures unique to the uranium industry necessary to minimise worker radiation exposures.

## INTRODUCTION

The Athabasca Basin in Northern Saskatchewan has provided all of Canada's uranium production since the mid-1990s. Initial production commenced in the 1970s. Recent discoveries have been at greater depths which provide a unique suite of technical challenges for extraction.

The Millennium deposit was discovered in 2000 on the Cree Extension exploration lease, which is a joint venture between Cameco (42 per cent), JCU (Canada) Exploration Company Limited (30 per cent) and AREVA (28 per cent). The deposit is located 35 km north of the Key Lake mill and 50 km south of the McArthur River uranium mine. Mineralisation is located at a depth of 630 - 750 m below surface. Water-bearing sandstone is present from surface to 480 m depth at the planned shaft locations and 600 m depth above the orebody. Methods to sink through water-bearing formations are discussed. Shaft site selection methods using seismic surveying and geotechnical methods are also discussed.

A 400 - 500 t/d shaft access blasthole stoping operation is planned to produce 6.5 - 7.0 M lb  $U_3O_8$  per annum for six to seven years. Average mining grade will be approximately 2.0 per cent  $U_3O_8$ . By historic standards this classifies as high-grade uranium ore, which requires numerous steps to be taken to minimise worker radiation exposures. The feasibility level mine design in progress is presented. The mine will be a fly-in, fly-out operation with the workforce typically working a seven day in/seven day out rotation.

The information discussed in this paper regarding Millennium is based on a preliminary plan and still requires completion of the feasibility study and a decision by the joint venture partners to proceed. In addition, the project is subject to regulatory approvals. All forecast data and production is subject to change.

## SHAFT GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Five shafts have been successfully sunk in the Athabasca Basin to access uranium deposits. A sixth shaft at Cigar Lake, however,

is currently under remediation due to a large groundwater inflow intercepted in an unsecured probe hole drilled during shaft sinking in water-bearing sandstone. Previous geotechnical investigations prior to shaft sinking included conducting bulk permeability testing in the shaft pilot hole and analysing pilot hole drill core. The Cigar Lake shaft inflow event, however, was related to a water-bearing structure outside the planned shaft perimeter. This clearly highlights the need for additional data collection and analysis prior to committing to a given shaft location. Seismic surveying has been identified as one tool for enhancing the quality and quantity of data collected.

To enhance the quality of geotechnical information for the design of the Millennium mine a major seismic program was undertaken during the winter of 2007. The program included both surface and borehole seismic survey techniques, more specifically a full 3D surface survey, a stepout VSP (vertical seismic profiling) survey and two SideScan (multi-azimuth single hole) surveys in the proposed shaft pilot holes. The objectives of this program were to image, in as much detail as possible, the sandstone/basement rock unconformity, the major structures located in proximity to the deposit and the shaft pilot holes, and either the mineralisation or the alteration halo located around the deposit. The 3D surface survey was completed using a Swept Impact Vibrist<sup>®</sup> seismic source supplied by Vibrometric Oy Cosma of Toronto, ON, and an I/O 3C digital acquisition system provided by Kinetex Ltd of Calgary, AB. Kinetex was responsible for all field logistics while Vibrometric Oy Cosma was responsible for all quality control, borehole seismic data acquisition and for the processing and integration of all seismic data.

The initial 3D and stepout VSP results indicate that the survey was successful. As indicated in Figure 1, significant topographical detail is evident in the current unconformity interpreted from the 3D data set compared to the unconformity derived from drill results alone. This is very important data to ensure that underground development in the dry basement rock does not accidentally intercept water-bearing sandstone. The most significant result of the 3D seismic survey to date is that the Millennium deposit appears to sit on the eastern flank of an apparent north-south trending graben. As illustrated in Figure 2 the unconformity and major Post Athabasca basement structures have also been imaged by the 3D surface seismic survey. A number of seismic reflectors, representing Post Athabasca sandstone structures, have also been imaged by the stepout VSP data as illustrated in Figure 3. It is likely that these structures are water-bearing. This information is being used to test the suitability of two shaft pilot holes for future shaft sinking. The processing and interpretation of all the seismic data is ongoing.

## SHAFT SINKING THROUGH WATER-BEARING GROUND

The Millennium shafts will be sunk through 480 m of Athabasca sandstone. This sandstone contains discrete fracture controlled water flows that typically vary from 2 - 50 m<sup>3</sup>/h in flow rate when encountered in shaft bottom probe hole drilling as illustrated in Figure 4. Maximum flow rate encountered in shafts sunk to date has been 400 m<sup>3</sup>/h. Water-bearing fracture frequency is typically one per 10 m and subvertical fractures typically are more predominant in comparison to subhorizontal fractures.

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Email: Doug\_Beattie@cameco.com
2. Senior Geotechnical Engineer, Cameco Corporation, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.
3. Senior Mine Engineer, Cameco Corporation, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

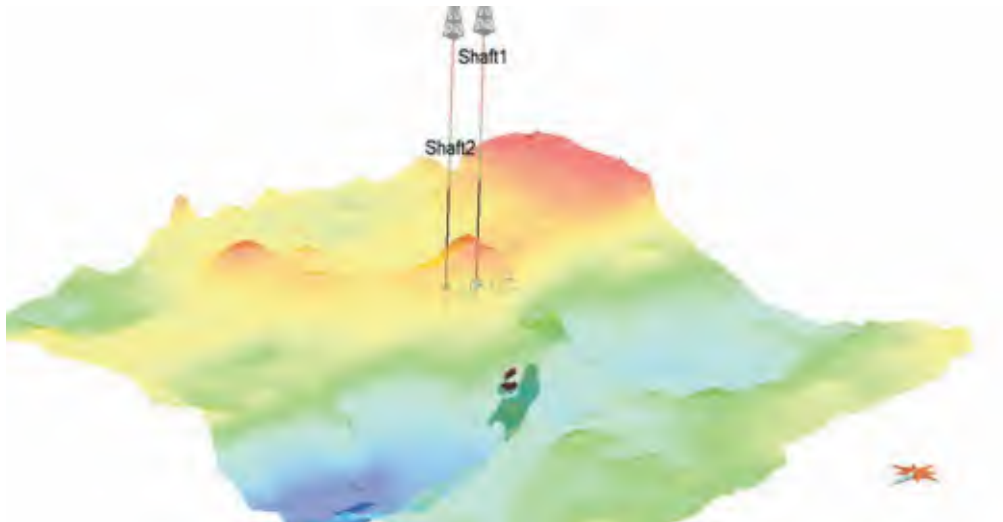


FIG 1 - Unconformity elevation map interpreted from 3D seismic data.

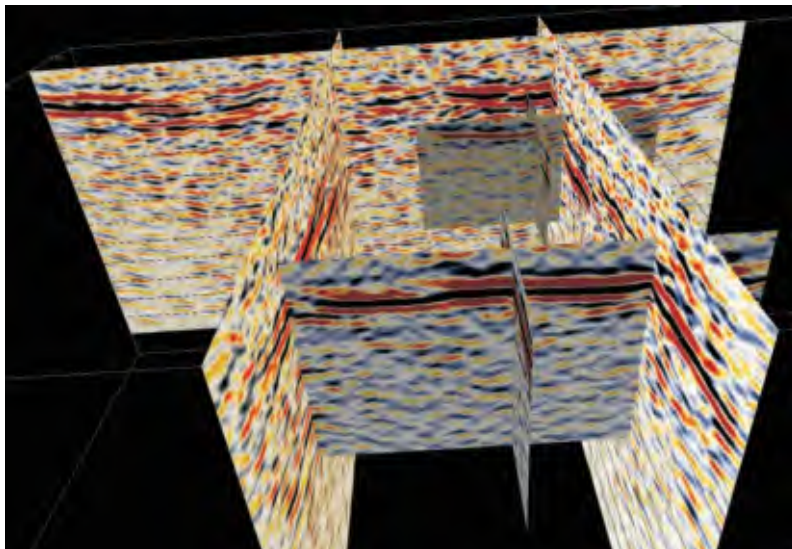


FIG 2 - Migrated 3D seismic cube with structure related to basement offset.

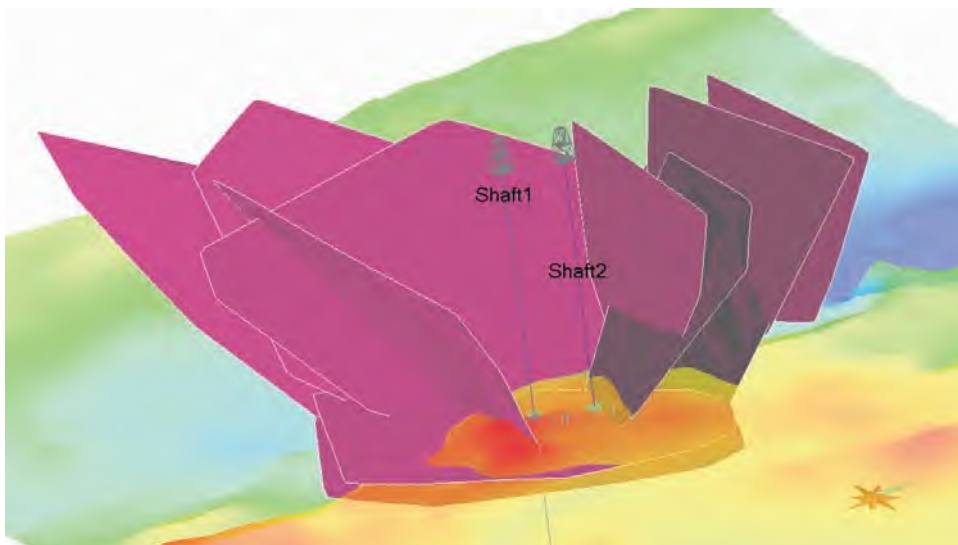


FIG 3 - Stepout vertical seismic profiling (VSP) reflectors defining potentially significant water-bearing post-Athabasca sandstone structures.



FIG 4 - Shaft bottom at McArthur River #2 shaft illustrating 2 - 50 m<sup>3</sup>/h groundwater flows encountered in grout hole drilling prior to cement grouting.

Experience has demonstrated that these water-bearing fractures accept cement-based grout well. A standard grout hole pattern drilled below shaft bottom consists of 16 equally spaced perimeter holes drilled at a dip of 86 degrees for 55 m depth. These holes are angled at 45 degrees from the adjacent shaft tangent in order to attempt to traverse as many fractures and joints as possible. Up to four test holes are also drilled inside the shaft perimeter after grouting is finished. As few as six grout holes are drilled near surface, where low flows are likely, but as many as 32 holes may be required at depth.

Abridged drilling and grouting procedures are as follows:

- All planned standpipes are grouted in place in the shaft bottom and pressure tested to typically 2 MPa above expected static groundwater pressure. Standpipes are typically 4 m in length.
- Eight primary holes are then drilled by shaft electric/hydraulic sinking jumbo until each hole intersects a flow rate of 2 m<sup>3</sup>/h or greater.
- Holes are then grouted with a Type 30 cement grout to typically 1 MPa above static groundwater pressure.
- After this grout is cured, the primary holes are cleaned out and extended deeper until each hole again intersects a flow rate of 2 m<sup>3</sup>/h or greater. Grouting is repeated.
- Eight secondary holes are then drilled to a target depth shorter than the primary holes or until each hole intersects a flow rate of 2 m<sup>3</sup>/h, whichever comes first. The secondary holes are vital for confirming the effectiveness of primary hole grouting. Typically, flow rates encountered in the secondary holes are equivalent to 20 per cent of the flow encountered in primary holes at similar depth below shaft bottom.
- The primary and secondary holes are then advanced in alternate stages until all holes have reached a depth of 55 m.
- Four test holes are then drilled within the planned shaft perimeter and flow rates encountered are carefully measured every 3 m. Typically, if these four holes encounter a cumulative flow of 2 m<sup>3</sup>/h over any 6 m vertical interval, more grout holes will be drilled into this area.
- Sinking then typically advances for 45 m where the next grout cover occurs.

Ultra-fine cement grout will be substituted for Type 30 cement grout if the acceptance rate is poor. Grout density and additives are continually adjusted based upon the degree of acceptance.

Grout covers near surface may take as little as three days, whereas grout covers at depth have required eight to 50 days to complete. At depth, there is a direct correlation between bulk permeability as indicated in shaft pilot hole packer testing and the time necessary to adequately precondition the ground below shaft bottom with grouting in order to allow sinking to continue. Cumulatively, 80 - 210 days of shaft bottom grouting have been required in order to sink through 500 m of sandstone. Upon completion of sinking through the sandstone, shafts will typically seep 20 - 70 m<sup>3</sup>/h of groundwater. This clean water is collected in shaft water rings and is used for underground operations.

## MILLENNIUM UNDERGROUND MINE DESIGN

As illustrated in Figure 5, two 6.5 m diameter concrete-lined shafts will be sunk. The first shaft will be 755 m deep and will be used for personnel and material access as well as skip hoisting. This shaft will consist of three compartments; main cage, skip counterbalance and auxiliary cage compartments as illustrated in Figure 6. Due to the low daily skipping requirements the cage will be counterbalanced by the skip. The two compartment second shaft will be 630 m in depth and will be used for return air ventilation and second means of egress via an auxiliary cage.

The mine will have two main levels at 630 and 710 m depth below collar. A conventional loading pocket feeding an eight tonne skip will be located at the 730 m level. Four sublevels are planned on 20 m intervals.

Transverse blasthole stoping is the planned mining method using a stope/pillar sequence. Geotechnical analysis of drill core indicates that stope dimensions of 18 m long by 10 m wide and 25 m height will be stable on average. In-fill underground diamond drilling is planned to further refine ore limits and geotechnical parameters. The planned mining method allows a good degree of flexibility to adjust stope dimensions as illustrated in Figure 7. Footwall and hanging wall access drifts in waste are planned for flow-through ventilation and ore recovery purposes. Drill and drawpoint cross-cuts through the orebody, along with radiometric probing of blastholes will effectively define stope limits. A cross-cut may contain one to three stopes and 20 stopes will be mined on average per annum. Reverse circulation in-the-hole hammer drilling is planned as illustrated in Figure 8. Stopes will be mucked by line-of-sight remote controlled load-haul-dump units.

Despite the relative depth of the deposit, it has been possible to obtain ample information necessary to satisfy feasibility level studies. This has been largely due to the use of directional diamond drilling methods where multiple holes are wedged from an initial pilot hole.

Two backfilling methods are currently under investigation. The first method entails the use of aggregate fill introduced to the 630 Level in dry form via service shaft drop pipes. On the level, the aggregate will be mixed in a concrete batch mixer with cement slurry delivered from surface via shaft slick line to an agitated holding tank. Haul trucks will then take the cemented fill to the stope for dumping. High wear rates in the drop pipes and the potential for plugging represents the downside for this low initial capital cost option.

The second backfilling method under investigation is to back skip waste rock from surface to the 630 Level. This rock will be mixed with cement and trucked to stopes for dumping. This method has a very high degree of reliability but will also result in additional upfront capital costs.

The ability to deliver waste rock from surface via a fill raise is not possible due to the water-bearing nature of the sandstone. Likewise, the use of cemented sand fill implies the need for fill retention wall construction on the exhaust side of stopes in an area with likely high radon progeny concentrations. The use of paste fill is also not acceptable since it means back hauling and interacting with highly radioactive tailings from the mill. Target



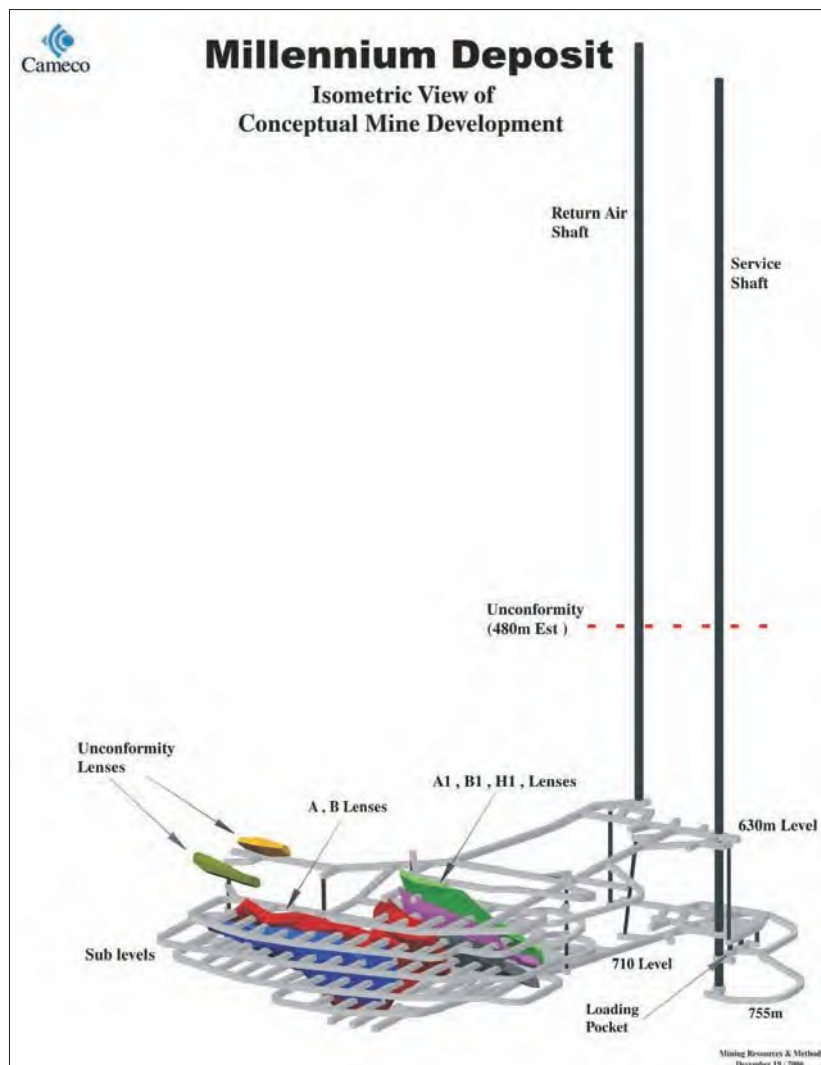


FIG 5 - Conceptual mine design for the Millennium deposit.

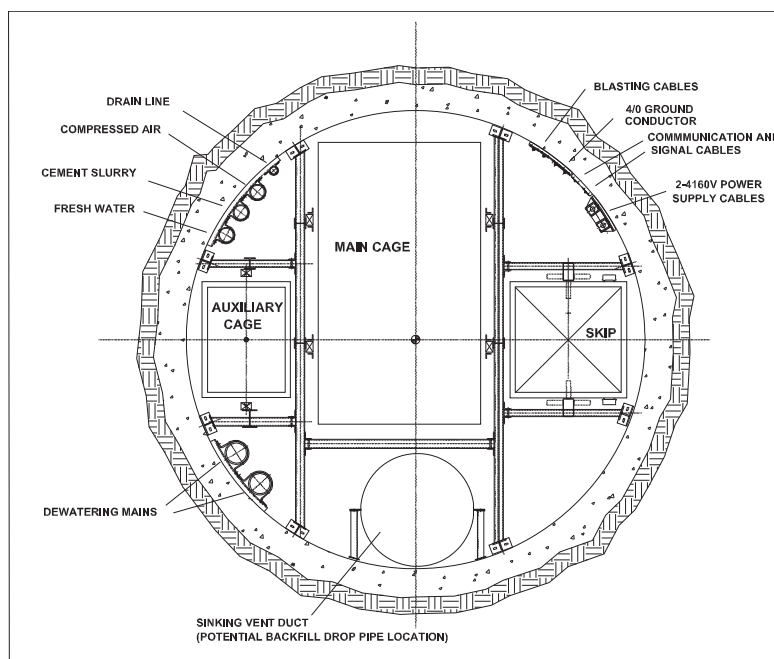


FIG 6 - Service shaft plan view – 6.5 m internal diameter.

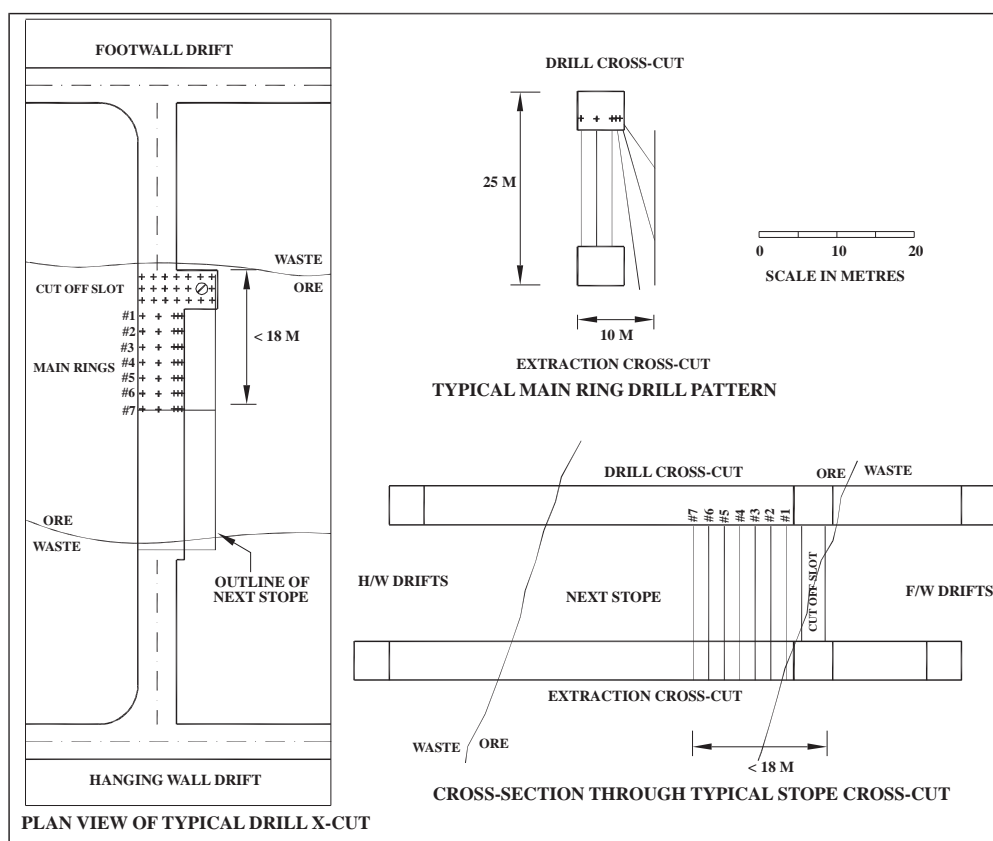


FIG 7 - Transverse blasthole open stoping at the Millennium mine.



FIG 8 - Reverse circulation in-the-hole hammer blasthole drilling at Eagle Point mine. Note floor concrete and wall shotcrete for gamma radiation shielding from the orebody.

backfill strength is 4 MPa. The high ore value (US\$2000/t at US\$50/lb  $U_3O_8$  for example) dictates that backfill failures limiting access to pillar ore cannot be tolerated. The economic rationale exists to increase backfill strength if necessary.

Ore will be hauled by conventional underground truck to a shaft bin on the 710 Level where it will be reduced in size by a rock breaker. Ore will then be conventionally skipped to surface and dumped into a concrete receiving bunker. A front end loader will then transfer this ore from bunker to lined surface storage pad. Conventional tarpaulin covered haul trucks will then transport ore to one or more area mills for processing.

Planned ventilation capacity is 330 m<sup>3</sup>/s in order to supply six active production horizons with 50 m<sup>3</sup>/s each. Winter temperatures can plunge to -50°C, dictating the need for mine air heating from October until April. Direct fired propane heaters rated at 60 MBTU will be coupled to the intake fans to ensure mine air remains above 4°C throughout the winter months.

### IMPACT OF RADIATION ON MINE DESIGN

The Millennium mine will utilise mining methods and practices similar to Cameco's existing Eagle Point uranium mine. Therefore, a wealth of radiological data and operating experience exists.

### The radioactive decay process

Uranium ore emits three types of radiation as part of the decay process:

- alpha radiation: two protons and two neutrons are emitted from an atom (essentially a helium nucleus),
- beta radiation: one electron is emitted from an atom, and
- gamma radiation: electromagnetic energy is emitted from an atom.

Only gamma radiation readily penetrates the body. Alpha and beta radiation do not pose a significant external radiation hazard. Alpha and beta radiation, however, are an inhalation and ingestion concern.

There is a 14 step radioactive decay process whereby Uranium 238 decays to stable Lead 206. A uranium orebody therefore contains all elements of the decay process. One of the radioactive elements in the uranium decay chain is the chemically inert gas called radon. Radon gas is emitted from the muck pile, stope walls and in many cases, groundwater entering the workings. Radon gas decays into radon progeny, Polonium-218, Lead-214, Bismuth-214 and Polonium-214. Radon progeny are very reactive and will readily attach to fine dust in the air. In a dusty environment up to 95 per cent of the radon progeny will attach to dust. When a worker breathes these dust particles with the attached radon progeny, some will settle in the lungs where the decay process will continue. Because the emanation of radon progeny is continuous, mine ventilation is the key radiation protection measure for radon progeny. A stoppage in mine ventilation will lead quickly to a build-up of radon progeny in the workplace.

The gamma radiation emitted at any particular location in a mine is largely a function of the amount of ore present, the average ore grade and the distance between ore and the particular location. In low-grade uranium mines, radon progeny concentration is of primary concern. In high-grade uranium mines, such as those present in northern Saskatchewan, gamma radiation is typically of larger concern in a given workplace with adequate ventilation.

Long-lived radioactive dust in a mining context refers to dust generated specifically from uranium ore during the mining process.

## Regulatory dose limits

All underground workers are considered to be Nuclear Energy Workers by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission as outlined in the Radiation Protection Regulations (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission web site).

Regulatory dose limits are measured in millisieverts (mSv). A millisievert is a measure of the radiation energy absorbed by the body that has biological consequences. The general population in Canada typically receives 1 - 3 mSv per annum from natural sources of radiation such as cosmic rays and radon gas in soil or homes.

The effective dose limits for Nuclear Energy Workers are 50 mSv during a one year period providing dose does not exceed 100 mSv during a rolling five year period. Typically, uranium mines and mills in Canada utilise an annual dose limit of 20 mSv per annum as the benchmark in order to ensure the five year dose limit is not exceeded.

Three components are utilised to determine total worker radiation exposure: gamma radiation, radon progeny and long-lived radioactive dust.

All workers wear a thermoluminescent dosimeter badge (TLD) or optically stimulated luminescent dosimeter (OSLD) badge in the workplace. This badge measures gamma radiation exposure (E). The badges are analysed quarterly by an externally licensed dosimetry provider to determine worker exposure during that period.

Radon progeny (RnP) is measured in working level months (WLM). A month is defined as 170 work hours. Therefore, a worker in a 1 WL atmosphere underground would receive 1 WLM after 170 work hours. A personal alpha dosimeter (PAD), as illustrated in Figure 9, is similar to a dust pump and is worn on a worker's belt. At the end of each month, the dosimeter head is sent to an external laboratory for processing to determine worker exposure to radon progeny and long-lived radioactive dust (LLRD).



FIG 9 - Personal alpha dosimeter (PAD) worn on underground workers' belts. This device samples the mine air to determine monthly exposure to radon progeny and long-lived radioactive dust.

Radiation exposure is calculated by the following formula:

$$E \text{ (mSv)} + 5\text{RnP (WLM)} + 20\sum 1/\text{ALI (mSv)}$$

The annual dose limit of 20 mSv applies to this summation formula.

'ALI' or 'annual limit on intake' means the activity, in Becquerels (Bq), of a radionuclide that will deliver an effective dose of 20 mSv during the 50 year period after the radionuclide is taken into the body.

A typical underground development miner at Cameco's Eagle Point mine may receive 4 mSv of gamma radiation, 0.5 WLM (1 WLM = 5 mSv) of exposure to radon progeny and 2.5 mSv of exposure to LLRD for a total annual exposure of 9.0 mSv. Average annual ore grades have varied from one to two per cent  $\text{U}_3\text{O}_8$ .

## ALARA principle

The annual regulatory dose limits are not intended to provide design criteria for a new operation such as the Millennium mine. The mine, however, will not be approved by regulatory agencies if it cannot demonstrate beforehand that dose limits can be readily achieved for all job classes or where worker doses are not 'ALARA'.

ALARA means 'as low as reasonably achievable, economic and social factors considered'. This is the key design criterion for new mines. If worker radiation exposures can be lowered by the use of alternative equipment and methods and these measures do not severely hamper the ability of the mine to achieve objectives, these measures will be implemented. For instance, shotcrete is applied to drill drift walls at the Eagle Point Mine to specifically shield workers from gamma radiation.

## Design stage workplace radiation health risk study

In order to predict worker radiation exposures, a health risk study is conducted. This is essentially a time study where estimates are made of where all personnel will spend their time on a typical shift. The radiation levels, or source term, in each location are then estimated and the typical dose per annum calculated. Table 1 provides an example of estimated worker exposure during a given year for a long hole driller. Monte Carlo simulation can be performed by varying the source term and

**TABLE 1**  
Prediction of long hole driller annual radiation exposure.

Location	Work Hours	Expected source term			
		Gamma µSv/h	RnP WL	LLRD Bq/m <sup>3</sup>	Total mSv
Drill drift	1200	4	0.1	0.18	10.1
Travel/lunch	400	1	0.02	0.03	0.7
Surface	170	0.2	0	0	0.0
	1770				10.8

Calculation example:

Dose from drill drifts:

$$\text{Gamma} = 1200 \text{ h} \times 4 \text{ } \mu\text{Sv/h} / 1000 \text{ } \mu\text{Sv/mSv} = 4.8 \text{ mSv}$$

$$\text{Radon progeny} = 1200 \text{ h} \times 0.1 \text{ WL} / 170 \text{ h/WLM} \times 5 \text{ mSv/WLM} = 3.5 \text{ mSv}$$

$$\text{LLRD} = 1200 \text{ h} / 2000 \text{ h} \times 0.18 \text{ Bq/m}^3 \times 1 \text{ mSv} / 0.06 \text{ Bq/m}^3 = 1.8 \text{ mSv}$$

work hours to determine the probability of a worker exceeding annual or five year exposure limits. This study is typically performed by a third party after the mine plan and workforce numbers are established.

## Radiation training

All new employees and contractors receive orientation training which includes information pertaining to ionising radiation, personal monitoring devices such as TLDs and PADs, radiation signs and symbols and the site radiation code of practice.

Within 90 days of commencing work, all Nuclear Energy Workers attend a Basic Radiation Safety Training course and must successfully pass a written exam. The course covers the fundamentals of radiation, hazards of uranium, measuring radiation exposure, allowable limits, regulations, codes of practice and protection principles. Supervisors receive additional training. New employees in the radiation department advance from trainee status to a Radiation Safety Officer in four stages over a minimum six year period.

## Radiation exposure control

Providing a workplace with low radiation is one means of minimising worker exposures. Equally important, however, is to take quick action in response to an upset condition in the mine that has resulted in elevated radiation in a particular workplace. Necessary actions are described in a site Code of Practice document. This document is the key means of achieving ALARA. It provides a well-defined framework for dosimetry and radiological monitoring. The Code of Practice stipulates radiation and ventilation criteria which, if exceeded, trigger specific actions to be taken. These actions are designed to ensure that annual worker exposures are well below regulatory limits.

## Radiation exposure control – gamma radiation

Radiation technicians monitor the gamma radiation levels in active workplaces daily and will post radiation warning signs in areas with greater than 25 µSv/h gamma dose rate. However, the key means of controlling gamma radiation exposure daily is for workers to wear a direct reading dosimeter (DRD). As illustrated in Figure 10, DRDs are small measurement devices that provide a direct digital readout of the cumulative amount of gamma radiation received during a shift. They are typically worn in the shirt pocket and will give an audible warning of elevated gamma radiation in a particular workplace. Unlike TLD badges, which are measured quarterly, DRDs provide real-time feedback to



FIG 10 - Direct reading dosimeter for measuring daily worker gamma radiation exposure in µSv.

workers with respect to exposures received. To control gamma radiation exposures the Code of Practice stipulates responses. For instance, if a worker receives greater than 200 µSv per day of gamma radiation exposure, the worker will leave the workplace immediately and notify their supervisor and senior supervision.

Time, distance and shielding are the primary tools used to limit worker gamma radiation exposure:

- Time:** Minimise the time a worker must be in the workplace if possible.
- Distance:** Maximise the distance the worker is from a source of gamma radiation if possible.
- Shielding:** Provide a barrier between the gamma source and worker. This barrier is typically steel, lead, shotcrete or concrete (Figure 8).

In practice, gamma radiation exposure is highest for development miners, long hole drillers and LHD operators. A key means of reducing gamma exposure is to shotcrete the walls of development in ore. Shotcrete thicknesses up to 250 mm may be required depending on local ore grade. On occasion it is necessary to shotcrete the development face prior to drilling the next round in order to reduce exposures to the jumbo operator and loading crew. Waste rock or concrete is placed on floors in ore to provide shielding. It should be noted that these shielding measures are likely unnecessary in lower grade uranium deposits.

The use of remotely operated equipment is a means of both minimising time in ore while maximising the distance to the ore source. Drawpoints are remotely mucked for instance and reverse circulation long hole drilling methods are used to ensure workers are not exposed to ore grade drill cuttings.

The amount of gamma radiation dose received is a function of the ore grade and the geometry of the ore. Ore grading one per cent U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> will emit roughly 4.5 µSv/h on contact. At McArthur River for instance, where ore grade averages 20 per cent U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, a worker could conceivably receive the annual dose limit in one week if conducting a mining method such as cut and fill. A 150 mm thickness of shotcrete reduces gamma radiation by roughly 90 per cent so is an effective shielding tool in many applications. This solves many issues at the Eagle Point mine (one to two per cent U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> ore grade) but few at McArthur River where a raise bore mining method is used instead of conventional methods (Beattie and Davis, 2002).

At the Eagle Point mine, long hole drilling cannot commence until the drill drift radiation level has been reduced to below 10 µSv/hr. Gamma radiation hot spots are identified by radiation technicians and additional shotcrete or concrete is applied to these areas.



Expected gamma radiation exposures can be modelled in certain instances by using analytical formulas (Chambers, Mernagh and Torrie, 1981). For instance, a miner 10 m away from a typical drawpoint of ore would receive only three to five per cent of the gamma radiation dose per hour received if in direct contact with this ore. For more complex geometries computer based models such as MicroShield are available.

At the Millennium mine, gamma radiation shielding will be primarily provided in the orebody by use of shotcrete on drift walls and concrete on drift floors. The use of high density shotcrete is being assessed as a means of reducing shotcrete thicknesses. Steel shielding will be provided in areas such as the loading pocket.

### Radiation exposure control – radon progeny

Radon progeny concentrations in the atmosphere are measured by continuous area monitors and by radiation technicians collecting grab samples. Continuous area monitors at Cameco's mines take a sample of air every ten minutes and display the radon progeny concentration range to workers by a series of coloured lights. Monitors are located in all likely areas of elevated radon progeny including development drifts in ore, drill drifts and drawpoint areas. The Code of Practice defines responses to radon progeny working levels. For instance, if a work place at Eagle Point has a radon progeny concentration between 0.25 and 0.50 WL the following actions are taken:

- a radiation technician will investigate to determine the cause;
- immediate corrective action will be taken if possible; and
- if the condition persists for more than 24 hours, respirator use is required in this workplace and a Radiation Work Permit will be issued listing corrective actions necessary.

The Radiation Work Permit is an effective means for radiation staff to dictate how work will be done to correct elevated radon progeny in a workplace. In many cases, the cause is poor auxiliary ventilation, leading to recirculation or low airflows in the workplace. Either situation can lead to a rapid increase in working levels.

Radon progeny concentrations are controlled by dilution of sources with fresh air. Nevertheless, satisfying the ventilation requirements for use of diesel equipment is almost always sufficient for controlling radon progeny concentrations at Eagle Point. This is generally due to the relatively low radon emanation rate from uranium ore and the fact that most mine development is in waste rock. A typical workplace in ore will be provided with 20 m<sup>3</sup>/s of fresh air. Higher flow rates may be provided in areas with radon gas bearing groundwater seepage and areas remote from fresh air intakes where the age of the air in the mine is greatest. It is also imperative that old stoping areas be sealed or ventilated to exhaust ways since stopes continue to generate radon progeny even after filling.

### Radiation exposure control – long-lived radioactive dust (LLRD)

Worker exposure to long-lived radioactive dust is measured monthly when the PAD heads are sent to the laboratory for testing. Activity measured in Becquerels (Bq) is converted to mSv for calculating worker total dose. The CNSC Annual Limit on Intake (ALI) is 2800 Bq for uranium ore dust. The inclusion of LLRD in the worker annual dose calculation commenced in 2000.

Radiation technicians take air grab samples in the workplace to determine radioactive dust concentrations measured in Bq/m<sup>3</sup>. If a mineworker spent the entire year in an atmosphere with 0.06 Bq/m<sup>3</sup> of LLRD, this would equate to a dose of 1 mSv. The Code of Practice outlines required actions necessary in response

to grab sample results. For instance, if the grab sample measures between 0.6 and 1.2 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>, a radiation technician will determine the cause and identify corrective actions necessary for immediate implementation. Further samples will be taken after corrective actions are implemented to confirm effectiveness. The Safety Superintendent will also be notified of the occurrence in writing.

For underground workers, sources of dust are directly related to drilling, mucking and truck haulage activity. Standard dust control measures such as drilling wet, watering down muck piles and ensuring no accumulation of ore on travel ways has proven adequate at Eagle Point. Nevertheless, long-lived radioactive dust contributes approximately 30 per cent to the total annual radiation exposure received by a typical underground miner.

At the Millennium mine, dust at transfer points, such as the loading pocket and skip dump building, will be controlled through the use of dust collection systems, process ducting and single pass flow-through ventilation to exhaust.

### Other monitoring

Standard underground ventilation surveys are conducted weekly by the Mine Engineering department. Actions necessary to better distribute airflows are identified.

Contamination monitoring is an important component of a radiation protection program. Contamination monitoring is done on a weekly basis in lunch rooms to ensure uranium is not ingested. Contamination monitoring is also conducted prior to shipping any materials off-site and prior to conducting production equipment maintenance. Underground worker clothing is washed daily and random checks are done for coveralls and miners boots to ensure no build-up in contamination. Urinalysis is conducted on a job class dependent frequency to determine if any uranium has entered a worker's body through ingestion or inhalation. If elevated concentrations are detected, it may be necessary to remove a worker from a workplace until the source or reason is determined. Workers are trained in radiation protection best practices and good personal hygiene to minimise the intake of radioactive materials.

### Personal protective equipment (PPE)

Apart from standard underground PPE, three forms of respiratory protection are available:

- powered air purifying respirators (PAPR),
- self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and
- passive respirators.

Entry into an area of unknown air quality requires the use of SCBA and completion of a Radiation Work Permit. Repairing auxiliary ventilation, for example, may require workers to use SCBA. Under no circumstances is SCBA allowed to perform normal work in areas of high radon progeny. Instead, radon progeny levels are reduced to acceptable limits prior to resuming normal work.

### Radiation staffing

The above description of comprehensive radiation safety measures taken at Cameco's mine sites is only possible with a team of trained staff. Eight staff members are dedicated to radiation safety in the Worker Health and Safety department at Eagle Point.

## CONCLUSIONS

Mining a deposit such as Millennium requires addressing a number of technical challenges not ordinarily seen in typical underground mining operations. Accessing and preparing the orebody for mining provides one suite of challenges largely



related to groundwater control. Focus then shifts to radiation control to ensure the ALARA principle is satisfied. Radiation control requires the implementation of suitable practices and the employment of ample trained staff to monitor these practices and implement corrective actions where warranted.

## REFERENCES

- Beattie, D and Davis, T, 2002. High grade uranium mining at McArthur River, Saskatchewan, Canada, in *Proceedings Eighth Underground Operators' Conference*, pp 11-21 (The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy: Melbourne).
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, n/d. Radiation Protection Regulation [online]. Available from: <<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/ShowFullDoc/cr/sor-2000-203///en>>.
- Chambers, D, Mernagh, J and Torrie, R, 1981. Design for radiation protection in the mining of high grade uranium ore, in *Proceedings International Conference on Radiation Hazards in Mining: Control, Measurement, and Medical Aspects* (ed: M Gomez) (AIMMPE: New York).

**From:** [Levine, Adam](#)  
**To:** [McKeown, Justin](#); [Boser, Sydney](#); [Hunter, Hilary](#);  
**Subject:** FW: Letter from Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
**Attachments:** [Letter to Chief Jonathan Sylvestre - Re Response to Clearwater River Dene Nation and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Northern Region II Statement Regarding Immediate Appr.pdf](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-04-02 11:56:50 AM

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FYI

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**From:** Interventions / Interventions (CNSC/CCSN) <Interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 2, 2025 10:43 AM  
**To:** [rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)  
**Cc:** CEO President / PD Président (CNSC/CCSN) <President-CEO@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Levine, Adam <Adam.Levine@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Froess, Ryan <ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Salmon, Candace <candace.salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter from Birch Narrows Dene Nation

Good morning,

Please find attached correspondence from the Commission Registrar in response to your March 24, 2025 letter.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

Cheramy Thirumeny  
Administrative Coordinator | Coordinatrice Administrative  
Commission Registry | Greffe de la Commission  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission Canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
Email | Courriel : [cheramy.thirumeny@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:cheramy.thirumeny@cnscccsn.gc.ca)

---

**From:** Rodney Laprise <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Sent:** March 24, 2025 2:22 PM  
**To:** Tremblay, Pierre <[pierre.tremblay@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pierre.tremblay@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Froess, Ryan <[ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.froess@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chief Jonathon P Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>; [kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com](mailto:kkempton@woodwardandcompany.com); [john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)  
**Subject:** Letter from Birch Narrows Dene Nation

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
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Hello President Tremblay,

On behalf of Birch Narrows Dene Nation Chief and Council, please find attached the following letter regarding the NexGen Energy Ltd. Rook 1 Project.

BNDN is happy to discuss further with you and your staff.

Marsi cho,

Rodney Laprise  
Implementation Coordinator  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation/NexGen  
1-306-371-9347  
[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)

Canadian Nuclear Safety  
Commission



Commission canadienne de  
sûreté nucléaire

Commission Registry

Greffe de la Commission

**VIA EMAIL**

Document ID: DAMZHJW66V33-645838268-25

April 2, 2025

Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation Chief and Council  
Birch Narrows Dene Nation  
Turnor Lake  
SK, S0M 3E0

**Subject: Re: Response to Clearwater River Dene Nation and Métis Nation-  
Saskatchewan, Northern Region II Statement Regarding Immediate  
Approval of NexGen's Rook I Project**

Dear Chief Sylvestre,

Thank you for your letter of March 24, 2025, addressed to President Tremblay. It was forwarded to the Commission Registry as the Registry is responsible for the management of Commission proceedings.

The Registry notes your comments with respect to the dates set for the hearing in NexGen's Rook I Project, and your support for the established schedule as you find it provides time for preparation.

The Registry understands that you have communicated with CNSC staff regarding ongoing concerns in a number of areas, particularly with respect to outstanding environmental and consultation and accommodation concerns. I trust those conversations are ongoing and appreciate your noted commitment to engaging in the CNSC process. Should you have further feedback on strengthening those processes, we would welcome it.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Registry, should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Candace Salmon

Commission Registrar  
Legal and Commission Affairs Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
[candace.salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:candace.salmon@cnscccsn.gc.ca) / cell: (343) 630-3471

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---

**From:** Keegan McGrath <keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca>  
**Sent:** May 1, 2025 12:26 PM  
**To:** Frigault, Nicole; Trevor Moberly; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Rodney Laprise; Ryan Smith; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin; Hunter, Hilary  
**Subject:** RE: BNDN-CNSC Meeting Notes - April 30, 2025

---

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hello Nicole,  
Thanks for setting up the meeting yesterday and sharing these notes.

We look forward to seeing the info package in the next month or so.

Kind regards,  
Keegan

—  
**Keegan McGrath MES, B.Sc.**  
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**From:** Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** May 1, 2025 3:08 PM  
**To:** Trevor Moberly <trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca>; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Rodney Laprise <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>; Ryan Smith <ryan@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Keegan McGrath <keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <chief1@birchnarrows.ca>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** BNDN-CNSC Meeting Notes - April 30, 2025

Good afternoon,

Thank you all for taking the time to meet yesterday afternoon.

I jotted down a few notes/meeting minutes – please let me know if you have any suggested changes/or if I captured anything incorrectly. – tks!

April 30, 2025  
BNDN-CNSC Meeting to discuss proposed Rook I Project

Meeting Attendees:

BNDN: Trevor Moberly, Terrie Campbell, Rodney Laprise, Ryan Smith (Tamarack), Keegan McGrath (Tamarack)  
CNSC: Nicole Frigault, Justin McKeown

Items discussed/Action Items:

- CNSC staff provided an update on current status of EA, currently drafting CEAA 2012 EA Report, Consultation report as well as commission member document
- **CNSC ACTION 01:** CNSC staff to share with BNDN (on approximately May 30, 2025) documents for accuracy review: 1. Text from the Consultation Report which will outline CNSC consultation activities since the beginning of the Rook I project in 2019. This will also includes background information on BNDN, a table summary of key consultation activities to date, and a summary of concerns raised to date; and 2. The EA Report Views Expressed sections for each topic area. (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, and so on), relevant to issues and concerns raised by BNDN, related to each topic area.
- BNDN members shared current status of outstanding issues and concerns and how things are going with regards to meetings with NexGen
- **CNSC ACTION 02:** CNSC staff to set up monthly recurring meetings – (Action complete April 30, 2025)

Best Regards,  
Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada  
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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 3:21 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath; John Glover; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin  
**Subject:** CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** BNDN Consultation Report - Section 4.3 - For Review.docx;  
BNDN\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_Views\_Expressed.docx

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.3 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BNDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BNDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BNDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BNDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
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*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*



## 4.3 Consultation Activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation

### 4.3.1 Background on Birch Narrows Dene Nation



**Figure 13: BNDN Logo**

Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) is a signatory of Treaty 10 and is situated in northern Saskatchewan, north of Buffalo Narrows on Wasekamio Lake, with their main community being Turnor Lake, Saskatchewan. BNDN is approximately 2,693 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 807 members with 431 members living on-reserve and 299 members living at locations off-reserve. The Nation has year-round road access. BNDN is also a member of Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC). The MLTC represents 9 different First Nations that are signatories to three different treaty areas (6, 8, and 10) in northwest Saskatchewan.

BNDN has reserve lands at three sites: 1) Turnor Lake 193B, which adjoins the Northern Hamlet of Turnor Lake; 2) Churchill Lake 193A, which contains the historic site of Clear Lake at the junction of Churchill Lake and Frobisher Lake; and 3) Turnor Lake 194, which is on Peter Pond east of Dillion. In a straight-line distance, the Rook1 Project is located approximately 130 km from the main Birch Narrows reserve and is within BNDN's traditional territory.

CNSC has an established relationship with BNDN, and the Nation has expressed an interest in other CNSC-regulated facilities in northern Saskatchewan previously. NexGen has been engaging with BNDN since 2019 on the Project.

#### 4.3.2 CNSC's Consultation Activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation

Since 2019, CNSC staff have continued to consult, engage, and keep BNDN informed of the Project, providing ongoing opportunities to meet and discuss any of the Nation's comments or concerns. CNSC staff have offered to develop a Terms of Reference (TOR) for long-term engagement with BNDN, as well as a project-specific TOR. To date, BNDN has not expressed an interest in developing these types of consultation and engagement arrangements with the CNSC.

CNSC staff remain open to and interested in developing a mutually agreeable TOR for long-term engagement that outlines how the CNSC and BNDN could engage and collaborate on nuclear projects in their territories. CNSC and BNDN continue to meet monthly to discuss the Project, including working towards understanding, assessing, and addressing the concerns that BNDN has raised with regards to the Project.

NexGen entered into a capacity funding agreement with BNDN in July 2021, which included funding for BNDN to complete and provide an Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey (IRKS). In December 2019, BNDN completed the *Birch Narrows Dene Nation Traditional Knowledge and Use Study Specific to NexGen Energy Limited's Proposed Rook 1 Project*, which was shared with NexGen and the CNSC. NexGen included the results from the study in the draft and Final EIS. CNSC staff have collaborated with BNDN in reflecting and including the information shared in the study to support CNSC staff's review of the NexGen EIS, as well as in drafting the CNSC's reports, assessments, and recommendations to the Commission. CNSC staff drafted a What We Heard Report (WWHR) based on the study and shared it with BNDN for review and confirmation of accuracy.

CNSC and BNDN have had ongoing discussions to address Project-specific concerns and potential impacts to their Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights. BNDN has previously expressed concerns in relation to technical elements of the project, which are summarized in Appendix \_\_\_\_ Issues Tracking Table.

CNSC staff have worked with BNDN and NexGen to respond to all the Nation's concerns, questions, and comments. In July 2021, NexGen and BNDN signed a Mutual Benefit Agreement (MBA), which addresses the interests of the Nation, as well as their concerns and priorities in relation to the Project. In November 2022 and October 2023, BNDN sent letters of support for the Project to the CNSC.

Since submitting these letters of consent and support, BNDN sent an additional letter to the CNSC, in October 2024, indicating that they were rescinding their previous letters of support for the project as they had several outstanding issues and concerns. The CNSC has been working and meeting with BNDN to address consensus with BNDN on outstanding issues and concerns. The CNSC has also encouraged BNDN and NexGen to work together to resolve any outstanding issues and reach

consensus on the proposed Project if possible. The CNSC and BNDN have also continued to meet monthly to collaborate on drafting content for the CNSC staff's Consultation Report, to ensure that information specific to BNDN, such as their Rights, knowledge, concerns and perspectives, is captured accurately.

**Table 4 Summary of the key consultation activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Consultation Activity</b>
April 2019 – June 2019	CNSC staff sent BNDN an email and letter providing notice that the CNSC has received an application for the Rook I Project. The letter outlined CNSC's licensing and EA processes and opportunities for BNDN's participation and funding opportunities. CNSC staff followed up via phone to seek comments on the Project description.
July 2019 –December 2019	No activity.
January 2020-June 2020	No activity.
July 2020 – December 2020	<p>BNDN sent an application for participant funding and a request to meet to discuss the Project with CNSC staff. BNDN participated in a Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting with CNSC staff and NexGen. The JWG discussed the duty to consult, as well as the CNSC EA and licensing processes.</p> <p>BNDN expressed concerns about radiation and cancer stemming from uranium mining and CNSC staff agreed to coordinate a presentation on the health of uranium workers.</p>
January 2021 – June 2021	<p>BNDN and CNSC staff signed a Contribution Agreement to support BNDN in providing comments on the draft EIS, once ready.</p> <p>As a follow up to the JWG meeting in 2020, CNSC staff presented on the health impacts of uranium workers, including the CNSC's and Saskatchewan's oversight.</p>
July 2021 –December 2021	<p>BNDN signed an IBA with NexGen.</p> <p>CNSC staff reached out to establish regular meetings with BNDN on the Project.</p>

January 2022 – June 2022	<p>CNSC staff and BNDN met to discuss the sharing of Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use study which BNDN completed for the Project. BNDN shared the TLU confidentially and CNSC outlined how this information would be used to support the regulatory process.</p> <p>CNSC staff sent BNDN a letter which outlines the proposed consultation approach for the Project. This includes the option for BNDN to participate in the Federal and Indigenous Review Team (FIRT), collaborate on sections of the EA report, and develop a TOR or consultation protocol.</p> <p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Turnor Lake and met with Chief and Council to discuss BNDN's concerns on the Project.</p>
July 2022 – December 2022	<p>BNDN submitted their review of the draft EIS to CNSC staff. CNSC staff met with BNDN in Saskatoon to discuss BNDN's review of the draft EIS and next steps in the regulatory process.</p> <p>In November 2022, BNDN submitted a letter of support to CNSC outlining that BNDN had signed an MBA with NexGen and that they would continue to engage with NexGen throughout the lifespan of the Project.</p>
January 2023 – June 2023	<p>CNSC staff and BNDN met to discuss updates on the Project, as well as the potential to develop a TOR for long-term engagement.</p> <p>CNSC staff and BNDN met to discuss the Rook I EA process, including timelines for NexGen's EIS re-submissions. CNSC staff introduced their new Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund. CNSC staff discussed the RIA process with BNDN and shared other RIA examples.</p> <p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Turnor Lake.</p>
July 2023 – December 2023	<p>CNSC staff developed a WWHR in response to BNDN's TLU and shared it BNDN for their feedback.</p>

	<p>In October 2023, BNDN provided a letter to CNSC indicating that all issues and concerns that BNDN identified that could have been addressed at that time had been resolved, and that NexGen and BNDN have developed a process for resolving other issues and concerns during the project lifespan.</p>
January 2024 – June 2024	<p>In a meeting between the CNSC and BNDN, CNSC staff provided an update which included estimated timelines for the Project. CNSC staff provided examples of outstanding IRs and next steps in that process. BNDN expressed several outstanding technical concerns regarding the Rook 1 EIS.</p>
July 2024 – December 2024	<p>CNSC staff met with BNDN to provide updates on the NexGen Project. BNDN provided a letter outlining that there are outstanding issues on the draft EIS, including issues with the proposed mitigation measures.</p> <p>CNSC staff and BNDN corresponded about the status of the EIS and noted that all responses to FIRT comments had been accepted.</p> <p>In October 2024, BNDN sent a letter notifying the CNSC that BNDN is formally rescinding their former letters to the CNSC dated November 15, 2022, and October 29, 2023.</p>
January 2025 – June 2025	<p>CNSC staff, including CNSC SMEs, met with BNDN to discuss BNDN's outstanding concerns regarding water quality and to answer any additional questions BNDN might have on how CNSC staff completed their assessment to date.</p> <p>BNDN provided a letter to CNSC staff outlining the Nation's disagreement with CNSC's determination on the EIS. Particularly, BNDN shared concerns around inadequate water quality modelling and flaws in the cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>CNSC staff sent an email and letter with proposed next steps for consultation and engagement with BNDN for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process. This letter included a status update on the acceptance of the final EIS, as well as next steps in</p>

	<p>developing an EA report, consultation report, and Commission Member Document.</p> <p>BNDN provided a letter to President Tremblay to support the established schedule for the NexGen Rook 1 two-part hearings. The registry responded to the letter acknowledging BNDN's support for the hearings schedule and acknowledging that BNDN has concerns about the project, encouraging BNDN to continue discussing those concerns with CNSC staff.</p>
July 2025 – December 2025	TBD.

#### 4.3.2 Key issues and concerns raised by Birch Narrows Dene Nation

The key issues and concerns specific to the Project that BNDN has raised to date are summarized below. BNDN raised these concerns in their October 2022 submission on the draft EIS. The detailed issues tracking table for BNDN can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_. The specific row discussing these issues can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ and is listed beside each bullet. Please refer to this row in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ for additional context regarding the issue, CNSC staff's response and the issue's current status.

1. Concerns about wildlife and ecosystem health around the following topics:
  - a. Concerns that contamination may harm wildlife and reduce the health of animals harvested by community members.
  - b. Concerns there may be potential impacts on trapline species and broader ecological systems.
2. Concerns about water quality and aquatic health including concerns around the following topics:
  - a. Concerns about risk of water contamination leading to diseased fish and declining fish populations.
  - b. Concerns about potential degradation of water quality in Patterson Lake and connected waterways.
  - c. Concerns about acute toxicity from elements such as uranium and zinc posing risks to fish and aquatic life.

- d. Concerns about long-terms risks of permanent impairment to Patterson Lake, affecting fish health and water quality.
  - e. Concerns about the importance of ongoing, perpetual monitoring of water and fish quality.
3. Concerns about tailings and waste management including the following:
- a. Concerns about the stability and safety of the underground tailings management area.
  - b. Concerns about the potential for acid rock drainage and sulphur dioxide emissions from waste rock piles impacting Patterson Lake.
  - c. Concerns about uncertainty of the waste rock storage and water quality modelling assumptions.
  - d. Need for revision of waste rock seepage and water quality models.
  - e. Request for detailed understanding and surface-level management of tailings.
4. Concerns about effluent and discharge management including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Concerns that there is a preference for achieving water quality objectives at the point of discharge without reliance on mixing zones.
  - b. Concerns that the proposed effluent guidelines are not stringent enough
  - c. Concerns about the need for regular revision of effluent quality objectives
  - d. Recommendation from BNDN that effluent discharge permits to expire every five years for reassessment.
  - e. Concerns about synergistic effects of elevated metals in final effluent.
5. Concerns about social and cultural impacts of the proposed project around access and land use, and cultural heritage and identify including the following topics:
- a. Increased competition with non-Indigenous recreational users
  - b. Loss of access to cabins, campsites and travel routes due project activities and security measures.
  - c. Increased traffic volumes impeding access to fishing areas.
  - d. Potential loss of access to leased lands, especially around Patterson Lake
  - e. Exclusion of land users and interested individuals from communities farther from the Project.
  - f. Loss of traditional knowledge, stories, and practices.

- g. Impacts from existing developments and other factors rendering cultural values vulnerable.
  - h. Long-term impacts to Patterson Lake and Clearwater Lake affecting cultural and land-based practices.
  - i. Disruption of sense of place due to increased human activity, traffic, garbage, and landscape changes.
  - j. Violation of BNDN beliefs and norms governing human-nature interactions.
6. Concerns about human health including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Concerns about contamination of watercourses, food plants, and medicines.
  - b. Concerns about airborne pollutants potentially affecting human health.
  - c. Concerns about negative impacts on mental health within the BNDN community.
  - d. Concerns about increased health risks due to cumulative effects from the project and existing industrial activities.
7. Concerns socioeconomic including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Concerns about the need to balance business, employment, and training opportunities among communities and Indigenous Groups.
  - b. Concerns about potential substance abuse linked to increased income from the Project.
  - c. Concerns expressed about the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan to verify impact assessments and support adaptive management.
  - d. Request for development of a Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan.
8. Concerns about cumulative effects including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Concerns about the combined impacts of multiple industrial projects within BNDN territory.
  - b. Concerns about the legacy effects from past mining activities, transmission lines, and environmental stressors such as forest fires.
  - c. Concerns about acidic precipitation from Alberta oil sands potentially affecting the Project site.
  - d. Concerns about the need to include sulphur dioxide emissions in the cumulative effects assessment.



9. Specific requests and recommendations BNDN have made:
- a. Collaborate with BNDN to resolve concerns before submission of the Final EIS.
  - b. Include a condition of approval to prevent significant changes to water levels in Patterson Lake and Clearwater River system.
  - c. Obtain written consent from BNDN for final permitted effluent quality objectives.
  - d. Present findings to the community on groundwater changes from baseline conditions.
  - e. Ensure sufficient closure bonding for tailings disposal.
  - f. Make baseline geochemical data publicly available.
  - g. Conduct thorough review and analysis of geochemical baseline data before project approval.
  - h. Mitigate and accommodate impacts to BNDN Treaty and Aboriginal rights.
  - i. Assess alternatives to address long-term loading of cobalt and copper into Patterson Lake.
  - j. Establish a trust fund for ongoing monitoring of water and fish quality in Patterson Lake.
  - k. Secure BNDN Consent for surface water quality monitoring programs.
  - l. Assessment of buffering capacity of lakes and rivers impacted by the Project.
  - m. Develop mitigation and monitoring measures to prevent acidification of Patterson Lake.

Since notifying BNDN of the project in 2019, both NexGen and CNSC staff have endeavoured to address concerns through the consultation and engagement process using clear technical responses and discussions, agreements, mitigations and accommodation measures. However, BNDN has indicated that there are several outstanding concerns, largely related to water quality and potential contamination, that have not been addressed to their satisfaction. CNSC staff responses and proposed commitments are outlined below. CNSC staff will continue to work with BNDN and NexGen to address outstanding concerns.

#### **4.3.3 CNSC Staff's Response**

CNSC staff acknowledge the issues and concerns that BNDN has raised to date relating to the NexGen Rook 1 Project. CNSC staff have worked to understand, assess and address the concerns to the greatest extent possible. This was done by having focused discussions and consultations, including providing detailed responses, reflecting BNDN's views in CNSC's documentation, and discussing the Project at regularly scheduled meetings to better understand BNDN's concerns and identify commitments, mitigations, and paths forward to addressing concerns. CNSC staff's view is that the approach to consultation conducted for the Project has been in line with best practises and

is flexible, based on the specific needs and requests of each potentially impacted Indigenous Nation and community. CNSC staff will continue to monitor NexGen's engagement with BNDN throughout the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and ensure that NexGen is addressing BNDN's questions, concerns, and requests, and implementing commitments made to BNDN. CNSC staff have and will continue to provide opportunities for BNDN to provide input and feedback on how they would like to be consulted for the Project in ways that are meaningful to them.

CNSC staff have made some initial commitments (listed below) to address the concerns BNDN has raised to date. CNSC staff will continue to discuss these commitments further with BNDN. CNSC staff are committed to working with BNDN through the RIA process and through consultation on the Project to identify additional commitments, mitigations and paths forward to addressing concerns related to the Project, as appropriate. The outcomes of this process, as well as a final commitment list, will be part of CNSC staff's supplemental submission to the Commission.

Information regarding specific responses to each of BNDN's concerns is included in the issues tracking table found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

In summary, CNSC staff are committed to:

- Continuing to discuss the requests for mitigation and accommodation that BNDN has raised, including with NexGen, as appropriate;
- Collaborating on monitoring, oversight and engagement with BNDN;
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with BNDN for this Project on regular information sharing including discussions through a proposed TOR for long-term engagement between the CNSC and BNDN;
- Oversight of NexGen's commitments to BNDN;
- Oversight of NexGen's engagement with BNDN; and
- Continuing ongoing community visits and engagement with BNDN.

CNSC staff encourage NexGen to continue discussions and collaboration with BNDN to address any outstanding concerns and additional concerns that may arise. CNSC staff anticipate receiving an update from NexGen on their engagement efforts in an IER to be filed on record, as part of the upcoming Commission hearings.

CNSC staff have worked with BNDN and NexGen to respond to the Nation's concerns, questions, and comments. BNDN has indicated that they still have outstanding concerns with the project, which CNSC will continue to work to address, together with NexGen. NexGen's commitments to BNDN are summarized in Section X, and further information will be included in the CNSC's supplemental submission to the Commission. The CNSC looks forward to continuing to work with BNDN throughout the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and is committed to working with the Nation to address any outstanding concerns.

Information regarding specific responses to each of BNDN's concerns is included in the issues tracking table which can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

#### **4.3.4 Conclusion**

CNSC staff are committed to continuing to consult, engage and work collaboratively with BNDN and NexGen in advance of the Part-2 Commission hearing to address any outstanding concerns, should they arise. This includes work on drafting a BNDN-specific RIA, which will provide updated information about potential impacts of the Project application on BNDN's Indigenous Rights. Mitigation and/or accommodation measures to address any identified impacts will be included in the supplemental submission, to be submitted to the Commission prior to the Part-2 hearing.



# Environmental Assessment Report: Rook I Project

September 2025



Canadian Nuclear  
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne  
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

## ***Executive Summary***

*Background*

*Environmental assessment requirements*

*Scope of the assessment*

*Potential effects of the project on the environment*

*Indigenous consultation and engagement*

*Follow-up monitoring program*

*Recommendations*

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*Note, this Table of Contents is only a draft for context.*



## Section 6 - PREDICTED CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT

### 6.1. Atmospheric environment

#### 6.1.1 Air Quality / 6.1.2 Acoustic Environment / 6.1.3 Greenhouse Gases

Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) critiqued the use of diesel power generators and recommended that NexGen replace them with the Best Available Technology Economically Available (BATEA) to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) and air pollutant emissions. The Nation also requested that NexGen include GHG emissions related to fuel hauling and freight in its GHG emissions model. BNDN emphasized that the results of modeling for the residual effects assessment for air quality should be analyzed with reference to relevant regulatory standards. For the assessment itself, the Nation noted that NexGen did not include Dioxins and Furans (D&F) compound emissions, radon or other radionuclides, or metals where it should have, and that NexGen ought to specify how it will monitor air contaminant concentrations throughout the Project lifecycle. Of particular concern to BNDN is the lichen-caribou-human food chain, which is vulnerable to the bio-accumulative effects of airborne radionuclides. BNDN also expressed concerns about NexGen's air dispersion modelling, which did not take variable conditions, such as wildfires, into consideration. The Nation recommended the halting or modification of project construction and operations in the event of wildfires, given their ability to cause particulate exceedances. Similarly, BNDN recommended that NexGen consider the impacts of sulphur dioxide emissions from Alberta oil sands operations in its cumulative effects assessment and requested that NexGen develop a GHG emissions offsetting plan. Finally, BNDN requested clarification on what the total Project Hazard Quotient (HQ) was compared to for the risk assessment for each medium, including air.

### 6.2. Aquatic Environment

#### 6.2.1. Changes in surface water quality and sediment quality

BNDN found that NexGen's modeling and conclusions concerning surface water quality were inadequate and significantly understated the potential impacts of the Project on surface water quality. BNDN noted that the EIS understates the acid generating capability of the waste rock produced from the Project and raised concerns that water quality will be irreversibly impaired in Patterson Lake. In addition, BNDN members are concerned that any impacts to surface water quality may have adverse impacts to human health and traditional practices.

BNDN requested that a baseline survey for sediment quality and characteristics be completed on a section of the Clearwater River between Broach lake and Forest lake to determine the health of an upstream area from Patterson lake that is likely used for spawning runs for important fish species. BNDN indicated concerns that runoff from the Project footprint may cause adverse impacts to sediment quality, which in turn may affect human health. BNDN observed that sediment pathways did not appear to be calculated in the human health risk assessment (HHRA) and indicated that exposures and associated health risks should be quantified for all complete human health exposure pathways, including sediment. Lastly, BNDN noted that concentrations in sediment was based off of concentrations in water in the EIS and that not collecting baseline sediment data adds a level of uncertainty to the environmental risk assessment.

#### 6.2.2. Changes in surface water hydrology

BNDN members are concerned that utilizing cemented paste backfill and cemented paste tailings in the underground tailings management facility (UTMF) will have the potential for long-term impacts to surface water.

#### 6.2.3. Fish and fish habitat

BNDN recommended that that small-bodied fish be included in the assessment of fish and fish habitat as small-bodied fish account for unique ecological niches and roles in aquatic ecosystems. In addition, BNDN noted concerns regarding potential adverse impacts to fish and fish habitat from various Project operations.

### **6.3. Terrestrial environment**

#### 6.3.2. Vegetation

BNDN indicated that the Project will result in habitat loss and alterations, including alterations to vegetation communities. The alterations will have potential impacts on wildlife. BNDN also noted that Project-related particulate matter may result in increased particulate deposition on vegetation, which in turn may have adverse impacts to human health and wildlife. Further, BNDN is concerned that Project-related dust will also deposit on traditionally important vegetation communities. BNDN requested that NexGen develop a follow-up monitoring program for sensitive vegetation communities.

### **6.4. Geological and hydrogeological environment**

#### 6.4.1. Changes in groundwater flow / 6.4.2. Changes in groundwater quality

BNDN indicated their concerns that through continual loading of elevated concentrations of COPCs, that groundwater could be adversely impacted for thousands of years based on NexGen's Application and Reasonably Foreseeable Development Cases contained in the EIS. BNDN requested that the Crown require NexGen to obtain BNDN's approval for their groundwater monitoring plan. Additionally, BNDN expressed concern that utilizing cemented paste backfill and cemented past tailings in the underground operations could adversely impact groundwater quality. BNDN also indicated that as a result of the underground tailings management facility (UGTMF), that elevated levels of copper and cobalt predicted to occur in the EIS will be a result of groundwater migration from the UGTMF and are concerned of the potential impacts related to groundwater from the UGTMF. BNDN are also concerned that mine-affected groundwater is predicted to reach Patterson Lake in 43 years and questioned whether groundwater monitoring will be carried out to determine if impacted groundwater predictions remain accurate.

### **6.5. Human Environment**

#### 6.5.1. Human Health

BNDN members are concerned that any impacts to surface water quality may have adverse impacts to human health and traditional practices.

BNDN identified issues with the Human Health Conceptual Model, recommending that the model include dermal contact with surface water and groundwater and account for variable conditions, such as wildfire season. The Nation also requested further discussion of several topics, including the potential

impacts of Dioxins and Furans compound (D&F) emissions, radon, and other radionuclides on human health, as well health hazards associated with molybdenum and uranium and cancers associated with airborne radionuclides and bioaccumulation. For all human health exposure pathways, including sediment, the Nation also requested the quantification of exposures and associated health risks. Stating that runoff can adversely affect human health, the Nation recommended that chemical concentrations exceeding guidelines in runoff be classified as COPCs as part of the environmental risk assessment. BNDN underscored that indicators used to assess Community Wellbeing do not adequately consider Indigenous indicators of wellbeing. Highlighting the differences between provincial and federal risk benchmarks, BNDN underscored that the Project presents potentially unacceptable risks when interpreted using more conservative (i.e., provincial) benchmarks, particularly when it comes to arsenic.

## **7. PREDICTED EFFECTS ON VALUED COMPONENTS**

### **7.2. Terrestrial Biota / 7.3. Migratory Birds / 7.4. Ungulates, Furbearers and Woodland Caribou**

BNDN underscored that it expects NexGen to exercise reasonable caution to protect highly sensitive and culturally important species to the Nation. Specifically, BNDN asked NexGen to develop a wild foods monitoring program to monitor radionuclides in culturally significant species (e.g., woodland caribou, moose, and blueberries) and other species which BNDN and other Nations identify. Habitat loss for woodland caribou is of particular concern, and so BNDN asked NexGen to commit to monitoring ungulate densities within the Regional Study Area (RSA), as well as those of predators. The Nation wants to be meaningfully involved in mitigation and offsetting plans, including but not limited to culverts for aquatic connectivity, wildlife crossings, and fencing to prevent road mortalities of the Canadian toad, as well as the installation of compensation habitat structures from tree removals, such as bat maternity roost boxes.

### **7.5. Indigenous uses: Current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes**

#### Indigenous Land Use

BNDN members emphasised that fishing is important for subsistence, survival, livelihood and is an important part of community and cultural life. The Study notes that commercial fishing largely occurs in the winter but fishing is also practiced year-round. A number of important fishing locations were identified in close proximity to the project site including Patterson Lake, Forest Lake, Preston Lake, and Lloyd Lake. Other important lakes located further afield that BNDN residents harvest fish from include Descharme Lake, Careen Lake, Proudfoot Lake, and Turnor Lake. The BNDN study identified values related to fishing including a cabin site used while fishing, lake trout, whitefish, jackfish (northern pike), pickerel (walleye), suckers, commercial fishing areas, winter fishing areas, trails used for accessing fishing areas, and net fishing areas.

BNDN also shared concerns around Indigenous land use practices influence the community and sense of place, spirituality, ceremonies, knowledge transmission, place names, travel routes and habitation sites. These values are connected to the traditional territory and rely on BNDN members having unimpeded and undisturbed access to the territory. BNDN also highlighted the importance that place names have in connecting contemporary BNDN members with the history of their people and in knowledge transmission. This knowledge transmission often requires access to the land and uncontaminated

resources. Additional values related to cultural continuity included a cabin site, teaching areas, a gathering site and Dene place name.

BNDN notes that harvesting plants for food and medicine are important activities for many BNDN members, and important aspects of BNDN cultural life. Water too, may be considered medicinal, and is often an ingredient in traditional medicines. Blueberry gathering sites, a portage location, water monitoring sites and drinking water locations were identified within the study area.

BNDN TKLUS describes that BNDN members have experienced changes in their ability to hunt and trap across their territory. Members have noticed changes in animal availability and population. Members have contributed these changes to forest fires, overhunting, government regulations, industrial activity, and resource exploration. BNDN members identified an important site known as the dancing ground where Dene would gather to celebrate, hunt and fish. BNDN members did not know the exact location.

#### Landscape Fragmentation and Changes to Terrestrial Environment

BNDN's TKUS emphasizes the importance of hunting and trapping to the culture and subsistence ways of life for members of BNDN. The study highlights that there are key hunting and trapping locations throughout the territory and many members travel north to hunt, in the Study Area and beyond. BNDN's study The Study notes that moose and caribou are important resources for BNDN hunters. Other values related to hunting and trapping include chickens (grouse), rabbits, temporary resting locations used during moose hunts, terrestrial trails for accessing hunting areas, moose kill site, moose processing site, camp sites used during moose hunt, trails used for hunting, trapping locations for marten, beaver, fox, mink and lynx.

#### Surface Water and Groundwater Contamination and Use

BNDN members have experienced negative changes related to fishing in recent decades, including an increase in diseased or unhealthy fish being caught. For example, BNDN members noted that fish in Patterson Lake are diseased and that this could be attributed to the contamination caused by the drilling and mining activities. BNDN has also raised concerns about contaminants spreading through the water system and spreading via interconnected lakes and rivers, notably downstream through the Clearwater River system. Although the Study states that water and plant gathering were not selected as valued components for the purposes of the Study, it does highlight that water and plant gathering sites are important to BNDN members.

#### Increased Access & Changes to Access

BNDN members' have concerns with respect to the disruption of the sense of place in the Study Area due to increases in traffic, human activity, and garbage, as well as changes to valued landscape features, as a result of the Project. Increases in traffic in the Study Area and beyond due to Project activities and non-Indigenous recreational users impeding the ability of BNDN members to access preferred hunting, fishing and trapping areas. BNDN also raised concerns on the potential to the loss of access to cabins, campsites, and travel routes due to avoidance and the installation of Project gating and other security measures and therefore the ability and opportunity of BNDN members to transmit cultural knowledge to future generations.

#### Legacy Impacts and Fear and Avoidance

### Cumulative Impacts of mining projects and exploration activities

BNDN members have concerns that cumulative impacts of substantial and growing projects and mineral exploration activity will severely limit their ability to practice continued and use of the region around and north of Patterson Lake.

BNDN members are concerned that the Rook 1 Project could contribute to cumulative effects. Study participants voiced frustration at historical and ongoing alienation from the territory caused by numerous sources, including the development of mines and mining activity within their territory.

### Community Health and Socio-Economic

BNDN members expressed concern that existing mines and exploration activities in the region are contaminating waters in the territory. For instance, BNDN members described how they avoid drinking from the area around Patterson Lake due to mineral exploration activity. Study participants expressed concerns that harmful uranium dust could be released into the air, and that uranium waste could lead to cancer and other illnesses. The mental health of BNDN residents has already been impacted by the Project's potential.

## **8. OTHER EFFECTS CONSIDERED**

### **8.3. Effects of the environment on the project**

#### Potential impacts as a result of climate change

BNDN noted concerns that NexGen's EIS acknowledged the Project's contribution to climate change through greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions however, the Project has not committed to a climate change offset plan such as other mining projects in Canada have.

### **8.4. Cumulative environmental effects**

BNDN noted concerns regarding potential adverse impacts to fish and fish habitat from various Project operations.

## **11. MONITORING AND FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMS**

BNDN requested that NexGen develop a follow-up monitoring program for sensitive vegetation communities.

BNDN are concerned that mine-affected groundwater is predicted to reach Patterson Lake in 43 years and questioned whether groundwater monitoring will be carried out to determine if impacted groundwater predictions remain accurate. BNDN requested that the Crown require NexGen to obtain BNDN's approval for their groundwater monitoring plan.

BNDN asked NexGen to develop a wild foods monitoring program to monitor radionuclides in culturally significant species (e.g., woodland caribou, moose, and blueberries) and other species which BNDN and other Nations identify. Habitat loss for woodland caribou is of particular concern, and so BNDN asked NexGen to commit to monitoring ungulate densities within the Regional Study Area (RSA), as well as those of predators.

---

**From:** John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>  
**Sent:** June 19, 2025 1:39 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hi Hilary,

Due to wildfires and other issues in the community, Birch Narrows requests and extension for providing comments on these documents to July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for your consideration.

John

—  
**John Glover**  
Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** June 2, 2025 5:21 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <chief1@birchnarrows.ca>  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath <keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.3 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BNDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BNDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.

2. The EA Report content for review includes a “Views Expressed” section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent’s assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff’s analysis, followed by CNSC staff’s conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BNDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BNDN’s feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Frigault, Nicole  
**Sent:** July 3, 2025 1:13 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre; Terrie Campbell; Trevor Moberly; Rodney Laprise; Kim Sylvestre  
**Cc:** Keegan McGrath; John Glover; Ryan Smith; McKeown, Justin; Hunter, Hilary  
**Subject:** BNDN-CNSC Meeting: Rook I Project Monthly Check-in - Meeting Notes  
**Attachments:** E-DOCS-#7541150-v1-BNDN\_CNSC\_meeting\_ntoes\_June\_25\_2025.DOCX

Good afternoon,

Attached please find the meeting notes from our June 25, 2025 BNDN-CNSC monthly update meeting. If you have any suggested additions/changes please let me know!

Thank you and wishing all a lovely weekend ahead!

Nicole

**Nicole Frigault**

Environmental Review Specialist, Technical Support Branch

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission / Government of Canada

Spécialiste en examen de l'environnement, Direction générale du soutien technique

Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire / Gouvernement du Canada

[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca) /Tel. : 782-409-4833



**June 25, 2025**

**BNDN-CNSC Meeting: Rook I Project Monthly Check-in**

**Meting Minutes**

**Meeting Participants:**

**BNDN:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre, Rodney Laprise, Kim Sylvestre, Trevor Moberly, Terrie Campbell

**Tamarack Consulting (representing BNDN)** – Keegan McGrath, John Glover, Ryan Smith

**CNSC** – Nicole Frigault, Hilary Hunter, Justin McKeown

**BNDN Updates:**

-BNDN asked CNSC if our subject matter experts have ever discussed changing the effluent regulations, as BNDN has been stating this concern since the beginning of this project and they are wondering if anything is being done about this.

- CNSC staff explained how our regulatory documents are updated on a cyclical basis and that this exercise includes posting the documents for public comment. **CNSC staff to share with BNDN how to get involved in this process.**

-BNDN will provide comments back to CNSC on the EA Report and Consultation Report text by July 11, 2025 as per the request for extension that has been granted by CNSC staff

-BNDN said that they continue to meet with NexGen however do not feel that their concerns are being resolved/addressed. BNDN concerns regarding water quality and cumulative effects remain and NexGen is not doing anything to try and address these concerns and therefore BNDN feel that these will remain unresolved. BNDN said that NexGen continues to present things at very high levels and refuses to get into any kind of technical discussion.

-BNDN leadership have been asking to meet with CEO Leigh Curyer, however NexGen keep sending Adam Engdahl in his place and have not made an effort to meet at a higher level with Chief Sylvestre

-BNDN have stated they feel that the Duty to Consult has not been met / accommodation measures to date have not been satisfactory – especially for a project of this size/impact – what has been offered to BNDN to date does not align with Canadian standards – nor does it align with what other communities have negotiated.

-BNDN continue to discuss potential amendments to their existing Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) however NexGen is refusing to re-negotiate at this time

-BNDN stated their frustration with NexGen not holding ANY open community meetings over the past 5-6 years and state that there has therefore not been any mechanism for members of the

community to learn about the project and to ask questions etc. NexGen has not even come to the community to present the findings of the EIS.

-BNDN also noted that they are aware that NexGen is also continuing to disregard federal regulations and keep trying to get ahead of schedule by ignoring the federal requirements – which also demonstrates NexGen's disregard for the federal regulator.

**CNSC Updates:**

-CNSC staff provided an update on current status – drafting EA Report and Commission Member Document underway. Reviews to start in mid-July and all documents to be posted in mid-September on the CNSC web page.

-CNSC staff asked BNDN if they feel a tri-party meeting between BNDN-CNSC and NexGen would help the current situation

- BNDN said that they would prefer if CNSC wrote NexGen a formal letter stating what we've heard from BNDN and outlining CNSC's expectations around engagement (CNSC commits to contacting NexGen to outline the concerns shared today).

-CNSC offered again to have our subject matter experts meet with BNDN to have technical discussions and to answer any questions that BNDN might have on how CNSC staff came to their conclusions on the review of and acceptance of a final EIS

-CNSC staff agreed that we would provide a message to NexGen that we have heard BNDN concerns that there has been a lack of transparency and a lack of engagement with the broader community and that BNDN leadership is also disappointed that NexGen leadership has not agreed to meet with them to discuss this project. We will also note that BNDN feel that the Duty to Consult has not been fulfilled

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**From:** John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>  
**Sent:** July 8, 2025 10:42 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin; Rodney Laprise  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** BNDN Consultation Report - Section 4.3 - For Review\_FINAL.docx;  
BNDN\_Rook\_I\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Report\_VIEWS\_Expressed\_BNDNChanges\_Final.docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hello Hilary,

Please find attached BNDNs revised versions of the EA and Consultation Report.

Let us know if there are any items you would like to discuss.

Best,  
John

—  
**John Glover**

Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** July 8, 2025 11:05 AM  
**To:** John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <chief1@birchnarrows.ca>  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath <keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Hello,

It was nice to meet you all at the end of June. I hope things are going well.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome at the end of the week on the attached sections.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** June 20, 2025 7:25 AM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good morning John,

Thank you for informing us of your current situation.

We recognize the seriousness of the situation and understand the disruption this has caused to the community. According, we are granting an extension for providing feedback on the consultation report and EERRs, with the revised deadline set for July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Wishing your community safety and resilience.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**Sent:** June 19, 2025 1:39 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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—  
**John Glover**

Director

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(519) 272-3498

[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

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**Sent:** June 2, 2025 5:21 PM

**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

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Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** August 21, 2025 9:02 AM  
**To:** 'John Glover'; 'Chief Jonathon Sylvestre'  
**Cc:** 'terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca'; 'Keegan McGrath'; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin; 'Rodney Laprise'  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report  
**Attachments:** Consultation activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation.docx

Good morning John,

As committed to in yesterday's meeting, please see the attached copy of the BNDN section of the consultation report.

If there is anything you'd like to discuss before our September meeting, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** July 22, 2025 2:51 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Rodney Laprise <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report

Good afternoon,

The CNSC appreciates BNDN's feedback on the CR. We are continuing to work on the Consultation report as it goes through various levels of reviews.

I've attached the latest copy of the BNDN section of the consultation report. We have incorporated a view expressed section to capture the feedback sent in by BNDN.

I'm checking in to see if the CNSC might anticipate any further updates from BNDN or are you happy with the current section? Secondly, if you would like to share a traditional lands map for BNDN, we would use that in place of the current map displayed in the attached section. Please let me know if that is something you'd like to include.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>

**Sent:** July 8, 2025 10:42 AM

**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Rodney Laprise <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

---

Hello Hilary,

Please find attached BNDNs revised versions of the EA and Consultation Report.

Let us know if there are any items you would like to discuss.

Best,  
John

—  
**John Glover**

Director

Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.

(519) 272-3498

[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** July 8, 2025 11:05 AM

**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Hello,

It was nice to meet you all at the end of June. I hope things are going well.



Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome at the end of the week on the attached sections.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

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[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary

**Sent:** June 20, 2025 7:25 AM

**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good morning John,

Thank you for informing us of your current situation.

We recognize the seriousness of the situation and understand the disruption this has caused to the community. According, we are granting an extension for providing feedback on the consultation report and EERRs, with the revised deadline set for July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Wishing your community safety and resilience.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>

**Sent:** June 19, 2025 1:39 PM

**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Hi Hilary,

Due to wildfires and other issues in the community, Birch Narrows requests and extension for providing comments on these documents to July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for your consideration.

John

—  
**John Glover**

Director

Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.

(519) 272-3498

[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** June 2, 2025 5:21 PM

**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.3 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BNDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BNDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BNDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BNDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>  
**Sent:** September 17, 2025 8:16 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath; Frigault, Nicole; McKeown, Justin; Rodney Laprise  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report  
**Attachments:** Consultation activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation\_rev1\_2025.09.17.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Hilary,

Here is the updated Consultation Report from BNDN.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to make the monthly meeting today. Perhaps we could shift it to the end of the month?

All the best,  
John

—  
**John Glover**

Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 9, 2025 4:58 PM  
**To:** John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <chief1@birchnarrows.ca>  
**Cc:** terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Keegan McGrath <keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; Frigault, Nicole <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; McKeown, Justin <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; Rodney Laprise <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report

Hi John,

I hope the beginning of September is going well for you.

We met a couple weeks ago and figured I would follow up to our discussion. Does BNDN have any updates to share with the CNSC as we are looking to finalize the contents of the Consultation Report in the next two weeks.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary  
**Sent:** August 21, 2025 9:02 AM  
**To:** 'John Glover' <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; 'Chief Jonathon Sylvestre' <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** 'terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca' <[terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca)>; 'Keegan McGrath' <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnsccsn.gc.ca)>; 'Rodney Laprise' <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report

Good morning John,

As committed to in yesterday's meeting, please see the attached copy of the BNDN section of the consultation report.

If there is anything you'd like to discuss before our September meeting, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnsccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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### **4.3 Consultation activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

Birch Narrows Dene Nation has reviewed and provided feedback on section 4.3 of the Consultation Report. CNSC staff note that the issues and concerns listed in section 4.3.3 are views of BNDN. Views expressed by BNDN are shared in 4.3.3.

#### **4.3.1 Background on Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

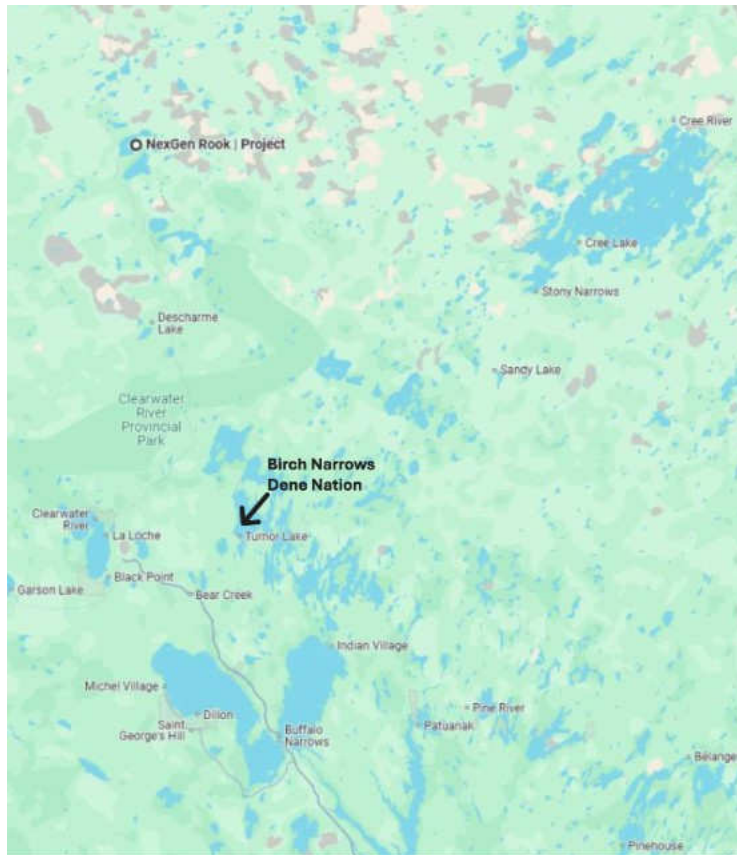


**Figure : BNDN logo**

Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) is a signatory of Treaty 10 and is situated in northern Saskatchewan, north of Buffalo Narrows on Wasekamio Lake, with their main community being Turnor Lake, Saskatchewan. BNDN is approximately 2,693 hectares in size and has a total registered population of 807 members with 431 members living on-reserve and 299 members living at locations off-reserve. The Nation has year-round road access. BNDN is also a member of Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC). The MLTC represents 9 different First Nations that are signatories to three different treaty areas (6, 8, and 10) in northwest Saskatchewan.

BNDN has reserve lands at three sites: 1) Turnor Lake 193B, which adjoins the Northern Hamlet of Turnor Lake, is located 230 km away by road from the Project; 2) Churchill Lake 193A, which contains the historic site of Clear Lake at the junction of Churchill Lake and Frobisher Lake, is located 36 km by water plus 256 km away by road from the Project; and 3) Turnor Lake 194, which is on Peter Pond east of Dillion, is located 330 km by road from the Project. In a straight-line distance, the Rook1 Project is located approximately 135 km in a straight line to the southeast and 230 km by road from the main Birch Narrows reserve, Turnor Lake 193B, and falls within BNDN's traditional territory.

CNSC has an established relationship with BNDN, and the Nation has expressed an interest in other CNSC-regulated facilities in northern Saskatchewan previously. NexGen has been engaging with BNDN since 2019 on the Project.



**Figure : BNDN traditional territory in the vicinity of the Project**

#### **4.3.2 CNSC's consultation activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

Since 2019, CNSC staff have continued to consult, engage, and keep BNDN informed of the Project, providing ongoing opportunities to meet and discuss any of the Nation's comments or concerns. CNSC staff have offered to develop a TOR for long-term engagement with BNDN, as well as a project-specific TOR. To date, BNDN has not expressed an interest in developing specific consultation and engagement arrangements with the CNSC.

CNSC staff remain open to and interested in developing a mutually agreeable TOR for long-term engagement that outlines how the CNSC and BNDN could engage and collaborate on nuclear projects in their territories. CNSC and BNDN continue to meet regularly to discuss the Project, including working towards understanding, assessing, and addressing the concerns that BNDN has raised with regards to the Project.

NexGen entered into a capacity funding agreement with BNDN in July 2021, which included funding for BNDN to complete and provide an Indigenous Rights and Knowledge Survey (IRKS). In December 2019, BNDN completed the Birch Narrows Dene Nation Traditional Knowledge and Use

Study Specific to NexGen Energy Limited’s Proposed Rook I Project, which was shared with NexGen and the CNSC. NexGen included the results from the study in the draft and Final EIS. CNSC staff have collaborated with BNDN in reflecting and including the information shared in the study to support CNSC staff’s review of the NexGen EIS, as well as in drafting the CNSC’s reports, assessments, and recommendations to the Commission. CNSC staff drafted a What We Heard Report (WWHR) based on the study and shared it with BNDN for review and confirmation of accuracy.

CNSC and BNDN have had ongoing discussions to address Project-specific concerns and potential impacts to their Indigenous and/or Treaty rights. BNDN has previously expressed concerns in relation to technical elements of the project, which are summarized in Appendix \_\_\_\_ Issues Tracking Table.

CNSC staff have worked with BNDN and NexGen to respond to all the Nation’s concerns, questions, and comments. In July 2021, NexGen and BNDN signed a Mutual Benefit Agreement (MBA), which addresses the interests of the Nation, as well as their concerns and priorities in relation to the Project. In November 2022 and October 2023, BNDN sent letters of support for the Project to the CNSC.

Since submitting these letters of consent and support, BNDN sent an additional letter to the CNSC, in October 2024, indicating that they were rescinding their previous letters of support for the project as they had several outstanding issues and concerns in relation to the Project. The CNSC has been working and meeting with BNDN to address concerns raised by BNDN and working towards a consensus on outstanding issues and concerns. The CNSC has also encouraged BNDN and NexGen to continue to work together to resolve any outstanding issues and reach consensus on the proposed Project if possible. The CNSC and BNDN have also continued to meet regularly to collaborate on drafting content for the CNSC staff’s Consultation Report, to ensure that information specific to BNDN, such as their rights, knowledge, concerns and perspectives, is captured accurately.

Appendix \_\_\_\_ includes key correspondence relating to the consultation activities listed below.

**Table 6: Summary of key consultation activities with Birch Narrows Dene Nation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Consultation Activity</b>
April 2019 – June 2019	CNSC staff sent BNDN an email and letter providing notice that the CNSC has received an application for the Rook I Project. The letter outlined CNSC’s licensing and EA processes and opportunities for



	BNDN's participation and funding opportunities. CNSC staff followed up via phone to seek comments on the Project description.
July 2019 –December 2019	No activity.
January 2020 – June 2020	In May 2020, CNSC staff sent a Stage 1 PFP notice for the opportunity to review the draft EIS for the proposed Project.
July 2020 – December 2020	<p>BNDN sent an application for participant funding and a request to meet to discuss the Project with CNSC staff. BNDN participated in a Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting with CNSC staff and NexGen. The JWG discussed the duty to consult, as well as the CNSC EA and licensing processes.</p> <p>BNDN expressed concerns about radiation and cancer stemming from uranium mining and CNSC staff agreed to coordinate a presentation on the health of uranium workers.</p>
January 2021 – June 2021	<p>BNDN and CNSC staff signed a Contribution Agreement to support BNDN in providing comments on the EIS, once ready.</p> <p>As a follow up to the JWG meeting in 2020, CNSC staff presented on the health impacts of uranium workers, including the CNSC's and Saskatchewan's oversight.</p>
July 2021 – December 2021	<p>BNDN signed an MBA with NexGen.</p> <p>CNSC staff reached out to establish regular meetings with BNDN on the Project.</p>
January 2022 – June 2022	<p>CNSC staff and BNDN met to discuss the sharing of Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use study which BNDN completed for the Project. BNDN shared the TLU confidentially and CNSC outlined how this information would be used to support the regulatory process.</p> <p>CNSC staff sent BNDN a letter which outlines the proposed consultation approach for the Project. This includes the option for BNDN to participate in the FIRT, collaborate on sections of the EA report, and develop a TOR or consultation protocol.</p>

	<p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Turnor Lake and met with Chief and Council and the Mayor to discuss BNDN's concerns about the Project.</p>
July 2022 – December 2022	<p>BNDN submitted their review of the EIS to CNSC staff. CNSC staff met with BNDN in Saskatoon to discuss BNDN's review of the EIS and next steps in the regulatory process.</p> <p>In November 2022, BNDN submitted a letter of support to CNSC outlining that BNDN had signed an MBA with NexGen and that they would continue to engage with CNSC and NexGen throughout the lifespan of the Project.</p>
January 2023 – June 2023	<p>CNSC staff and BNDN met to discuss updates on the Project, as well as the potential to develop a TOR for long-term engagement.</p> <p>CNSC staff and BNDN met to discuss the Rook I EA process, including timelines for NexGen's EIS re-submissions. CNSC staff introduced their new Indigenous and Stakeholder Capacity Fund. CNSC staff discussed the RIA process with BNDN and shared other RIA examples.</p> <p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Turnor Lake.</p>
July 2023 – December 2023	<p>CNSC staff developed a WWHR in response to BNDN's TLU and shared it BNDN for their feedback.</p> <p>In October 2023, BNDN provided a letter to CNSC indicating that all issues and concerns that BNDN identified that could have been addressed at that time had been resolved, and that NexGen and BNDN have developed a process for resolving other issues and concerns during the project lifespan. This letter was sent prior to BNDN receiving any formal responses from CNSC and NexGen on the EIS comments and recommendations. NexGen responded formally to BNDNs October 2022 EIS comments in September 2024.</p>
January 2024 – June 2024	<p>In a meeting between the CNSC and BNDN, CNSC staff provided an update which included estimated timelines for the Project. CNSC staff provided examples of outstanding IRs and next steps in that</p>

	<p>process. BNDN expressed several outstanding technical concerns regarding the Rook I EIS.</p> <p>CNSC staff participated in an in-person community information session in Turnor Lake.</p>
July 2024 – December 2024	<p>CNSC staff met with BNDN to provide updates on the NexGen Project. BNDN provided a letter outlining that there are outstanding issues on the EIS, including issues with the proposed mitigation measures.</p> <p>CNSC staff and BNDN corresponded about the status of the EIS and noted that all responses to FIRT comments had been accepted.</p> <p>In October 2024, BNDN sent a letter notifying the CNSC that BNDN is formally rescinding their former letters to the CNSC dated November 15, 2022, and October 29, 2023, until all outstanding environmental, regulatory and consultation issues were addressed.</p>
January 2025 – June 2025	<p>CNSC staff, including CNSC SMEs, met with BNDN to discuss BNDN's outstanding concerns regarding water quality and to answer any additional questions BNDN might have on how CNSC staff completed their assessment to date.</p> <p>BNDN provided a letter to CNSC staff outlining the Nation's position on statements made by CRDN and MN-S, as well as disagreement with CNSC's assessment of the EIS. Specifically, BNDN expressed concerns about inadequate water quality modelling and noted flaws in the cumulative effects assessment. CNSC staff committed to sharing this feedback with technical specialists and arranging a follow-up meeting with BNDN.</p> <p>CNSC staff sent an email and letter from the CNSC President and CEO with proposed next steps for consultation and engagement with BNDN for the remaining steps of the regulatory review process. This letter included a status update on the acceptance of the final EIS, as well as next steps in developing an EA report, consultation report, and Commission Member Document.</p>

July 2025 – December 2025	<p>BNDN submitted their review of their section of the consultation report and EA report to the CNSC on July 08, 2025.</p> <p>BNDN and CNSC held monthly meetings to discuss unresolved environmental, regulatory and consultation issues. BNDN, CNSC and NexGen continue to work to resolve outstanding issues and concerns.</p>
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#### 4.3.4 Birch Narrows Dene Nation's key issues and concerns

The key issues and concerns specific to the Project that BNDN has raised to date are summarized below. BNDN raised these concerns in their October 2022 submission on the EIS. The detailed issues tracking table for BNDN can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_. The specific row discussing these issues can be found in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ and is listed beside each bullet. Please refer to this row in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_ for additional context on the issue, CNSC staff's response and the issue's status.

1. Concerns about wildlife and ecosystem health around the following topics:
  - a. Concerns that contamination may harm wildlife and reduce the health of animals harvested by community members.
  - b. Concerns there may be potential impacts on trapline species and broader ecological systems.
2. Concerns about water quality and aquatic health including concerns around the following topics:
  - a. Concerns about risk of water contamination leading to diseased fish and declining fish populations.
  - b. Concerns about potential degradation of water quality in Patterson Lake and connected waterways.
  - c. Concerns about acute toxicity from elements such as uranium and zinc posing risks to fish and aquatic life.
  - d. Concerns about long-terms risks of permanent impairment to Patterson Lake, affecting fish health and water quality.
  - e. Concerns about the importance of ongoing, perpetual monitoring of water and fish quality.
3. Concerns about tailings and waste management including the following:

- a. Concerns about the stability and safety of the underground tailings management area.
  - b. Concerns about the potential for acid rock drainage and sulphur dioxide emissions from waste rock piles impacting Patterson Lake.
  - c. Concerns about uncertainty of the waste rock storage and water quality modelling assumptions.
  - d. Need for revision of waste rock seepage and water quality models.
  - e. Request for detailed understanding and surface-level management of tailings.
4. Concerns about effluent and discharge management including concerns around the following topics:
- a. Concerns that there is a preference for achieving water quality objectives at the point of discharge without reliance on mixing zones.
  - b. Concerns that the proposed effluent guidelines are not stringent enough
  - c. Concerns about the need for regular revision of effluent quality objectives
  - d. Recommendation from BNDN that effluent discharge permits to expire every five years for reassessment.
  - e. Concerns about synergistic effects of elevated metals in final effluent.
5. Concerns about social and cultural impacts of the proposed project around access and land use, and cultural heritage and identify including the following topics:
- a. Increased competition with non-Indigenous recreational users
  - b. Loss of access to cabins, campsites and travel routes due project activities and security measures.
  - c. Increased traffic volumes impeding access to fishing areas.
  - d. Potential loss of access to leased lands, especially around Patterson Lake
  - e. Exclusion of land users and interested individuals from communities farther from the Project.
  - f. Loss of traditional knowledge, stories, and practices.
  - g. Impacts from existing developments and other factors rendering cultural values vulnerable.
  - h. Long-term impacts to Patterson Lake and Clearwater Lake affecting cultural and land-based practices.
  - i. Disruption of sense of place due to increased human activity, traffic, garbage, and landscape changes.

- j. Violation of BNDN beliefs and norms governing human-nature interactions.
- 
- 6. Concerns about human health including concerns around the following topics:
    - a. Concerns about contamination of watercourses, food plants, and medicines.
    - b. Concerns about airborne pollutants potentially affecting human health.
    - c. Concerns about negative impacts on mental health within the BNDN community.
    - d. Concerns about increased health risks due to cumulative effects from the project and existing industrial activities.
- 
- 7. Concerns socioeconomic including concerns around the following topics:
    - a. Concerns about the need to balance business, employment, and training opportunities among communities and Indigenous Groups.
    - b. Concerns about potential substance abuse linked to increased income from the Project.
    - c. Concerns expressed about the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan to verify impact assessments and support adaptive management.
    - d. Request for development of a Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan.
- 
- 8. Concerns about cumulative effects including concerns around the following topics:
    - a. Concerns about the combined impacts of multiple industrial projects within BNDN territory.
    - b. Concerns about the legacy effects from past mining activities, transmission lines, and environmental stressors such as forest fires.
    - c. Concerns about acidic precipitation from Alberta oil sands potentially affecting the Project site.
    - d. Concerns about the need to include sulphur dioxide emissions in the cumulative effects assessment.
- 
- 9. Specific requests and recommendations BNDN have made:
    - a. Collaborate with BNDN to resolve concerns before submission of the Final EIS.
    - b. Include a condition of approval to prevent significant changes to water levels in Patterson Lake and Clearwater River system.
    - c. Obtain written consent from BNDN for final permitted effluent quality objectives.

- d. Present findings to the community on groundwater changes from baseline conditions.
- e. Ensure sufficient closure bonding for tailings disposal.
- f. Make baseline geochemical data publicly available.
- g. Conduct thorough review and analysis of geochemical baseline data before project approval.
- h. Mitigate and accommodate impacts to BNDN Treaty and Aboriginal rights.
- i. Assess alternatives to address long-term loading of cobalt and copper into Patterson Lake.
- j. Establish a trust fund for ongoing monitoring of water and fish quality in Patterson Lake.
- k. Secure BNDN Consent for surface water quality monitoring programs.
- l. Assessment of buffering capacity of lakes and rivers impacted by the Project.
- m. Develop mitigation and monitoring measures to prevent acidification of Patterson Lake.
- n. Concerns from the March 2025 technical memo submitted by BNDN which are noted in the EA report (see Appendix B).

Since notifying BNDN of the project in 2019, both NexGen and CNSC staff have worked towards addressing concerns raised through the consultation and engagement process using clear technical responses and discussions, agreements, mitigations and accommodation measures. However, BNDN has indicated that there are several outstanding concerns, largely related to water quality, caribou, and potential contamination, that have not been addressed to their satisfaction to date. CNSC staff responses and proposed commitments are outlined below. CNSC staff will continue to work with BNDN and NexGen to address outstanding concerns.

### Views Expressed

BNDN noted that following their October 2023 letter to the CNSC indicating that all issues and concerns were addressed and that a process with NexGen was in place to resolve outstanding issues, that NexGen did not formally respond to BNDN's comments from the October 2022 draft EIS until September 2024. In addition, BNDN submitted supplementary comments on engineering and safety risks associated with the Rook I Project in February 2025. The comments were focused primarily on the proposed underground tailings management facility ("UGTMF"), as well as safety risks. BNDN identified 16 concerns and to date BNDN has received no response from CNSC or NexGen on the Feb 2025 supplementary comments.

BNDN has indicated that the CNSC has a duty to consult, and, where appropriate, accommodate and/or mitigate potential impacts to Section 35 Aboriginal rights. ~~BNDN has noted that discussion and consultation to date do not fulfil the duty to consult and accommodate, nor do they address potential impacts to Section 35 Aboriginal rights.~~

#### **4.3.5 CNSC staff's response**

CNSC staff acknowledge the issues and concerns that BNDN has raised to date relating to the NexGen Rook I Project. CNSC staff have worked to understand, assess and address the concerns to the greatest extent possible. This was done by having focused discussions and consultations, including providing detailed responses, reflecting BNDN's views in CNSC's documentation, and discussing the Project at regularly scheduled meetings to better understand BNDN's concerns and identify commitments, mitigations and a path forward to addressing their concerns. CNSC staff have continuously offered to meet with BNDN. CNSC staff's view is that the approach to consultation conducted for the Project has been in line with best practises and is flexible, based on the specific needs and requests of each potentially impacted Indigenous Nation and community. CNSC staff will continue to monitor NexGen's engagement with BNDN throughout the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and ensure that NexGen is addressing BNDN's questions, concerns and requests, and implementing commitments made to BNDN. CNSC staff have and will continue to provide opportunities for BNDN to provide input and feedback on how they would like to be consulted and engaged for the Project in ways that are meaningful to them.

CNSC staff have made initial commitments to address BNDN's concerns, and these commitments are listed below. CNSC staff have discussed and will continue to discuss these commitments with BNDN. CNSC staff remain committed to working with BNDN throughout the RIA and consultation processes by identifying additional commitments, mitigations and a path forward to addressing concerns relating to the Project, as appropriate. The outcomes, including a final list of commitments, will be included in CNSC staff's supplemental submission to the Commission.

Information regarding specific responses to each of BNDN's concerns is included in the issues tracking table, found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

In summary, CNSC staff remain committed to:

- Continuing to discuss the requests for mitigation and accommodation that BNDN has raised, including with NexGen, as appropriate.
- Collaborating on monitoring, oversight and engagement with BNDN.
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with BNDN for this Project on regular information sharing including discussions through a proposed TOR for long-term engagement between the CNSC and BNDN.
- Oversight of NexGen's commitments to BNDN.
- Oversight of NexGen's engagement with BNDN.
- Continuing ongoing community visits and engagement with BNDN.



CNSC staff encourage NexGen to continue discussing and collaborating with BNDN to address any concerns the Nation might have. CNSC staff anticipate receiving an update from NexGen on their engagement efforts in an IER to be filed on record, as part of upcoming Commission hearings.

CNSC staff have worked with BNDN and NexGen to respond to all of the Nation's concerns, questions and comments. BNDN has indicated that they still have outstanding concerns with the Project, which CNSC will continue to work to address, together with NexGen. NexGen's commitments to BNDN are summarized in section X and CNSC staff's supplemental submission to the Commission will include further information. The CNSC looks forward to continuing to work with BNDN throughout the lifecycle of the Project, if approved, and is committed to working with the Nation to address any outstanding concerns.

Information regarding specific responses to each of BNDN's concerns is included in the issues tracking table, found in Appendix \_\_\_\_.

#### **4.3.6 Conclusion**

CNSC staff are committed to continuing to consult, engage and work collaboratively with BNDN and NexGen in advance of the Part-2 Commission hearing to address any outstanding concerns, should they arise. This includes working to draft a BNDN-specific RIA, which will provide updated information about potential impacts of the Project on BNDN's Indigenous and treaty Rights. Mitigation and/or accommodation measures to address any identified impacts will be included in the supplemental submission, which will be submitted to the Commission prior to the Part-2 hearing.

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**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 7, 2025 10:46 AM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin; Hunter, Hilary; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre  
**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath; Frigault, Nicole; Rodney Laprise  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs  
**Attachments:** BNDN Issues and Concerns Table for Rook I - for review\_ (002)\_BNDN.docx

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Justin,

Here you are.

Thanks,  
John

—  
**John Glover**  
Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

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**From:** McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 7, 2025 12:43 PM  
**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Rodney Laprise <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good morning Chief Sylvestre and John,

I just wanted to check in if Birch Narrows is able to provide their comments to the Issues and Concerns table since we last spoke? It looked like there were minimal updates when we last spoke and given we are looking to post these documents by the end of the week I wanted to check if you were in a position to share Birch's feedback. If not, that is ok but thought I'd ask the question.

Thanks for your time.

-Justin

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**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** July 8, 2025 10:42 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Rodney Laprise

[<rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hello Hilary,

Please find attached BNDNs revised versions of the EA and Consultation Report.

Let us know if there are any items you would like to discuss.

Best,  
John

–  
**John Glover**

Director

Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.

(519) 272-3498

[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** July 8, 2025 11:05 AM

**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Hello,

It was nice to meet you all at the end of June. I hope things are going well.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome at the end of the week on the attached sections.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary

**Sent:** June 20, 2025 7:25 AM

**To:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole

<[nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:nicole.frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good morning John,

Thank you for informing us of your current situation.

We recognize the seriousness of the situation and understand the disruption this has caused to the community. According, we are granting an extension for providing feedback on the consultation report and EERRs, with the revised deadline set for July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Wishing your community safety and resilience.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

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**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>

**Sent:** June 19, 2025 1:39 PM

**To:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Hilary,

Due to wildfires and other issues in the community, Birch Narrows requests and extension for providing comments on these documents to July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for your consideration.

John

—  
**John Glover**

Director

Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.

(519) 272-3498

[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** June 2, 2025 5:21 PM

**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>

**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); Keegan McGrath <[keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:keegan@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** CNSC & BNDN Documents for Review - NexGen Rook 1: Consultation Report and EERRs

Good afternoon Chief Sylvestre,

I am writing to provide you with sections of the Consultation and Environmental Assessment Reports. These documents are CNSC staff submissions that will be included in the CNSC Commission Member Document that will be presented to the Commission for the NexGen Rook 1 Project hearings. There are two documents attached to this email which contain the following information:

1. Section 4.3 of the Consultation Report which outlines our engagement activities with BNDN related to the Rook 1 project. The Report contains background information on BNDN, a table with key engagement activities to date, a summary of concerns raised to date, and CNSC staff's response. This information will be publicly accessible, once published.
2. The EA Report content for review includes a "Views Expressed" section for each topic area. As you will see from the table of contents included in the first part of the attachment, the EA report will contain sections for each topic area (ie. Atmospheric, aquatic environment, etc.), each of which will include a description of the environment, the proponent's assessment, other views expressed (including how concerns were addressed), CNSC staff's analysis, followed by CNSC staff's conclusions on the significance of effects. The content attached for review includes the Views Expressed section, relevant to issues and concerns raised by BNDN related to each topic area. This information will be included in the EA report, as written and will be publicly accessible, once published.

We are asking you to review both documents for **accuracy** and to provide any comments and suggested edits as necessary. We ask that these documents are returned to us no later than **June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BNDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault, or we can set up a meeting to discuss further.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)

Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire

[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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#### A.4 Issues Tracking Table for Birch Narrows Dene Nation (BNDN) with respect to the NexGen Rook I Project

ID	Issue or concern (including impacts to Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights)	Theme	Crown response	Status of issue/concern
BNDN01	<p><b>Contamination and Health of Wildlife</b></p> <p>BNDN members have concerns about the decline in health of animals harvested by BNDN members, including potential impacts from radon emissions on food sources, wildlife and water.</p> <p>BNDN members have concerns about increased incidences of diseased or unhealthy fish that may arise due to Project activities.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about potential Project impacts on Patterson Lake water quality and connected waterways.</p> <p>BNDN members have concerns about</p>	<p>Terrestrial environment/ aquatic environment/ terrestrial biota/ cumulative effects/ fish and fish habitat</p>	<p>The CNSC regulates nuclear facilities throughout their entire lifecycle and CNSC staff perform various compliance activities to ensure the facilities are operating in ways that are safe for the environment and human health. CNSC staff are committed to engaging and collaborating with BNDN on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle.</p> <p>The CNSC requires that both preliminary decommissioning plans and financial guarantees are in place for nuclear facilities, to ensure that</p>	

	<p>the stability and safety of tailings stored in the UGTMF as well as from acid rock drainage and sulfur dioxide emissions, potentially impacting Patterson Lake.</p> <p><b>Effluent Treatment</b></p> <p>BNDN notes that the proposed effluent guidelines are not as stringent as elsewhere in Canada and that members prefer effluent water quality objectives that are achieved at the point of release, without relying upon a mixing zone.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about cobalt and copper level increases from the Project and requests an assessment of alternatives to address the long-term loading of cobalt and copper into Patterson Lake.</p> <p><b>Long-term Impacts</b></p> <p>BNDN members are concerned about the permanent impairment of Patterson Lake affecting fish health and water quality, as Patterson Lake</p>		<p>decommissioning and waste management commitments and obligations are met by the licensee, including the safe handling and storage of all radioactive materials.</p> <p>NexGen has assessed the stability and safety of the UGTMF, as well as the potential environmental effects of the UGTMF and the PAG WMA during the environmental assessment and the Rook-I licensing for site preparation and construction, with mitigation measures proposed.</p> <p>The CNSC acknowledges BNDN's concerns regarding the potential for impacts on the aquatic environment, including on groundwater and water quality. NexGen is developing an adaptive management plan to further</p>	
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	<p>and lakes in the surrounding area have low buffering capacities against acid generation and sulfur dioxide emissions from Alberta oil sands.</p>		<p>mitigate effects associated with tailings storage.</p> <p>CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BNDN, annually. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BNDN on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should the Project be approved.</p>	
BNDN02	<p><b>Access to Hunting and Fishing Areas</b></p> <p>BNDN has expressed concerns about more non-Indigenous recreational users impeding access.</p>	<p>Indigenous land and resource use</p>	<p>CNSC staff are of the view that BNDN's concerns relating to long-term impacts have and will continue to be addressed through the responses and commitments of NexGen and CNSC staff.</p>	



	<p>BNDN has concerns about increased traffic impeding access.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about impacts to fishing area access.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about loss of access to cabins, campsites, and travel routes due to Project gating and security measures.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about potentially losing access to land on lease areas, especially Patterson Lake.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about the exclusion of land users and interested individuals from communities farther from the Project.</p> <p>BNDN has concerns about increased competition with non-Indigenous recreational land users.</p>		<p>NexGen has included Indigenous land and resource use and cumulative effects assessments within their final EIS that consider impacts on numerous VCs. NexGen has also committed to ongoing engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the Project lifecycle, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible.</p> <p>CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with BNDN, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with BNDN on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities throughout the Project's full lifecycle.</p>	
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BNDN03	<p><b>Cultural Disruption</b></p> <p>BNDN members predict a disrupted sense of place due to traffic, human activity, garbage and changes to landscape features. These potential impacts will disrupt cultural practices and the ability to transmit cultural knowledge to future generations. BNDN has concerns that these impacts will be long-lasting and will result in impacts to land users.</p>	<p>Human environment/ Indigenous land and resource use/ Indigenous knowledge</p>	<p>NexGen has committed to ongoing engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the lifecycle of the project, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible.</p> <p>The effectiveness of the commitments that NexGen implements will be evaluated through oversight of NexGen's environmental assessment follow-up and monitoring program. The CNSC expects NexGen to continue to work collaboratively with BNDN to address access issues and concerns and to minimize disruptions on traditional practices and land use.</p>	
BNDN04	<p><b>Human Health</b></p> <p>BNDN members have concerns about the contamination of water courses, food plants and medicines and that contamination will lead to increased</p>	<p>Human health/ groundwater/ terrestrial environment</p>	<p>The CNSC regulates nuclear facilities across their entire lifecycles and CNSC staff perform various compliance activities to ensure the facilities are operating in ways</p>	

	<p>human health risks and result in avoidance behaviors for community members.</p>		<p>that are safe for the environment and human health and mitigating risks of accidents and malfunctions.</p> <p>The CNSC is committed to ensuring that Indigenous communities, including BNDN, are meaningfully involved in environmental oversight for the proposed Project, if it is approved, and recognizes the importance of community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>NexGen has committed to community-level engagement and support, and the CNSC expects NexGen to continue working with BNDN to identify and address health and well-being concerns throughout the facility lifecycle. NexGen has included assessments of the human environment and cumulative effects within their final EIS that consider</p>	
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			<p>impacts on physical and emotional health.</p> <p>The CNSC reviews public health reports from relevant Northern Saskatchewan health authorities and conducts health studies of uranium workers to provide further independent verification that the health of people living near the uranium mines and mills is protected. Based on current environmental levels of radiation exposures near the uranium mines and mills, the current scientific knowledge about the sources, effects, and risks of ionizing radiation, and relevant local and provincial health information, CNSC staff have not observed and do not expect to observe any adverse health outcomes related to the environmental radiation exposures from the uranium mines and mills.</p>	
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			CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BNDN on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.	
BNDN05	<p><b>Economic and Social Impacts</b></p> <p>BNDN members perceive a need to balance business, employment and training opportunities among communities and Indigenous Groups. BNDN requests a Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan to verify effects assessments and adaptive management. A Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan could help monitor issues such as substance abuse that may arise from residents' increased incomes from the Project.</p>	Socio-economic considerations	<p>The CNSC acknowledges BNDN's concerns about economic inclusion and is satisfied that NexGen's commitments to address these concerns. NexGen has committed to continued discussions with Indigenous groups regarding potential Project benefits, such as education, training, employment and contract opportunities through IBAs. NexGen has also committed to discussing specific employment policies with the</p>	

			<p>Implementation Committee and socio-economic management plan developed with the Environmental Committee, as agreed upon in the IBA with BNDN. CNSC staff encourage BNDN to continue working with NexGen to address potential socio-economic impacts and opportunities for BNDN. CNSC staff are proposing a Project-specific license condition requiring NexGen to report progress on engagement and implementation of commitments to Nations, including BNDN, annually, as feasible. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BNDN on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
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BNDN06	<p><b>Effluent Treatment Objectives</b></p> <p>BNDN requests regular revisions of effluent quality objectives for the adaptive management resulting from effluent release monitoring.</p>	<p>Aquatic environment / environmental monitoring</p>	<p>NexGen has confirmed that Project effluent quality objectives will be set during licensing and will be derived to be protective of humans and the environment. Any required revisions will be determined based on monitoring results and managed through adaptive management.</p> <p>CNSC staff have reviewed NexGen's effluent monitoring plan and are satisfied that the proposed mitigation measures are protective of the environment and human health, and that the proposed Project was determined to have no significant adverse effects to surface water and groundwater. CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BNDN on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are</p>	
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			within the CNSC's mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.	
BNDN07	<b>Cumulative Effects</b>  BNDN has concerns <u>related to cumulative effects on BNDN Territory from <del>about</del> multiple industrial projects. This <del>;</del> impacts</u> <u>includes impacts</u> from past/ <u>proposed</u> mining activities, <u>forestry</u> , transmission lines, <u>roads</u> , <u>wildfires</u> , <del>and environmental conditions, such as forest fires and</del> acidic precipitation from the Alberta oil sands, <u>etc.</u> , <del>impacting BNDN territory</del> . In particular, BNDN is <u>concerned about cumulative effects on Patterson Lake and downstream environment from impacts related to NexGen Rook 1 Project and Fission Uranium Corp. Patterson Lake South Project.</u>	Cumulative effects	<p>NexGen has included a cumulative effects assessment within their final EIS that considers impacts on numerous VCs, including on ecosystems and Indigenous land and resource use. NexGen has also committed to ongoing engagement with interested Indigenous Nations and communities throughout the Project lifecycle, to ensure any issues or concerns are discussed and addressed as feasible.</p> <p>CNSC staff are committed to building a meaningful and trusting relationship with BNDN, collaborating with the Nation to address the Nation's issues and concerns. This means engaging and working with BNDN on monitoring, oversight, reporting, and follow-up activities</p>	



			throughout the Project's full lifecycle.	
BNDN08	<p><b>Requests for Action</b></p> <p>BNDN requests explicit written consent from BNDN for final permitted effluent quality objectives and that NexGen receive BNDN's consent for their surface water quality monitoring program.</p> <p>BNDN requests ongoing engagement and communication, including presentations to the community on groundwater changes from baseline conditions.</p> <p>BNDN requests sufficient closure bonding for tailings disposal, including allocating funding for ongoing monitoring of water and fish quality in Patterson Lake.</p> <p>BNDN requests the mitigation and accommodation of impacts to BNDN's Treaty and Aboriginal rights.</p>	Aquatic environment/ Indigenous consultation/ Treaty and Aboriginal rights	<p>The requirements in REGDOC-2.9.2 (CNSC 2025) will be applied to the licensing activities for the Project. This requires NexGen to derive and implement effluent quality objectives that are protective of the environment and based on regulatory requirements concerning effluent discharge. NexGen has committed to limiting the Project footprint as feasible, including mitigation and accommodation of the impacts to BNDN Treaty and Aboriginal rights. NexGen has committed to further engagement with BNDN and CNSC staff remain committed to engaging and collaborating with BNDN on follow-up and monitoring activities on this topic and other topics of concern, in relation to topics that are within the CNSC's</p>	

	<p><u>BNDN requests that NexGen develop a wild food monitoring program in collaboration with local First Nation involvement.</u></p> <p><u>BNDN requests that CNSC, working in collaboration with Indigenous communities and Proponents take reasonable steps to develop and implement a Regional Monitoring Program for Patterson Lake and downstream region.</u></p>		<p>mandate and authorities, should this Project be approved.</p>	
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**From:** Hunter, Hilary <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 22, 2025 1:30 PM  
**To:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <[kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Hertz, Sarah <[sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** CNSC & BRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

Good Afternoon Chief Montgrand,

Please see attached BRDN's issues tracking table for the NexGen Rook I Project for your review. This tracking table includes concerns that BRDN has raised throughout the EA process for the Project and includes CNSC's response. This table will be appended to the Consultation Report for the Project in advance of the Part 1 hearing. Note that the status of each issue and concern will not be included in the posting prior to the Part 1 hearing until there is validation from BRDN.

Please review the document for **accuracy** and return to us no later than **October 17th, 2025**. Please note that if we do not receive comments by the deadline then this information will be included without BRDN's feedback. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Nicole Frigault.

Thank you,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Chief Kelly Montgrand](#)  
**Cc:** [Eric Bekkatla](#); [Julian Sylvestre](#); [Melissa Desjarlais](#); [Debbie Billette](#); [Renita Noltcho](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** RE: CNSC & BRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I  
**Sent:** 2025-09-25 2:08:00 PM

---

Good afternoon Chief Montgrand,

Thank you for taking the time to review and confirm the accuracy of the table for BRDN.

Much appreciated.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Chief Kelly Montgrand <kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca>  
**Sent:** September 25, 2025 1:04 PM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary <hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Eric Bekkatla <eric.bekkatla@brdn.ca>; Julian Sylvestre <julian.sylvestre@brdn.ca>; Melissa Desjarlais <melissa.desjarlais@brdn.ca>; Debbie Billette <debbie.billette@brdn.ca>; Renita Noltcho <renita.noltcho@brdn.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: CNSC & BRDN - Issues Tracking Table - For Review: Rook I

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
---

Good Afternoon Hilary,

We have reviewed the same for accuracy and can confirm that the matters outlined correctly summarize BRDN's concerns.

Thank you,

**Kelly Montgrand**

Chief

Buffalo River Dene Nation

Work: (306) 282-2033

Fax: (306) 282-2113

Cell: (306) 314-7394

Email: [kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca](mailto:kelly.montgrand@brdn.ca)



**BUFFALO RIVER**  
**DENE NATION**

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Office: 306.954.2275  
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Camp: 778.588.5149  
E: [aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)  
W: [www.nexgenenergy.ca](http://www.nexgenenergy.ca)

**From:** [Adam Engdahl](#)  
**To:** [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: BRDN  
**Sent:** 2025-10-28 4:59:22 PM

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Thanks Justin.

Maybe they didn't understand what I was saying to them on this.

Appreciate the follow-up.

Adam Engdahl  
Vice President - Community  
Suite 200, 475 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7K 1P4



Office: 306.954.2275  
Mobile: 306.716.4770  
Camp: 778.588.5149  
E: [aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)  
W: [www.nexgenenergy.ca](http://www.nexgenenergy.ca)

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**From:** McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:58 PM  
**To:** Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Cc:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: BRDN

Hi Adam,

They have received it and confirmed the accuracy of its contents. I have attached the correspondence.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

-Justin

---

**From:** Adam Engdahl <[aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:aengdahl@nxe-energy.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 28, 2025 3:34 PM  
**To:** McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** BRDN

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

Justin,

I just had a call with Chief Montgrand and Elmer Campbell of BRDN, and they have not seen the issues and concerns validation that was to be sent out.

Am I wrong or should they have received something on that.

Thanks,

Adam Engdahl  
Vice President - Community  
Suite 200, 475 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7K 1P4

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Chief Jonathon Sylvestre](#)  
**Cc:** [John Glover; terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca; Rodney Laprise; Trevor Moberly; Kim Sylvestre; Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\); McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I  
**Attachments:** [BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-11-14 2:33:00 PM

---

Good afternoon,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of the BNDN Right's Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to BNDN to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to BNDN's land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to BNDN's rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

***We would like to confirm with BNDN whether the map on page 3 can be included in the BNDN RIA.*** Please note that this map illustrates the parameters of the study area defined in the BNDN TUS, rather than depicting actual use.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary

also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

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If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary



*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

---

**From:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 10, 2025 9:33 AM  
**To:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE
---

Hi Hilary,

We will get you inputs by the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Can you send me info on Part 2:

- Date to file written submission by
- Date to register for oral prez
- Date to file oral prez

Thanks!

---

**John Glover**  
Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2025 2:17 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Terrie Campbell <[terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca)>; Rodney Laprise <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>; Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; Kim Sylvestre <[kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <[Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome by December 19<sup>th</sup> on the attached Rights Impact Assessment.

Take care and stay warm.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** November 14, 2025 2:33 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Terrie Campbell <[terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca)>; Rodney Laprise <[rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca)>; Trevor Moberly <[trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca)>; Kim Sylvestre <[kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca)>; Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN) <[sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>; McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

Good afternoon,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of the BNDN Right's Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to BNDN to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to BNDN's land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to BNDN's rights. You may

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [John Glover](#)  
**Cc:** [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Important dates - Part II NexGen  
**Sent:** 2025-12-11 8:06:00 AM

---

Good morning John,

There may be a delay due to the Denison hearings this week in the Registry's response, so I will relay everything that CNSC staff know about the Part II hearing.

The Revised Notice of Public Hearing and Participant Funding is available here: [Revised notice of public hearing and participant funding - CMD 25-H12](#). Agendas are normally posted online 1-2 weeks before each part of the hearing. They will provide additional details about the hearing.

Part 2 of the hearing is scheduled for the **week of February 9, 2026**, at the Delta Saskatoon Downtown, 405 20<sup>th</sup> Street East in Saskatoon. The precise dates of the hearing will be confirmed once we know the number of intervenors.

Key deadlines include **January 9, 2026** for intervention requests, and **January 19, 2026** for PowerPoint submissions. Contact emails are [pfpc@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:pfpc@cnscccsn.gc.ca) for funding inquiries and [interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnscccsn.gc.ca) for hearing-related questions.

In Part 2, NexGen and CNSC staff will make opening presentations. This will be followed by all the other participants who want to make an oral presentation (some intervenors make written presentations only). Commission members may ask questions to intervenors after each presentation. Most intervenors are given 10 minutes for their presentation; however, Indigenous Nations and communities are often given more time. If there are ways that we can facilitate your presentation to the Commission, please let us know in advance. Once all the participants have made their presentations, there will be a final round of questions from Commission members. Then, NexGen and CNSC staff will both be given the opportunity to make final remarks. Again, the agenda will provide more precise information, but hearing days normally start at 9:00 am and can last until 5:00 or 6:00 pm, with breaks in the morning, afternoon, and for lunch.

Hopefully, the Registry will confirm more detail before the New Year!

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** December 10, 2025 10:06 AM  
**To:** 'John Glover' <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; Registry / Greffe (CNSC/CCSN) <[registry-grefe@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:registry-grefe@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <[justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

Hi John,

Thanks for the message. I'm looping in the registry here so they can confirm all the dates for Part II NexGen hearing.

The dates that I am aware of are:

Written submission – Jan 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Powerpoint submission – Jan 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

[@Registry / Greffe \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#) are any of the Part II NexGen hearing deadlines related to oral presentations?

Appreciate you confirming all dates for BNDN, and confirm the email address for all intervention materials to be sent to.

Thanks,

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

**From:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)  
**To:** [Chief Jonathon Sylvestre](#)  
**Cc:** [John Glover](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Rodney Laprise](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Kim Sylvestre](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** FW: For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I  
**Attachments:** [BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen.docx](#)  
**Sent:** 2025-12-09 1:16:00 PM

---

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well.

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Take care and stay warm.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca) | (306)501-5300

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** November 14, 2025 2:33 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <chief1@birchnarrows.ca>  
**Cc:** John Glover <john@tamarackenvironmental.ca>; [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Rodney Laprise](#) <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>; [Trevor Moberly](#) <trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca>; [Kim Sylvestre](#) <kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca>; [Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#) <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>; [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

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If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary

---

**From:** [John Glover](#)  
**To:** [Hunter, Hilary \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Chief Jonathon Sylvestre](#); [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Rodney Laprise](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Kim Sylvestre](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Cc:** [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](#); [Rodney Laprise](#); [Trevor Moberly](#); [Kim Sylvestre](#); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#);  
**Subject:** RE: For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I  
**Sent:** 2025-12-19 9:18:44 AM

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EXTERNAL EMAIL – USE CAUTION / COURRIEL EXTERNE – FAITES PREUVE DE PRUDENCE

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Hi Hilary,

We have no edits.

Have a great holidays!  
John

—  
**John Glover**  
Director  
Tamarack Environmental Associates Inc.  
(519) 272-3498  
[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)

---

**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN) <[hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca](mailto:hilary.hunter@cnscccsn.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 9, 2025 2:17 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); [Rodney Laprise <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:Rodney Laprise <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>); [Trevor Moberly <trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:Trevor Moberly <trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca>); [Kim Sylvestre <kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:Kim Sylvestre <kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca>); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [Frigault, Nicole \(CNSC/CCSN\) <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Frigault, Nicole (CNSC/CCSN) <Nicole.Frigault@cnscccsn.gc.ca>)  
**Subject:** FW: For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

Good afternoon,

I hope you are all doing well.

Sending a friendly reminder that feedback is welcome by December 19<sup>th</sup> on the attached Rights Impact Assessment.

Take care and stay warm.

Hilary

Hilary Hunter (she/her)  
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Division  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission | Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire  
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*I acknowledge that the land on which I live and work is the traditional Treaty 4 Territory and Homeland of the Métis*

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**From:** Hunter, Hilary (CNSC/CCSN)  
**Sent:** November 14, 2025 2:33 PM  
**To:** Chief Jonathon Sylvestre <[chief1@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:chief1@birchnarrows.ca)>  
**Cc:** John Glover <[john@tamarackenvironmental.ca](mailto:john@tamarackenvironmental.ca)>; [terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca](mailto:terrie.campbell@birchnarrows.ca); [Rodney Laprise <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:Rodney Laprise <rodney.laprise@birchnarrows.ca>); [Trevor Moberly <trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:Trevor Moberly <trevor.moberly@birchnarrows.ca>); [Kim Sylvestre <kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca>](mailto:Kim Sylvestre <kimsylvestre@birchnarrows.ca>); [Hertz, Sarah \(CNSC/CCSN\) <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:Hertz, Sarah (CNSC/CCSN) <sarah.hertz@cnscccsn.gc.ca>); [McKeown, Justin \(CNSC/CCSN\) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>](mailto:McKeown, Justin (CNSC/CCSN) <justin.mckeown@cnscccsn.gc.ca>)  
**Subject:** For Your Review: BNDN Rights Impact Assessment - NexGen Rook I

Good afternoon,

CNSC staff have completed our draft of the BNDN Right's Impact Assessment (RIA) which is attached above for your review in track changes. We are looking to BNDN to review the draft for accuracy and to include any additional information that you feel may be missing with regards to BNDN's land use including any governance structure, maps, locations, etc. To note, this information in the RIA will be posted and part of the public record for the NexGen Part 2 hearing but any additional information shared will aid CNSC in our assessment of the impact to BNDN's rights. You may also include any additional commitments, mitigations and follow-up activities related to environmental monitoring and facility operations contained in agreements with NexGen for inclusion into Section 4 of the RIA while also noting these commitments, mitigations and follow-up will become part of the public record.

**We would like to confirm with BNDN whether the map on page 3 can be included in the BNDN RIA.** Please note that this map illustrates the parameters of the study area defined in the BNDN TUS, rather than depicting actual use.

If you have any questions or clarifications as you navigate your review, we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss further. **Please provide your review back to CNSC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you,

Hilary