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Key Messages

- The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and the Government of Saskatchewan have been harmonizing environmental assessments (EAs) since the 1990s
- Regulatory efficiency and effectiveness
- Well-defined jurisdictions, clear decision making and strong compliance and verification

Clear, efficient and fulsome lifecycle EA process



Achieving Environmental Commitments in Environmental Assessment and Protection

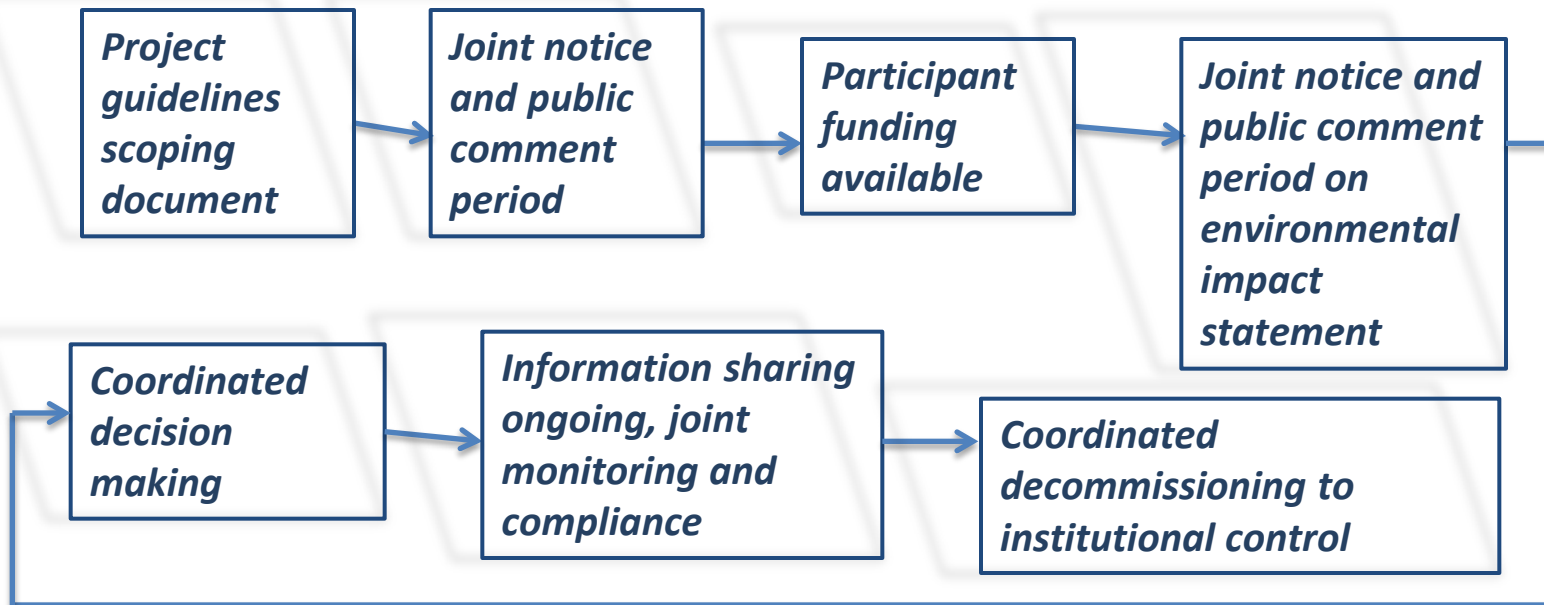
- The CNSC's guiding principles for protection of the environment
 - consistent with Canadian environmental policies, acts and regulations and Canada's international obligations
 - participant funding, public engagement and Aboriginal consultation
 - applicant/licensee – to demonstrate environmental protection:
 - is commensurate with the risks associated with activity
 - recognizes uncertainty in science - ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) and BATEA (best available technology economically achievable)
 - that environmental principles are assessed against performance indicators – targets based on sound peer reviewed science
 - precautionary principle
 - polluter pays principle
 - sustainable development
 - adaptive management

Meets international/federal/provincial/territorial commitments



Harmonized EA – Gunnar Remediation Project

- Harmonized EAs with the Province of Saskatchewan and CNSC since the early 1990s – Case study – Gunnar Remediation Project



Aboriginal consultation and engagement – formal and informal – with the public and Indigenous groups

History of successful EA coordination over the decades



Benefits of Harmonized EA Process

- Shared EA guidelines respect the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* and Saskatchewan's *The Environmental Assessment Act*
- Proponent writes one environmental impact statement to satisfy both jurisdictions
 - the CNSC and Government of Saskatchewan ensure that detailed science is maintained
 - Saskatchewan Government also ensures socio-economic issues are considered
- Harmonized public review process
- Coordinated public and indigenous consultation processes
- Coordinated EA decisions
- Follow up programs, lifecycle monitoring, reporting and compliance

Fulsome EAs that respect jurisdictional mandates



Outcomes of Harmonized EA Process

- Environmental Quality Committees (EQCs)
 - Northern Saskatchewan EQC
 - South Central EQC
 - Athabasca EQC
- Athabasca Working Group
- Regional cumulative effects model
- Multi-party training plan and human resource development agreements

Long-term partners for the lifecycle of the project



Regulatory Cooperation after the EA

- Formal agreement on regulatory cooperation with the Saskatchewan Government
- Joint inspections where appropriate
- Saskatchewan Government experts participate in CNSC licence renewals and hold point hearings

Provincial Government is an ongoing partner



Conclusions

- CNSC and Government of Saskatchewan harmonization has evolved productively over the last 30 years
- Success based on strong indigenous and inter-governmental relationships
- Current legislative framework allows continued regulatory efficiency and effectiveness



Thank you

Questions?



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ANNEX

- Millennium (postponed)
- Former Gunnar Mine site rehabilitation (January 2015)
- Key Lake extension (August 2014)
- Midwest (September 2012)
- McClean Lake – Processing of McArthur River ore (April 2012)
- Cigar Lake water inflow management (June 2011)
- McClean Lake – Caribou deposit (April 2010)
- Rabbit Lake solution processing (August 2008)
- McClean Lake – Sue E ore (June 2005)
- Cigar Lake/McClean Lake – Cigar Lake waste disposal Sue C Pit (August 2003)
- 1990s Joint federal/provincial panel on uranium mining developments in Northern Saskatchewan – e.g. Dominique-Janine Extension, McLean Lake and Midwest Joint Venture (1993), MacArthur Uranium Project (1997), Cigar Lake Mine (cumulative effects assessment) (1997)