Written submission from Dean Classen

In the Matter of the Beaverlodge Project

Application to amend the Waste Facility Operating Licence to allow for the removal of 20 properties at the Beaverlodge Project from its licence

Commission Public Hearing

October 2, 2019

Mémoire de Dean Classen

À l’égard de Site Beaverlodge

Demande pour modifier le permis d’exploitation d’une installation de gestion des déchets pour permettre le retrait de 20 propriétés du site Beaverlodge de son permis

Audience publique de la Commission

Le 2 octobre 2019
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August 13 2019

Senior Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street
P.O. Box 1046, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S9

Dear Secretariat:

I would like to submit a written intervention for the public meeting on October 2, 2019, which will consider Cameco Corporation’s (Cameco) application to amend its Waste Facility Operating License to allow for the removal of 20 properties at the Beaverlodge Project from its license.

My name is Dean Classen. I have lived my whole life in Uranium City and am currently the Chairperson of the Local Advisory Committee of the Northern Settlement of Uranium City. I am also a local business owner that has provided environmental monitoring and accommodation services for Cameco for more than 15 years. I have seen the growth and demise of the uranium industry in our community with Eldorado Nuclear being one of the largest and last mines to close in our area.

I have been to most of the community meetings where Cameco provides updates on the current and future remediation plans of the Beaverlodge mine site. Cameco has addressed all the community’s residents’ concerns promptly to date. I have also attended two brainstorming remediation workshops in Saskatoon with other community members. These sessions were very informative and provided a great opportunity for community engagement. Some of the projects like the Zora Creek remediation or the Country Food Study have been based on our community’s concerns and we appreciate Cameco’s efforts to incorporate community feedback in the Beaverlodge decision making process. Cameco has also provided economic opportunity for local businesses while responsibly using government funded financial resources.

Based on my active engagement with the Beaverlodge mine site, I am aware that Cameco is requesting to release 20 properties from Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) licensing with the intent to transfer 19 of them to the Institutional Control (IC) program and free-release the remaining property based on the presence of historic mining/milling activities. Cameco has clearly communicated to our community that these properties are safe, secure, and pose minimal risk to public safety or to the local environment. These properties are rarely used by community members and we are confident in Cameco’s assessment.

I believe Cameco has done well managing the Beaverlodge remediation project and support Cameco’s application to release the 20 decommissioned Beaverlodge properties from CNSC licensing.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to intervene in this matter,

Dean Classen