



President

Président

0-2009-3165711
000 2009-00130

MAY 07 2009

Mayor Linda Thompson
Municipality of Port Hope
56 Queen Street
P.O. Box 117
Port Hope ON L1A 3V9

Dear Mayor Thompson:

Subject: FARE Letter of March 31, 2009

Thank you for your letter dated April 6, 2009 (attached), regarding uranium presence in soils at the Mill and Madison Park of Port Hope. You have expressed concern that neither Cameco nor the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has specifically highlighted and provided further information on uranium presence above the Canadian Council of the Ministers of the Environment (CCME) guidelines for soils in the Mill and Madison Park. I am writing to assure you that the Appendix J of the SENES report to Cameco does not change the information you already have about the area, and does not change our conclusion that the levels of uranium do not pose a human health risk.

As you are aware, the issue of historical uranium and other metal contamination in the Port Hope area has long been recognized and has been, and continues to be the focus of clean up activities. As a result, numerous environmental studies have been conducted identifying areas of elevated uranium and other metals to direct future remediation activities. These studies have previously identified the parkland areas over which you have expressed concern as areas with elevated concentrations that will be remediated. For example, the recently measured concentrations in the park area south of Madison Street of the order of 90 mg/kg fall directly within the range of uranium concentrations measured in this park in 1987 (15 to 135 mg/kg). These are known areas of historical contamination which have been previously reported. Any new areas of contamination not previously reported or incorporated into previous risk assessments would have been brought directly to the attention of the community.

Further confirmation of the likely historical nature of this contamination comes from the analysis of other metals content of these soils. Previous analysis in the Port Hope area has demonstrated that historical uranium levels are associated with elevated levels of other heavy metals (e.g., arsenic and lead) which are not presently being released by Cameco's Port Hope Conversion facility. The document provided to us by FARE clearly demonstrates that both lead and arsenic are also elevated in the park sample. Hence, the presence of elevated arsenic and lead along with the previous substantially higher concentrations measured in 1987, suggest historical contamination, and as opposed to current operations is the most likely source for the concentrations measured by Cameco in 2008.

With respect to the level of soil contamination, recent measurements indicate the median level of uranium in soils in Port Hope is 3.1 mg/kg. This is much lower than the guideline of 23 mg/kg. As such, localized parkland with elevated uranium concentrations does not pose a health risk to the public using these sites and therefore would not require the posting of warning signs.

In summary, I would like to emphasize that elevated levels of soil uranium at some public properties in Port Hope are known, are already identified for remediation and will not result in any adverse health consequences. It is expected that the remaining contamination will be remediated under the Port Hope Area Initiative. Furthermore, recent measurements do not indicate accumulation of uranium in Port Hope soil due to continued operations of the Cameco facility. The CNSC will continue to require Cameco to monitor present site emissions and comply with our regulatory limits. I would like to thank you for your continued involvement in the public review process of regulatory and remediation activities in Port Hope.

I trust that this letter provides you with the clarification you were looking for. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Binder

Attachments: (2)

cc.: Andrew Oliver, Cameco
Carl Cannon, CAO, Municipality of Port Hope