



Notice of Hearing

September 8, 2008

Ref. 2008-H-123

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will hold a hearing on September 22, 2008 to consider the results of an Environmental Assessment Screening (EA Screening) regarding Cameco Corporation's (Cameco) proposal to increase the annual licensed production capacity of the Blind River Refinery (the Refinery), located near Blind River, Ontario.

The Refinery processes natural uranium concentrates into natural uranium trioxide (UO₃), and is currently licensed to operate for a maximum production of 18,000 tonnes of uranium as UO₃ annually. Cameco has proposed to increase the Refinery's annual production capacity to 24,000 tonnes uranium as UO₃. Cameco's proposal includes construction activities to modify the Refinery to achieve the increased production rate and the operation of the Refinery under the proposed production rate.

Under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, an environmental assessment must be completed to determine if the proposed project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, taking into account appropriate mitigation measures. If the Commission concludes that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, the Commission may proceed with its consideration of Cameco's licence application.

The Commission has determined that a public hearing is not necessary to consider Cameco's proposed project. The hearing will be conducted by way of written submissions from Cameco and CNSC staff.

Following the deliberations and decision of the Commission on this matter, a *Record of Proceedings, including Reasons for Decision* will be published on the CNSC Web site and made available to the public.

The hearing documents (submissions) from CNSC staff and Cameco are not available on-line and must be requested through the Secretariat at the address below:

c/o Louise Levert
Secretariat

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