



Summer Students Contribute at McClean Lake

We are pleased to have a number of summer students at the McClean Lake mill from Athabasca Basin communities. Darian Joseyounen from Hatchet Lake, and Sky Mercredi from Fond du Lac, are both warehouse summer students this year, and they are bringing their energy and good ideas to their tasks on site. Welcome! We hope you enjoy your experience.



Darian Joseyounen, Orano Summer Student

TMF Expansion Project Hearing Approaches

The tailings management facility (TMF) expansion at McClean Lake is an important project to secure the longevity of the mill. As we prepare for the public hearing with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), Orano Canada team members continue to meet with interested northern and Athabasca Basin organizations, including the successful workshop held in May with the AJES (Athabasca Joint Engagement and Environment Subcommittee).

Due to the recent implementation of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which will be observed on September 30, the public hearing will be moved to October 4, 2021. More information will be forthcoming from the CNSC on the revised agenda for the day. Watch for more community information on the project and feel free to talk with your AJES rep or community liaison to raise any questions.

SABRE Project Advances

This spring and summer we have been moving ahead with the test program for SABRE - the Surface Access Borehole Resource Extraction mining method. This method uses a high-pressure water jet placed at the bottom of a drill hole to extract the ore, which is then pumped to surface. The concept is similar to the Jet Boring System (JBS) invented for and currently being used at Cigar Lake. We believe SABRE could be a game-changer for relatively small orebodies too deep to be mined by open-pit and too small to warrant the infrastructure of an underground mine. Orano has conducted a series of tests with this method, and is evaluating its potential for future mining operations.

The current field test runs from May to September. We have completed the mining of the first hole despite a late start because of the wintry spring weather followed by forest fire threats and smoky conditions. There have been no significant safety, environmental or radiation incidents. It's a steep learning curve with a new mining method and a mix of different equipment and technology, but our agile team has been troubleshooting along the way and has managed to get ore hauled again in our 100t trucks, waiting to be processed at McClean Lake mill in the fall. The multi-cultural team includes members from Germany, Quebec, Manitoba, British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan's North.

Contact Us

As always, we welcome questions and comments any time. Please call us at: 306-343-4500 or reach out through our website: oranocanada.com or social media.



Sky Mercredi, Orano Summer Student