

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

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.