Notice of Hearing in Writing

November 23, 2020  Ref. 2020-H-107

CNSC to conduct a hearing in writing on Cameco Corporation’s application for a financial guarantee review and licence modernization amendment for its Rabbit Lake Operation

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will conduct a hearing based on written submissions in January 2021, to consider an application from Cameco Corporation (Cameco) requesting the Commission’s acceptance of its revised financial guarantee for the Rabbit Lake Operation (Rabbit Lake). The financial guarantee assures funding for the current and future decommissioning costs of Rabbit Lake, including the long-term management of waste generated by its operation. Rabbit Lake is located 750 km north of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Cameco has also applied for an amendment of its Rabbit Lake uranium mine and mill operating licence (UMOL) to reflect the CNSC’s standardized licence conditions and format. Cameco’s UMOL authorizes the operation of the Rabbit Lake uranium mine and its associated facilities.

Pursuant to rule 3 of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure (the Rules), the Commission has decided to vary the Rules in order to ensure that this hearing is dealt with as informally and expeditiously as the circumstances and the considerations of fairness permit. The Commission will consider written submissions from Cameco and CNSC staff, as well as written interventions from members of the public. A panel of the Commission will then deliberate and render a decision on Cameco’s application.

Although the information contained in Cameco’s preliminary decommissioning plan and cost estimate for Rabbit Lake is confidential, Cameco has posted a non-confidential summary of this information on its website. CNSC staff’s submission will be available on the CNSC website at nuclearsafety.gc.ca or upon request to the Secretariat after November 23, 2020.

Pursuant to rule 19 of the Rules, persons who have an interest or expertise in this matter or information that may be useful to the Commission in coming to a decision are invited to comment, in writing, on Cameco’s application. Requests to intervene must be filed with the Commission Secretariat by January 6, 2021, using the online request form or the contact information below. The request to intervene must include the following information:

- a written submission of the comments to be presented to the Commission
- the requester’s name, address, telephone number and email address

All submissions will be available for download on the CNSC website or on request to the Secretariat. Personal information, such as address and telephone number, is essential for linking the submission to its author. If you wish to ensure the confidentiality of your personal information, please submit it on a separate page.
Following the deliberations and decision of the Commission on this matter, a record of decision will be published on the CNSC website and made available on request. A decision from the Commission is anticipated in January 2021.

For further information on the public Commission hearing process, or on the licensee or the facility being considered in this matter, or to request documents, contact:

Tribunal Officer, Secretariat
Tel.: 343-550-8309 or 1-800-668-5284
Email: cnsc.interventions.ccsn@canada.ca
Web: Participate in a public Commission hearing