

Executive Summary

AREVA Resources Canada Inc. (AREVA) is proposing to construct, operate and decommission a uranium mine, called the Kiggavik Project (Project), in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut. The Project is located approximately 80 km west of the community of Baker Lake. Four uranium ore deposits will be mined using open pit methods and one deposit will be mined using underground methods. All extracted ore from the mine sites will be processed through a mill. Some of the mined out pits will be used as tailings management facilities. The uranium product will then be packaged and transported using aircraft to southern transportation networks. The Project will be serviced by ship and barge and a winter access road. An all-season road between Baker Lake and the Project is a secondary option under consideration in case the winter road cannot adequately support the Project.

Based on existing resources mine life is estimated at 14 years of operation with additional years for construction and decommissioning. Decommissioning plans and financial security are required for the Project. Financial assurance provides certainty that decommissioning and reclamation work will take place with available and adequate resources.

Direct job estimates are up to 750 and 600 workers for construction and operations stages, respectively. Indirect and induced jobs may be as high as 400 during construction and 1,300 during operations. The total taxes and royalties to be paid on the Project would be approximately \$1 billion payable to Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the Government of Nunavut, and the Government of Canada.

The environmental impact statement (EIS) reflects five years of recent engineering, environmental and engagement studies by AREVA, in addition to historical work conducted for the Project. Community engagement and Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit (IQ) have influenced Project design and the environmental assessment.

Understanding caribou were of primary concern to residents in the Kivalliq. AREVA used IQ and engagement information to modify baseline studies and has worked collaboratively with other interested stakeholders to better understand caribou at the herd and regional levels. AREVA will continue working collaboratively on caribou issues during the environmental assessment and when the Project proceeds.

Hearing public concerns that Nunavut experiences extreme winds and permafrost conditions, the Project has been designed to capitalize on the modern Saskatchewan uranium mining

experience but still be Nunavut specific. AREVA conducted detailed assessments on air quality and permafrost conditions and incorporated the findings into the Project design.

Public concern over uranium development led to increased engagement efforts to inform communities of the industry and radiation protection. Detailed studies on health, using comparisons to international standards, demonstrates that modern uranium development does not compromise worker or public safety.

Valuing community preferences, AREVA has removed an earlier contemplated access road alternative (south all-season access road) from consideration in Project development moving forward.

The need and desire for increased employment opportunities was consistently raised in AREVA meetings, particularly during open houses. AREVA works hard to maximize its Aboriginal employment in Saskatchewan operations and hopes to improve on its performance for this Project.

The EIS concludes that the Project will have effects but there will be no significant adverse Project, cumulative or transboundary effects on the biophysical environment. Ecosystem integrity is not compromised. Worker and public health are also not compromised. Socioeconomic effects are positive overall and many benefits will last beyond Project life.

