



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:

Key Lake Operation: Request for Renewal of UML-MILL-KEY.01/2023

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 mill licence for the Key Lake Operation (Key Lake). The current Key Lake licence, UML-MILL-KEY.01/2023 is valid to October 31, 2023.

Key Lake has well established programs in all CNSC Safety and Control Areas (SCAs) that have been approved by the CNSC. Key Lake has demonstrated strong health and safety measures, radiation protection and environmental performance throughout the current licence term through continuous improvement of Key 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 Key Lake was suspended and the operation was successfully transitioned to a safe state of care and maintenance. Cameco was able to do this while consistently implementing Key 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. The decision to transition will be based on Cameco's success in securing our share of production under long-term uranium sales contracts that provide an acceptable rate of return.

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 Key Lake in accordance with Cameco's Collaboration Agreements. Community engagement at Key Lake is carried out in accordance with the approved Key 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 Key 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 Key Lake's mature management systems, strong performance and the opportunity provided by the CNSC's annual public ROR meeting, Cameco is requesting that the Key Lake licence be renewed for an indefinite term.

The revised Key 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 Key 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. Snider, UMMD
SMOE: G. Bihun
Cameco: L. Mooney, G. Murdock, K. Nagy, R. Schwab, A. Wilk, Regulatory Records