Project CLEANS (Cleanup of Abandoned Northern Sites)

Gunnar Mine Site

Project CLEANS (Cleanup of Abandoned Northern Sites) is a multi-year project to assess and reclaim Gunnar uranium mine and mill site, Lorado uranium mill site and 35 satellite uranium mine sites in northern Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) is managing Project CLEANS, which is funded by the governments of Saskatchewan and Canada.

About the Gunnar Mine Site

The former Gunnar uranium mine and mill site is located on the north shore of Lake Athabasca, approximately 25 kilometres south of Uranium City, Saskatchewan. The mine was operational from 1955-1963 and officially closed in 1964 with little decommissioning. Due to the remote and isolated location of the site, numerous buildings (both industrial and residential) and facilities were developed. According to technical standards during that time, asbestos was widely used in all the buildings.

The Gunnar mine and mill site consisted of:

- Open pit mine over 100 metres deep and 250x300 metres in size
- Underground mine 600 metres deep
- Uranium mill with a capacity of 2000 tonnes/day
- Two acid plants
- Uranium processing buildings
- A number of residential, public, administrative and technical buildings
- Approximately 4.4 million tonnes of tailings
- Approximately 2.7 million tonnes of waste rock deposits

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