

## Fort Chipewyan (via Teams) – January 23, 2024

### Presenters

- **SRC:**
  - **Skye Muirhead**
  - **David Sanscartier**
  - **Corey Burgess**
  - **Mike Menzies**
  - **Jennifer Brown**
  - **Alexey Klyashtorin**
- **George Bihun (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment)**
- **Timothy Bebetidoh (Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN))**
- **Doren Otung (ACFN Dene Lands and Resource Management)**
- **Kg Banjoko (ACFN Dene Lands and Resource Management)**
- **Janelle Flett (ACFN Dene Lands and Resource Management)**

### Agenda

SRC would like to provide an update on Project CLEANS and answer any questions or concerns community members or guests may have

### Discussion:

Q: We would like to know your (SRC's) role and why SRC called this meeting today?

A: SRC is the Project Manager for the CLEANS Project, which we have an informative presentation on. SRC called this meeting today to discuss Project CLEANS updates and answer any questions or concerns from the community.

Q: How does SRC engage with the community on monitoring locations?

A: We conduct meetings with communities to get feedback. We do this by conducting town-hall-style meetings with Athabaskan Communities where we discuss what has been accomplished and ask if there are any areas of concern.

Q: What are your site goals, how can ACFN get involved?

A: Eliminate or reduce risks to human health and public safety to acceptable levels in a cost-effective manner; allow safe and traditional land use of the sites; reduce risks to the environment and protect ecological receptors as practically as possible; reduce environmental loading; minimize long-term care and maintenance and ultimately transfer the sites to the Provincial Institutional Control Program (ICP)

### General Comments

- General discussion, comments, highlights

## Uranium City – January 30, 2024

### Presenters

- **SRC:**
  - **Skye Muirhead**
  - **Vince Zimmer**
  - **Corey Burgess**
  - **Mike Menzies**
  - **Jennifer Brown**
  - **Alexey Klyashtorin**
- **George Bihun (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment)**
- **Ryan Froese (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission)**
- **Glenn Strong (QM Points)**

### Discussion

#### **Gunnar**

Q: How is the Historic Drainage Channel working?

A: It is performing as we anticipated it would. There is a lot of water that siphons through the piles and clean water will now flow into Lake Athabasca.

Q: How many more years until we can go see Gunnar?

A: When Gunnar is no longer a construction site, residents are welcome to visit.

Q: What is happening with Back Bay? Are you leaving it?

A: Yes, Back Bay will be left as is. There will be a drainage channel made in case Back Bay ever rises, which would allow the excess water to drain into Langley Bay.

#### **Lorado**

Q: What types of radiation were folks exposed to when walking around before remediation happened?

A: At the time there was gamma, beta and alpha. At the time of mining, workers would have been mostly exposed to gamma, and through exposure to all types through inhalation. Now, there is no risk of exposure because the site has been remediated.

Q: Can you raise the netting I do not understand the question at Nero Lake so water cannot leech? (in response to an increase in uranium levels detected)

A: The higher level of uranium is likely due to submerged sediments. We are monitoring them to see if the trend will continue or if it is a short-time occurrence.

#### **Satellite Sites**

Q: How long do you expect monitoring to go forward (on all sites)?

A: After a site is remediated, we monitor for the next three years. The site is then inspected by the Ministry of Environment. Upon receiving regulatory approval, sites are transferred into the government's Institutional Control Program (ICP) and will be monitored at regular intervals into perpetuity.

Q: Are the sites you placed fences around also covered by a stainless-steel cap?

A: Not always. There are some stainless-steel closures within remediation perimeter fences. This has happened at a few sites as it was safe for our contractors to access the area and install a cap. However, areas around the mine openings contained hazardous crown pillars (thin area of ground between the surface and mine workings, which may potentially collapse in the future), so to mitigate that issue, fences were installed.

However, some areas where fences were required had issues where we could not safely or effectively install a stainless-steel cap (for example, unsafe to access, bedrock was of poor quality). We aim to restrict access to underground workings by backfilling or in rare cases polyurethane foam. These areas were mounded to account for a potential future slumping.

### QMPoints

Q: How do we get an application in for the Community Bursary?

A: It is available on the QMPoints website. All you have to do is tell us what your project is and we will review. Scholarships applications are also on our site.

### *Additional Information*

- Q: We see a lot of work being done outside the community. What about working inside the community, fixing the town?
- A: While we are aware of the state of the communities, we are given specific guidelines to only spend our funding on the sites we are remediating.
- Q: We believe most of our homes have radon. Can you send up kits for us and provide results?
- A: SRC does have radon kits available to the public and CNSC has funding available for radon testing.
- Q: A lot of these buildings were made for the miners, and it should be part of the cleanup. A lot of the habitat was also disturbed or destroyed.
- A: This sounds like it is a good chance to have more conversations with the community to see what next steps can be. This isn't a part of the Project CLEANS scope of work, to remove old mine infrastructure in the community of Uranium City – This is a common question asked every year.

### General Comments

- Gunnar
  - Uranium City residents expressed interest in a site tour to Gunnar. Something is being planned for Summer of 2024.
  - Residents were also told there would be an opportunity to purchase camp trailers from Gunnar. More information would be released by fall of 2024.
- Lorado
  - Within the past eight years, wildlife (e.g., fish, frogs) have been returning back to Nero Lake. No one present at the meeting can remember seeing wildlife there in any of their lifetimes.
- Satellite Sites



- Uranium City was presented with the possibility to rename remediated sites before they go in ICP. Those present discussed and decided they would keep the names as they are as all past data would be attached to the current name.

## Wollaston – Hatchett Lake – June 17, 2024

### Attendees

- **SRC:**
  - **Skye Muirhead**
  - **David Sanscartier**
  - **Corey Burgess**
  - **Jennifer Brown**
- **George Bihun (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment)**
- **Dana Pandolfi (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission)**
- **Glenn Strong (QM Points)**

### Discussions

#### **Gunnar**

No Questions

#### **Lorado**

No Questions

#### **Satellite Sites**

No Questions

#### **QMP**

Q: Are Wollaston Lake people included in your workforce?

A: Yes.

#### **CNSC**

No Questions



## Black Lake – June 18, 2024

### Attendees

- **SRC:**
  - **Skye Muirhead**
  - **David Sanscartier**
  - **Corey Burgess**
  - **Mike Menzies**
  - **Jennifer Brown**
- **George Bihun (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment)**
- **Dana Pandolfi (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission)**
- **Glenn Strong (QM Points)**

### Discussion

#### **Gunnar**

Q: Were the sites just left as you say?

A: Yes. Everything was left. The crew just walked away once completed.

#### **Lorado Mill**

Q: What is the white stuff that was around Nero Lake?

A: We believe some soluble matter contained in the borrow material can travel upward with the capillary water and appears on the cover surface due to evaporation. We call it “salt precipitate” and sampled at several locations in 2029. No elevated radionuclides or trace metals were found. Sampling will be repeated in 2025 to confirm there is no CoC migration upward from the tailings to the cover surface.

#### **Satellite Sites**

No Questions

#### **QMP**

Q: Our younger people do not have the training needed for the jobs you are posting. How are they supposed to get work?

A: We do offer on the job training for folks that have been on site for a while. If they have no training, we suggest you start as a laborer and we can move you into different positions from there.

#### **CNSC**

Q: Why does CNSC allow for licences to be extended for 10 years?

A: The biggest reason is that the licensing process takes so long, up to three years. Plus, if the Site owner has proven that they are a good operator they should be given longer licencing periods.

Q: Are there conditions in the licencing that states licencees must participate in Community Engagement?

A: CNSC does not get involved with that detail as it is outside of our control. We do make sure to ask on the application about Community Engagement, but we are limited.

We do hold hearings around the time of licensing renewal and community members are encouraged to attend those to speak if they have any grievances against those applying for the licence renewal. There is Participant Funding available for those wanting to come to hearings. Information is available on our website.

## Stony Rapids – June 18, 2024

### Attendees

- **SRC:**
  - **Skye Muirhead**
  - **David Sanscartier**
  - **Corey Burgess**
  - **Mike Menzies**
  - **Jennifer Brown**
- **George Bihun (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment)**
- **Dana Pandolfi (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission)**
- **Glenn Strong (QM Points)**

### Discussion

#### **Gunnar**

No Questions

#### **Lorado**

No Questions

#### **Satellite Sites**

No Questions

#### **QMP**

No Questions

#### **CNSC**

No Questions

## Fond du Lac – June 19, 2024

### Attendees

- **SRC:**
  - **Skye Muirhead**
  - **David Sanscartier**
  - **Corey Burgess**
  - **Mike Menzies**
  - **Jennifer Brown**
- **George Bihun (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment)**
- **Dana Pandolfi (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission)**
- **Glenn Strong (QM Points)**

### Discussion

#### **Gunnar**

Q: Why are Elders never invited on the tours you have at Gunnar? This is our traditional land and it is important to us to see it.

A: When we host a tour, we are limited by the number of seats we have and we open them up to each community to send either the Chief, someone from the council or a community member.

Q: How long until completion?

A: We are planning to be completed by fall of 2025. This includes decommissioning camp and selling off trailers. Then we monitor for the next 15 years before we can apply for ICP. If you are interested in any of the trailers, there will be an opportunity to put an offer in for them.

Q: The tailings at Langley Bay flow into Jug Bay. Are they going to contaminate the water going to Fort Chipewyan?

A: The water from Jug Bay will dilute in the lake and the tailings won't be contaminated forever. We currently have sampling stations in Zeemel Bay and St. Mary's Channel, which all continue to read well below protective guidelines.

#### **Lorado**

Q: Have you done studies on the fish you see returning to Nero Lake to see if they are safe?

A: The fish we are seeing are still minnows and are not big enough yet.

Q: Will there be signs put up at Nero Lake that say "No Fishing"?

A: We do have a sign up stating this is a reclamation site and there are lists of which lakes to avoid, which is hanging in all the bed and breakfasts.

Q: Before Lorado gets put into ICP, will you remove the "No Trespassing" signs and give full access back to members?

A: The goal of a site going into ICP is to allow communities back on to the sites. People are more than

welcome to walk on Lorado now. The signs are up to help keep wheeled traffic off to avoid soil erosion and let the grass continue to grow back.

Q: The fish that you reported seeing in Nero lake, are they back naturally? Have you tested them?

A: Yes, they are back naturally. We do not stock the lake. They are just minnows this year, so they are not big enough to test yet. A fish survey will be performed in the future.

### **Satellite Sites**

Q: Will there be work happening on Nicholson?

A: Yes, there will hopefully be a proposal coming out this winter. We are unsure of the scope as there is lots of work there to be completed, so that is something we will be looking into this fall.

Q: Will work be happening with the Homer site?

A: SRC just got a contract for that site to perform a Phase 1 site assessment. This includes a desktop study and a site visit to better understand the site features. This site is not part of Project CLEANS. This work is through Indigenous Services Canada. We are currently planning to reach out to the surrounding communities to get more information along with past photos.

### **QMP**

Q: You often have an Elder at site from another community to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day. Why can't you bring someone from here?

A: We aren't sure how it happened to be the same one, but if you have the names of the Elders from here that are able to be up at Gunnar for any celebrations or special events, we will take them (names).

Q: Does QMP support Band Business?

A: We try. We know Fond du Lac is a community of entrepreneurs, so we try and provide support where we can.

### **CNSC**

Q: Do you have local people doing water monitoring for the Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP)?

A: Yes, we do. Before we go out with those in the program, we consult communities, and they dictate where sampling takes place that year.

### **Comments from Residents:**

For QMP: The safety records you show aren't really that record breaking. As you only have seasonal work. There are bigger mines that run for longer periods that have lower numbers.

For SRC: Being involved with SRC has been really good for me personally and for the community. I started my business with one loader and now I am one of the biggest contractors in the north. It means a lot to me that they continue to work with me, and I would not be where I am today without them.