



CAMECO CORPORATION

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April 20, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Marc Leblanc
Commission Secretary
Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, PO Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Dear Mr. Leblanc:

Rabbit Lake Operation: Request for Renewal of UMOL-MINEMILL-RABBIT.00/2023

In accordance with section 24 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA), Cameco Corporation (Cameco) hereby applies to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for renewal of the uranium mine and mill licence for the Rabbit Lake Operation (Rabbit Lake). The current Rabbit Lake licence, UMOL-MINEMILL-RABBIT.00/2023 is valid to October 31, 2023.

Rabbit Lake has well established programs in all CNSC Safety and Control Areas (SCAs) that have been approved by the CNSC. Rabbit Lake has demonstrated strong health and safety measures, radiation protection and environmental performance throughout the current licence term through continuous improvement of Rabbit Lake processes. This strong performance demonstrates that Cameco is a qualified operator in carrying out licensed activities and will, in doing so, make the necessary provisions for continued safety of workers and the public, as well as protection of the environment.

During the current licence term, production at Rabbit Lake was suspended and the site was successfully transitioned to a safe state of care and maintenance. This was achieved while consistently implementing Rabbit Lake programs and ensuring the health and safety of workers and the public, as well as protecting the environment and maintaining critical infrastructure to ensure our ability to safely transition from care and maintenance into production in the future subject to the appropriate uranium market signals.

With 30 plus years of operation in northern Saskatchewan, Cameco has developed long-standing relationships with northern communities. With a focus on building and maintaining support from local communities, Cameco's goal is to provide benefits from resource development, namely, workforce and business development opportunities, community investment initiatives,

community engagement and environmental stewardship activities, considered pillars under our northern strategy. In support of this strategy, there has been continued emphasis on proactive engagement with communities that are located in the vicinity of Rabbit Lake in accordance with Cameco's Collaboration Agreements. Community engagement at Rabbit Lake is carried out in accordance with the approved Rabbit Lake *Public Information Program*.

On an annual basis, CNSC staff prepares a Regulatory Oversight Report (ROR) that provides an overview of the CNSC's regulatory efforts related to uranium mine and mill sites operated by Cameco. A review of Rabbit Lake's operational performance is included in the annual ROR, with CNSC staff providing a satisfactory rating for all SCAs throughout the current licence term. During the process of preparing the ROR, the CNSC provides opportunity for public participation, including Indigenous groups and communities, to submit interventions related to the ROR. Through the CNSC's Participant Funding Program (PFP), financial support is made available for Indigenous groups and communities to review the ROR and provide interventions.

As a result of Rabbit Lake's mature management systems, strong performance and the opportunity provided by the CNSC's annual public ROR meeting, Cameco is requesting that the Rabbit Lake licence be renewed for an indefinite term.

The revised Rabbit Lake *Mining Facility Licensing Manual* and other program level documents will be provided to the CNSC staff for their review and acceptance concurrent with this application to the Commission. We would note that the program level documents will be prepared by Cameco, building on the existing licence programs in place at Rabbit Lake, and represent years of experience, effort and demonstrated effectiveness. Consequently, we treat them as confidential and proprietary. Additionally, these documents could reasonably be expected to prejudice Cameco's competitive position if disclosed to competitors or other stakeholders. We request that the confidential and proprietary nature of these documents be respected during the licensing process.

It is understood that the CNSC will notify Cameco regarding the specific hearing date(s), which we anticipate being in the third quarter of 2023, once the agenda has been finalized.

Should you have any questions concerning this application, please feel free to contact me at (306) 956-6292.

Sincerely,



Andy Thorne
Vice-President, Mining & Operational Excellence
Cameco Corporation

c: CNSC: P. Fundarek, R. Stenson, UMMD
SMOE: G. Adilman
Cameco: L. Mooney, S. Harriman, K. Nagy, R. Washenfelder, Regulatory Records