



Oral presentation

Exposé oral

**Written submission from
Harry Lariviere**

**Mémoire de
Harry Lariviere**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

**Cameco Corporation, Rabbit Lake
Operation**

**Cameco Corporation, établissement de
Rabbit Lake**

Application for the renewal of uranium
mine/mill licence for Rabbit Lake Operation

Demande visant le renouvellement du permis
d'exploitation de mine et d'usine de
concentration d'uranium pour l'établissement
de Rabbit Lake

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

June 7-8, 2023

7-8 juin 2023

April 5, 2023

Harry Lariviere
General Delivery
Pinehouse, SK S0J 2B0

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

Senior Tribunal Officer:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit an intervention letter in support of Cameco's application to renew its uranium mine licence for the McArthur River, Key Lake and Rabbit Lake operations, which are located in the traditional Treaty 10 territory and homeland of the Métis.

My name is Harry Lariviere, and I am from Pinehouse Lake, which is a small community in northern Saskatchewan. I am married to a very beautiful woman, and we have seven beautiful young adults and eight grandchildren. I am a treaty Indian, and I belong to the Canoe Lake Cree Nation, which is west of my hometown of Pinehouse.

I started with Cameco on August 28th, 1990, at the Key Lake operation as a wash bay attendant. My job was washing the heavy equipment. Not long after I was promoted to a pumpman helper along with a colleague from Cumberland House, which also a small community in northern Saskatchewan. We changed and serviced well pumps and replaced water pipes all over the site. It was not long after that I was promoted again into an operator 4 position and I had the opportunity to train with, in my opinion, one of the best Cameco trainers besides me. I felt that Cameco set me up for success in my new role. I was trained to operate all the equipment, from a small skid steer up to the biggest piece of heavy equipment we have at the site.

After seven yrs. of operating heavy equipment, I was ready for a new challenge and decided to transfer to the mill operations. I was trained in the mill process by a colleague who was also from northern Saskatchewan. I started off at crushing and grinding and when I finished my nine-month rotation, I was transferred to bulk neutralization and spent another nine months learning the circuit. In total, I spent four yrs. in the mill at Key Lake.

In the early 2000s, I took a volunteer layoff because I had a young family to raise. I found myself back at McArthur River a year later as a site services operator and batch plant operator. I progressed into an operator 2 role, and I spent the next 12 yrs. at the operation.

When a lead hand batch plant operator position came up at Cigar Lake, I jumped at the opportunity. I was at the site for about a year before I left to work for our community owned business, Pinehouse Business North (PBN). PBN was just starting up at the time and needed

experienced operators and trainers. I took the skills I learned from Cameco and started a new career as a mobile trainer for PBN. I also did some training for the Gabriel Dumont Institute. I spent about eight yrs. with PBN and enjoyed every minute of it. I was able to give back to my community and train Pinehouse members working for PBN.

When Cameco posted for a mobile equipment trainer a few years later, I applied, and got the job since I was the most qualified candidate. I am now at the McArthur River operation. I want to thank Cameco and the mining industry for this opportunity to work in my desired field. I love my job because I get to see all the new and past operators and be part of their success at Cameco. I think people are genuinely happy to learn and that is the reason I love working for Cameco. The company really takes the time to listen to us workers on site and safety is always the top priority. We have safety huddles, and we talk about safety at site and the environment. This is important to me because I am a traditional land user, and the environment is very important to me. In these morning huddles we always talk about how we can improve on safety and the environment; we never stop trying to do better.

McArthur River is my second home. I will end up spending half my working life in a mine setting. It is not always fun and were not always happy to come to work but I have an obligation to my family, so I have to sacrifice the time away.

I commend Cameco for the work they do with northern communities, to earn their continued support of the operations. In Pinehouse, we rely on the mining industry for jobs. Pinehouse would not have the services they have today without the help of Cameco and the mining industry. I do not think northern communities would have prospered the way they have without the industry. In Pinehouse, we have jobs, homes, toys, vehicles, and many are financially stable. We also have a new arena which in part was supported through our collaborative agreement with Cameco.

It seems like not too long ago that we all lived off the land. We survived by living a traditional lifestyle. I remember when we used to set nets for fish and hunt moose, rabbits, grouse, bear, muskrats, and beaver. We survived and we cherished our land and our way of life. With industry, I finished school and was given an opportunity to earn a living, but I was still able to practice a traditional way of life. I love being self-sufficient. I started with the mines right out of high school. I want to encourage the youth to stay in school and get educated to be ready for future opportunities.

My dad is 75 yrs old and he trapped and commercial fished all his life. My brother is a site services supervisor at Key Lake, and he also spent most of his life working in the industry. My dad is so proud of us, and he tells us all the time.

I also want to thank the provincial and federal governments, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, for the oversight as the regulators so we can continue mining and milling safely. I support Cameco's 20-year licence renewal application for the McArthur River, Key Lake and Rabbit Lake operations. I believe uranium is the cleanest form of electricity we have.

Sincerely,

Harry Lariviere

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harry Lariviere". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".