



Canadian Nuclear
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne
de sûreté nucléaire

Summary Record of Proceedings and Decision

In the Matter of

Applicant Cameco Corporation

Subject Application to Renew the Nuclear Fuel Facility
Operating Licence for Blind River Refinery

Public Hearing
Dates November 3, 2011 and January 19, 2012

SUMMARY RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Applicant: Cameco Corporation

Address/Location: 2121-11th Street West, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7M 1J3

Purpose: Application to renew the Nuclear Fuel Facility Operating Licence for Blind River Refinery

Application received: April 15, 2011

Dates of public hearings: November 3, 2011 (Day 1) and January 19, 2012 (Day 2)

Location: Day 1: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Public Hearing Room, 280 Slater St., 14th. Floor, Ottawa, Ontario
Day 2: Town Park Recreation Centre, 62 McCaul Street, Port Hope, Ontario

Members present: M. Binder, Chair R. J. Barriault
M. J. McDill A. Harvey
D.D. Tolgyesi

Secretary: M.A. Leblanc
Recording Secretary: S. Dimitrijevic
General Counsel: L. Thiele

Applicant Represented By			Document Number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. Thorne, Vice-President, Fuel Services Division • C. Astles, General Manager, Blind River Refinery • J. DeGraw, Superintendent, Compliance and Licensing 			CMD 11-H18.1 CMD 11-H18.1A CMD 11-H18.1B CMD 11-H18.1C
CNSC staff			Document Number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P. Elder • B.R. Ravishankar • J. Jaferi • C. Purvis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P. Thompson • M. Rinker • K. Mann 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Bundy • P. Burton • S. Lei 	CMD 11-H18 CMD 11-H18.A
Other Representatives			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Environment, represented by R. Dorscht 			
Intervenors			
See appendix A			

Licence: Renewed

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INTRODUCTION

1. Cameco Corporation (Cameco) has applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission¹ for the renewal of the fuel facility operating licence for its uranium refinery in Blind River, Ontario. The current operating licence, FFOL-3632.2/2012, expires on February 29, 2012.
2. The Blind River facility refines various milled uranium concentrates (yellowcake) received from various sources to produce uranium trioxide powder. The primary recipients of the product are Cameco's Port Hope Conversion Facility and Springfields Fuel Ltd. from the United Kingdom.
3. The Blind River facility is currently licensed to produce up to 18,000 tonnes of uranium as uranium trioxide during any calendar year. Cameco has applied for the renewal of this licence for a period of 10 years and for the Commission's authorization to increase the annual production capacity from 18 000 to 24 000 tonnes of uranium as uranium trioxide.

Issue

4. In considering the application, the Commission was required to decide, pursuant to subsection 24(4) of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*² (NSCA):
 - a) if Cameco is qualified to carry on the activity that the licence would authorize; and
 - b) if, in carrying on that activity, Cameco would make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

Public Hearing

5. The Commission, in making its decision, considered information presented for a public hearing held on November 3, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario and on January 19, 2012 in Port Hope, Ontario. The public hearing was conducted in accordance with the *Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure*³. During the public hearing, the Commission considered written submissions and heard oral presentations from CNSC staff (CMD 11-H18, CMD 11-H18.A) and AECL (CMD 11-H18.1, CMD 11-H18.1A, CMD 11-H18.1B, CMD 11-H18.1C). The Commission also considered oral and

¹ The *Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission* is referred to as the "CNSC" when referring to the organization and its staff in general, and as the "Commission" when referring to the tribunal component.

² Statutes of Canada, S.C. 1997, c. 9.

³ Statutory Orders and Regulations, S.O.R./2000-211.

written submissions from 38 intervenors (see Appendix A for a detailed list of interventions).

DECISION

6. Based on its consideration of the matter, as described in more detail in the following sections of this *Record of Proceedings*, the Commission concludes that Cameco is qualified to carry on the activity that the licence will authorize. The Commission is of the opinion that Cameco, in carrying on that activity, will make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed. Therefore,

the Commission, pursuant to section 24 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, renews Cameco Corporation's Fuel Facility Operating Licence for its uranium refinery in Blind River, Ontario. The renewed licence, FFOL-3632.00/2022, is valid from March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2022.


7. The Commission accepts Cameco's request to increase the annual production capacity.
8. The Commission includes in the licence the conditions as recommended by CNSC staff and set out in the draft licence attached to CMD 11-H18, with the following modification:
 - Licence condition 4.4 is removed.
9. The Commission accepts the delegation of authority as described in the LCH.
10. With this decision, the Commission directs Cameco to prepare a status report on the safety performance of its facility approximately at midpoint of the 10-year licence term. The Commission requests that CNSC staff also prepare a report on the results of compliance activities carried out during the first half of the licence term and on the licensee's performance during that period. Cameco and CNSC staff shall present their reports at a public proceeding of the Commission. In addition, the Commission directs CNSC staff to provide annual industry reports on the performance of this and other nuclear fuel facilities and to present these in public proceedings of the Commission.

ISSUES AND COMMISSION FINDINGS

11. In making its licensing decision, the Commission considered a number of issues relating to Cameco's qualification to carry out the proposed activities and the adequacy of the proposed measures for protecting the environment, the health and safety of

persons, national security and international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

12. The Commission determined that there was no requirement for an Environmental Assessment pursuant to subsection 5(1) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*⁴ (CEAA) for Cameco's application for licence renewal. The Commission is satisfied that all applicable requirements of the CEAA have been fulfilled.
13. The findings of the Commission will be presented in a *Record of Proceedings*, including *Reasons for Decision*, to be published at a later date.



FEB 28 2012

Michael Binder
President,
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

Date

⁴ S.C. 1992, c. 37.

Appendix A – Intervenors

Intervenors	Document Number
Iron Bridge Public School	CMD 11-H18.2
Milltown Motors Ltd.	CMD 11-H18.3
Blind River District Health Centre	CMD 11-H18.4
École secondaire catholique Jeunesse-Nord	CMD 11-H18.5
Kelly James	CMD 11-H18.6
Huron North	CMD 11-H18.7
Town of Blind River	CMD 11-H18.8
Seniors Club 270	CMD 11-H18.9
Ontario Provincial Police	CMD 11-H18.10
Marilyn Routly	CMD 11-H18.11
Jackie Brimblecombe	CMD 11-H18.12
Dr. R. Fryer Professional Dentistry Corporation	CMD 11-H18.13
Port Hope and District Chamber of Commerce	CMD 11-H18.14
Gerhard Heinrich	CMD 11-H18.15
Rockhaven School for Exceptional Children	CMD 11-H18.16
Huron Pines Golf & Country Club	CMD 11-H18.17
Suzanne Frankcom-Wright	CMD 11-H18.18
Municipality of Huron Shores	CMD 11-H18.19
Gerard Rainville	CMD 11-H18.20
Blind River Public Library	CMD 11-H18.21
Mississauga First Nation	CMD 11-H18.22
Community Care Northumberland	CMD 11-H18.23
HMC Consulting	CMD 11-H18.24
Physicians for Global Survival	CMD 11-H18.25
Michael Murchie	CMD 11-H18.26
Victor Allan Glover	CMD 11-H18.27
W.C. Eaket Secondary School	CMD 11-H18.28
Northumberland Manufacturers' Association	CMD 11-H18.29
Robert V. Gallagher	CMD 11-H18.30
McMaster University	CMD 11-H18.31
City of Elliot Lake	CMD 11-H18.32
Habitat for Humanity Northumberland	CMD 11-H18.33
Canadian Nuclear Association	CMD 11-H18.34
Serpent River First Nation represented by N. Meawasige and D. Leeder	CMD 11-H18.35 CMD 11-H18.35A
International Institute or Concern for Public Health (IICPH) represented by A. Tilman	CMD 11-H18.36 CMD 11-H18.36A CMD 11-H18.36B
Northwatch represented by B. Lloyd	CMD 11-H18.37 CMD 11-H18.37A CMD 11-H18.37B

Andrew Johncox	CMD 11-H18.38
Tyler Rouse	CMD 11-H18.39