

Mr. Hugh MacDiarmid  
President and CEO  
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

Opening remarks  
CNSC Commission Meeting  
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Thank you Mr. Chairman and Good Morning members of the Commission. For the record, my name is Hugh MacDiarmid and I am the President & Chief Executive Officer of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited.

Je voudrais vous présenter Monsieur Bill Pilkington, agent principal de nucléaire pour AECL et Monsieur Bill Shorter, directeur-général d'exploitation de NRU et aussi plusieurs membres de notre équipe de gestion.

*(Translation: I am joined here today by Bill Pilkington, AECL's Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer, Bill Shorter, Acting General Manager of Operations for NRU, as well as several members of our management team).*

We are here to update you on the events and issues related to a heavy water leak at the NRU reactor.

Mr. Pilkington will be taking you through a presentation regarding the NRU at Chalk River and the manner in which AECL intends to identify, and then implement, a solution for the safe return to service of that reactor.

AECL and its employees are approaching the current situation at Chalk River with attention to several principles that will guide our actions.

First, and foremost, we will never operate an unsafe reactor. This is our highest commitment – to our employees, our communities, and to all Canadians.

Second, we view the production of medical isotopes as part of our core mission, for Canada, and indeed for the world. As such, we have a duty to resume production as soon as it is safe and practical to do so.

We will return the NRU to service as soon as possible with lasting repairs and every assurance of safe operation.

In returning the reactor to service, we will draw on all available expertise, both internal and external, so that we apply the best minds to this issue.

We will continue working seven days a week, 24 hours a day where practical until we finish the job.

A professional project management approach will, as always, guide our actions.

Thank you, and I now turn to Mr. Pilkington.