



orano

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.

Status of McClean Lake Operation

2020 was certainly a series of ups and downs on the production front, and unfortunately at the end of the year the mill had to temporarily suspend production in tandem with the suspension of production at the Cigar Lake mine. While both operations have made substantial efforts to protect employees and contractors from the threat of COVID-19, the province has been experiencing an increase in the number of positive cases. Orano has worked hard to minimize the impact of this pause in production on the workforce. Through coordination with northern leaders, the operation has also been making adjustments to work schedules and pick up points as necessary to respond to localized COVID outbreaks in northern communities.



Glenn Lafleur, Northern Affairs Manager

Mill Operations Training Program

Thank you to everyone who applied for the Mill Operations Training Program, provided in partnership with Northern Career Quest. Through this partnership, we offer support, training, and employment to residents of Saskatchewan's North. We appreciate your commitment to growing your skills and your patience while we reviewed the program. Despite the recent temporary halt of McClean Lake production we expect to run the program this spring. We look forward to meeting our next eight candidates, and if you have any questions please contact Northern Affairs Manager, Glenn Lafleur.

Plane landing in Fond du Lac with supplies to prepare for COVID-19

2020: A Year Defined by Challenge

Thank you to Athabasca Basin leaders, community members and businesses for your partnership in a difficult year. Through regular contact and updates we were able to be flexible and protect the health of our workforce, and in turn the communities where our employees live. We were proud to offer direct financial support and supplies to command centres and Basin communities twice in 2020, and we were impressed by the level of coordination, care and concern at the community level.

JEB TMF Expansion Project Continues

You may have received a brochure in the mail from Orano regarding the expansion of the tailings management facility (TMF) at McClean Lake or recently heard an explanation of the project on MBC Radio. Tailings are the material left behind once uranium is processed. Orano is seeking regulatory approval to expand its existing tailings management facility at the McClean Lake site. We expect the current facility to be full in 2027, so more space will be necessary to accommodate future mining projects. Many options have been considered, but by expanding the existing facility we will not impact any new areas of the environment, we can take advantage of existing roads and infrastructure, and make the most of the experience acquired during the last 20 years.

This expansion has been considered for more than 10 years and at times we have responded to questions about how and where we monitor the facility and surrounding environment, how we will decommission the facility, and whether we have considered a horizontal expansion. We've also heard from community members that they do not want to see numerous tailings management facilities in multiple spots around the operation. Because of these questions and preferences, we continue to see expansion of the current facility as the best option. Our monitoring programs are robust, satisfactory and validated by our regulators.

A Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) public hearing is scheduled for September 2021 on the tailings expansion. You will hear more from the company on the details of the project, and there will be opportunities for feedback, questions and participation in the hearing process. Please feel free to reach out to your local member of the Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee or the Athabasca Joint Engagement and Environment Subcommittee for more information or to put forward any questions or concerns.