

## THE MATOUSH PROJECT

*The Matoush project is a \$50-million uranium underground exploration program. It is a highly controlled and regulated operation that is safe for workers and the local population. The underground exploration program will create approximately 160 new jobs mostly within the Mistissini and Chibougamau communities and will have a positive impact on the local economy.*

### AN INDUSTRY HIGHLY REGULATED

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) was established in 2000 under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA) and reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources. The CNSC was created to replace the former Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB), which was founded in 1946. It regulates use of nuclear energy and materials in order to ensure the health, safety and security of Canadians, as well as protecting the environment and respecting Canadian international commitments to peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Permit holders and permit applicants are subject to a significant number of rules and regulations to ensure the safety of nuclear energy and materials. Commission tribunals host public consultation on issuing permits and hold meetings related to the nuclear regulation process.

Environmental protection represents an important aspect of the CNSC's work. In the process of examining requests for permits, the CNSC determines the need for an environmental assessment relating to the proposed project. Environmental assessments are used to anticipate the environmental impact of the proposed initiatives prior to their being undertaken.

**FOR A PROJECT TO GO FORWARD, THE CNSC MUST BE PERSUADED THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT CAUSE UNDUE DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT ON WHICH ANY NUMBER OF LIFE FORMS MAY DEPEND, WHILE REMAINING MINDFUL OF THE NEEDS OF CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

### URANIUM MINING

Uranium mining falls under federal jurisdiction, and authorized activities and installations fall under federal jurisdiction as well, specifically under the jurisdiction of the CNSC. This includes all aspects of uranium mining.

The CNSC begins the authorization process for new uranium mines subsequent to the surface exploration phase intended to identify a potential orebody and prior to any activity relating to assessing the best means for extracting, treating and concentrating the ore.

The CNSC mandate does not include approval or monitoring of prospecting or exploration. These activities are not regulated by the Commission or by the NSCA. The information required to obtain a permit to prepare the site and construct a mine or a uranium concentrating facility are outlined in articles 3,4 and 5 of the *Regulation on Uranium Mines and Mills*.

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## PERMITS REQUIRED FOR THE UNDERGROUND EXPLORATION PROGRAM

**MRNF**

Forestry Intervention Permit  
**Camp & Surface Infrastructure**

Forestry Intervention Permit  
**Borrow Pit Testing (Surface)**

Forestry Intervention Permit  
**Borrow Pit Testing  
(Four Season Road)**

**Restoration Plan**

Request - Extraction  
**750 tonnes of Ore**

Leasing of land in the domain of the State  
**Camp**

Leasing of land in the domain of the State  
**Landfills**

Leasing of land in the domain of the State  
**Explosives Magazine**

Permit  
**Sand & Gravel Pit Exploitation**

**MRNF**

Forestry Intervention Permit  
**Runway**

Leasing of land in the domain of the State  
**Runway**

**MDDEP**

CA  
**Surface Infrastructure (Directive 019)**

CA  
**Use of Used Oils for Energetic Purpose**

CA  
**Management and Storing of Hazardous  
Material**

CA Modification  
**Drinking Water (Camp)**

CA Modification  
**Wastewater (Camp)**

CA  
**Sand & Gravel Pit Exploitation**

CA  
**Final Effluent Releases**

**COMEV**

Guideline Environmental Study  
**Underground Exploration Program**

Exemption Request  
**Runway**

Guideline Environmental Study  
**Four Season Road**

PERMITS RECEIVED

REQUEST FOR REVIEW

PLANNED FOR 2009

**COMEX**

Environmental Impact Assessment  
**Underground Exploration Program**

Environmental Impact Assessment  
**Four Season Road**

**CNSC**

General Licence  
**Underground Exploration Program**

**COFEX**

Environmental Impact Assessment  
**Underground Exploration Program**

Guideline Environmental Study  
**Underground Exploration Program**

**RBQ**

Permit  
**Petroleum Parc**

**PROVINCIAL  
POLICE**

Permit  
**Explosives**

**MUNICIPAL**

Municipal Permit Drinking Water and  
Wastewater

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### LINKS

For further information, go to the Commission website at:

<http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/>

Regulation on Uranium Mines and Mills:

<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/showtdm/cr/SOR-2000-206>

■ For more information, please contact Strateco at: [avezina@bbhgm.com](mailto:avezina@bbhgm.com)

*Strateco believes that sustainable development means caring for the environment at every stage of exploration and production, actively involving the Cree community in the project, ensuring the safety and health of our workers and providing safe and clean energy for the future.*