

Black Lake – December 1, 2015

Attendees

- SRC: Dianne Allen (Lorado), Chris Reid (Gunnar), Alexey Klyashtorin (Gunnar), David Sanscartier (Satellites), Mark Calette (Aboriginal Senior Advisor) and Vanessa Crawford (Administrative Officer)
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC): Adam Levine
- Emily Jones (Dene Translator)
- North Ridge College Students in attendance
- 24 Community Members

Discussion:

Q. Who is getting the contractor work for the Gunnar project? Nuna?

A. We have not awarded the job to a contractor yet. It will go out for tender in the spring.

Q. When will the contractor start work at Gunnar?

A. The contractor will be hired in 2016, then work on the tailings cover will begin in 2017.

Q. How long will the tailings cover work last?

A. It will take between 4 to 7 years to complete.

Q. How many aboriginal people do you anticipate working at Gunnar?

A. Our targets are for 50 to 60% Aboriginal Athabasca Basin employees.

Q. What type of employment opportunities are available for this coming summer?

A. Lorado work is completed, so there will not be any employment opportunities. There will be work at Gunnar in 2017.

Q. What are your revegetation plans for Gunnar? Are you just planting grass?

A. SRC is having a revegetation seminar in January 2016 to discuss.

Q. Is there any other type of land use for the Gunnar site?

A. No, only remediation.

Q. How deep is the Gunnar pit?

A. 310 feet deep.

Q. How deep is the shaft in the Gunnar pit?

A. 1900 feet and 7 levels of underground workings.

General Comments

- It was recommended that Gunnar have a Dene speaking lead hand or supervisor.
- Pay offered at Lorado was too low given cost of living, qualifications of workers and other jobs available in the region.

Stony Rapids – December 1, 2015

Attendees

- SRC: Dianne Allen (Lorado), Chris Reid (Gunnar), Alexey Klyashtorin (Gunnar), David Sanscartier (Satellites), Mark Calette (Aboriginal Senior Advisor) and Vanessa Crawford (Administrative Officer)
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC): Adam Levine
- Emily Jones (Dene Translator)
- 12 Community Members

Discussion

Q. When would you hire the cross-shift person for Gunnar?

A. 2017.

Q. Should you start training this person now?

A. We will start looking for the person now and train them, if required, before 2017.

Q. Are you going to advertise for the cross-shift position? If so, where?

A. Yes, we will advertise. If you have any inquiries or questions about the position, you can contact Mark Calette, Ian Wilson or Dianne Allen.

Q. Will you be transporting waste and material from the Gunnar site?

A. The majority of the waste and material will stay on site and will be managed appropriately. All the hazardous waste materials that could not stay on site have already been sent to alternate sites. No further transportation is required.

Q. Why was the Stony Rapids representative not at the Gunnar workshop in the summer?

A. The member was working and not able to attend.

Q. Can the town of Stony Rapids receive funding from CNSC to send a representative to the Gunnar workshops?

A. No, if you are a hamlet, business or municipality, you cannot obtain this funding. The funding is for non-profit organizations, Métis communities, boards, and committees.

Q. If a hamlet is not eligible for funding, can they pay out of the hamlet's budget to send a representative?

A. Yes.

Q. Can elders attend the workshops? Can youth attend?

A. Anyone can attend.

Q. How are you keeping track of the radiation levels at Gunnar?

A. Through surface water monitoring.

Q. Once the Gunnar project is complete, will you revegetate?

A. Yes, we will revegetate the area. SRC is holding a revegetation workshop in January, in order to discuss options with the communities and elders.

Q. What are your plans for the Gunnar open pit?

A. The most feasible option right now is to clean up the acid plant and waste rock piles, which will reduce the uranium going into the pit.

Q. Will there be regrowth on the Lorado site, now that the remediation is almost complete?

A. Yes, we have already started revegetation of the area. There will also be natural occurring revegetation.

Q. Will SRC use the same contractor at Gunnar as they did with Lorado?

A. Contractors will have to go through a bidding process to get the job. This has not yet started.

Q. Can some of the shafts on the Satellites Sites eventually collapse?

A. Engineering companies are doing assessments to look into the possibility of collapsed mine shafts.

Q. Were there any tailings at the St. Michaels mine?

A. No, the ore was sent to Lorado Mill for processing. None of the Satellite Sites have tailings.

Q. Where did all the waste rock go that was mined from the Satellite Site mines?

A. If the mined rock had any uranium in it, it would have been taken to Lorado Mill or Eldorado for processing. The waste rock that was left behind at the sites would have had insufficient uranium for processing. SRC is carrying out gamma radiation surveys and risk assessments to ensure public safety related to the waste rock at all Satellite Sites.

General Comments

- Please provide SRC with some suggestions on how we can get more people involved in the recruitments and in the work force. Radio was a popular suggestion from people.
- Community says advertising would be very effective. Also do not have recruitment during the day, people work during the day.
- When PBN Nuna Milestone came to recruit for Lorado, they only came once. They should maybe come a few more times. There were no notices posted at Stony for jobs at Lorado.
- People were in agreement that the Gunnar workshops held this summer were a great idea. They want to work with Stony Rapids Métis Nation to see if they can designate more than 1 person from their community to go to future workshops.
- Community members were very happy and impressed with the work done at Lorado.

Hatchet Lake – December 3, 2015

Attendees

- SRC: Dianne Allen (Lorado), Chris Reid (Gunnar), Alexey Klyashtorin (Gunnar), David Sanscartier (Satellites), Mark Calette (Aboriginal Senior Advisor) and Vanessa Crawford (Administrative Officer)
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC): Adam Levine
- Emily Jones (Dene Translator)
- 16 Community Members

Q. Who does the screening of the potential contractors for Gunnar?

A. SRC will do the screening after the tenders go out this coming spring. The tenders are open to anyone interested in the area (Points Athabasca, PBN Nuna, etc). SRC will let the communities know when the tenders are sent out. We will be asking community representative(s) to sit on the Gunnar procurement team as we have done in the past and review the Gunnar procurement documents before they are sent out for response.

Q. 80% of the Hatchet Lake community is on welfare. They want to work.

A. SRC prefers that local Athabasca Basin people are hired. SRC and their contractors take that very seriously.

Q. Can you make it more accessible for people from Hatchet Lake to get to Uranium City for work? The distance is a barrier. People have to find their own way to Stony Rapids; a lot of the people just can't get there.

A. We could specify to our contractors in the future to pick up people in the different communities and transport them to site for work. [SRC checked later with the prime contractor for Lorado and learned that flights from Wollaston were offered to workers hired from Hatchet/Wollaston.]

Q. Could the lumber at the Gunnar site cause cancer?

A. Possibly the wood they used to build the homes at Gunnar could as it contained lead paint. These homes and buildings have already been demolished.

Q. Have you completed all the work at Lorado?

A. We have approximately 2 weeks left of work.

Q. Did you have any contractors from Fond du Lac?

A. Yes, 2 contractors.

Q. Was training offered to people so they could work at the Lorado site?

A. Yes, PBN Nuna Milestone offered training to the different communities. We're not sure if Hatchet Lake people were part of the training. One worker for the Athabasca region was hired on full time by Nuna after working with them for the season. The skills people learn at our job sites are transferrable.

Q. How was the hazardous material disposed of at the Satellite Sites?

A. It was collected and stored in Uranium City, then shipped south to a specialized landfill.

Q. How was the hazardous material transported?

A. By truck on the ice roads.

Q. When you mapped the underground workings at the Satellite Sites, what were the results?

A. The engineers used old maps of the underground workings and surface analysis to determine how much distance there is between the ground and the workings. From there, they can predict the longevity of the crown pillars to determine if/when they might collapse.

Q. Do you have the results of this determination?

A. We have some results, but not for all of the Satellite Sites. To date, we've identified five main areas where they are concerns. The risks are high for long-term collapse on two of the sites.

Q. What are your plans for these sites?

A. Most of the sites are remote, so we will either backfill or fence off the hazardous areas.

Q. When you advertise, do you state the Athabasca region or northern Saskatchewan? A lot of the time jobs are offered to northern Saskatchewan residents, but Hatchet Lake is classified as Athabasca, so we are not included.

A. We advertise using Athabasca region.

General Comments

- Attendees would like to see workshops and meetings held in the Athabasca Region. Saskatoon or even La Ronge are too far for our community members to travel.

Uranium City – December 4, 2015

Attendees

- SRC: Dianne Allen (Lorado), Chris Reid (Gunnar), Alexey Klyashtorin (Gunnar), David Sanscartier (Satellites), Mark Calette (Aboriginal Senior Advisor) and Vanessa Crawford (Administrative Officer)
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC): Adam Levine
- Emily Jones (Dene Translator)
- 21 Community Members

Q. How long will the work at Gunnar take?

A. We expect the work to take 3 to 5 years for the remediation of the tailings. Procurement will be occurring in June, with contractors starting work before fall.

Q. Will the work at Gunnar be seasonal/summer work or will it go year round?

A. This will all depend on the construction plans. Winter work is possible, but that decision is up to the contractor.

Langley Bay work will be done during the winter, but we expect most of the work will be done during the warm months.

Q. Will the Gunnar pit always stay open?

A. Yes.

Q. Where was the water sample taken when determining the levels of uranium in Zeemel Bay?

A. The sample was taken where the waste rock seepage goes into Lake Athabasca.

Q. Will the borrow material be taken from the airport strip?

A. Yes, we will likely take the airport material and revegetate the area after.

Q. What do you plan to do with the Gunnar shaft in the pit?

A. We will cap it, but after we complete the work on the tailings.

Q. Can the town of Uranium City receive funding from CNSC to send a representative to the Gunnar workshops?

A. No, if you are a hamlet, town, business or municipality you cannot participate. Funding is for non-profit organizations, Métis communities, boards, and committees.

Q. We found that the representatives we sent to the workshops and meetings are not reporting back to the communities.

A. All of the meeting minutes and record of hearings can be found at <http://www.saskcleans.ca>.

Q. Do you know where on the Lorado tailings and road you found the highest amounts of dust?

A. This information is not in the results brought to this meeting.

Action. SRC will provide dustfall monitoring results to Dean once the final report for 2015 is received from Golder.

Q. (Dianne Allen, SRC) SRC plans to discontinue dustfall monitoring, now that the tailings are covered. What does your community think about continued dustfall monitoring? Would you like us to continue?

A. (From the community). They would like to see the results from each site of sampling, not just the summary provided today, then decide if we should continue monitoring. They would like one more year of monitoring to make sure, possibly from April to fall.

Action. SRC will suspend sampling this winter, since little dust was collected during the winter months in previous years. Sampling will resume in the spring for one more field season.

Q. Wasn't waste rock from the mill used to cap the highway going by the mill?

A. There was no waste rock produced at the Lorado mill. The road surface north and south of the mill was tested by SRC in 2010, and no contamination was found. Dust fall monitoring was carried out at points along the highway.

Q. What is happening with the cement pad that was by the trailers in the back part of the mill ridge?

A: This remediation wasn't completed so there are fences around this area. SRC will engage a contractor next spring to fill in the basement voids and then recover the structure.

Q. Could signage be placed around the Lorado mill ridge where the remaining sink holes are fenced off? This is of particular concern because of anticipated traffic going by this winter.

A. There should already be several orange signs clearly identifying the hazards. [SRC checked that afternoon and several warning signs are clearly visible from the highway.]

Q. There seemed to be too many steps involved in getting anything done on the Lorado site. It really upset the contractors. Is there a way to speed up the process when starting work with Gunnar?

A. We will have more lead time to get approvals in place before we start work with Gunnar. Hopefully that will help to avoid delays.

Q. At the Cayzor mine, right by the lake, there is a peninsula with a lot of core left. Was the core picked up?

A. No, it wasn't picked up, but there is still more work to be done at this site including gamma radiation surveys.

General Comments

- SRC plans to close some access sites and trails to some of the sites. Rix-Leonard will be closed once the remediation on this site is done. St. Michael's and Cayzor mine also. Please contact David Sanscartier (SRC) if you have concerns.
- SRC is trying to determine who might own the cabin near Lorado Mine. A possible lead on the owner was provided.