



# Wheeler River Project Bulletin

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Denison Mines Corp. (Denison) is proposing to develop an *in situ* recovery uranium mining and processing plant - [the Wheeler River Project](#) - in the Athabasca Basin in Saskatchewan, approximately 600 kilometres north of the City of Saskatoon, and 35km by road north of the Key Lake mill. The proposed project is located within Treaty 10 territory, the homeland of the Métis, and within the traditional territories of the Dene, Cree, and Métis peoples. It is also located within the Northern Administration District of Saskatchewan.

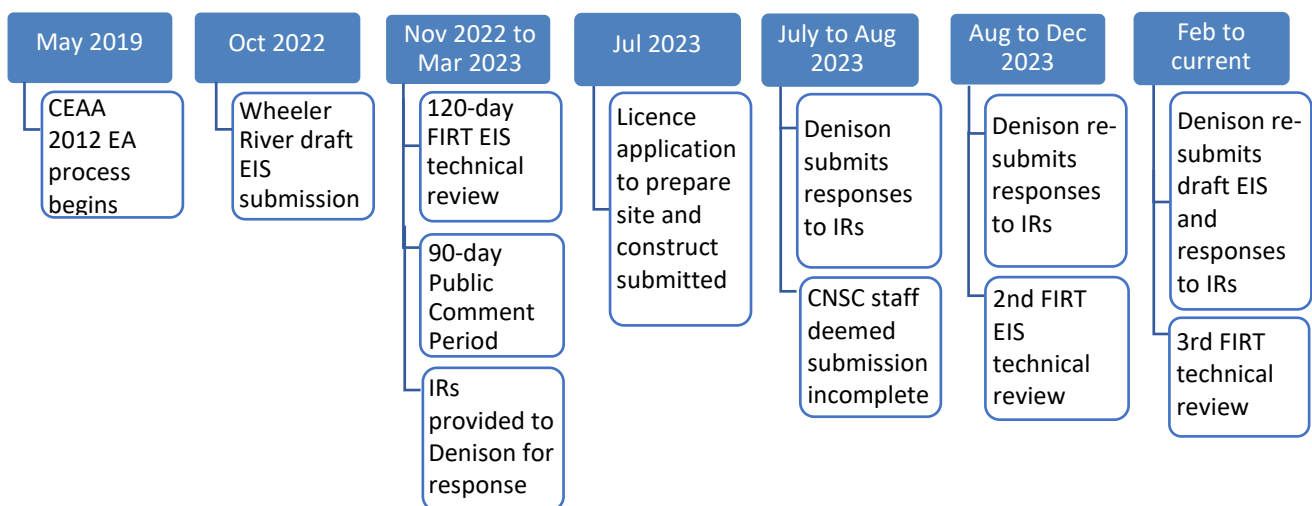
Denison’s proposed project is undergoing rigorous regulatory scrutiny by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and must meet all safety requirements for a uranium mine and mill. Since 2019, the proposal has been undergoing an [environmental assessment](#) (EA) as per the [Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012](#) (CEAA, 2012). On July 2023, Denison submitted a licence application to prepare site and construct a mine and mill facility, and the licence application is under review as per the CNSC’s [Uranium Mines and Mills Regulations](#). The project is also subject to a [provincial EA](#) as per the province of Saskatchewan’s [Environmental Assessment Act](#).

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW PROCESS

Denison submitted a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) in October 2022 and the federal and Indigenous review team (FIRT) completed a technical review of the draft EIS. On [March 20, 2022](#), CNSC staff requested that Denison submit responses to all [information requests \(IRs\) from the FIRT](#), along with a commitments report and an update on Indigenous engagement.

Denison first submitted responses to federal IRs in July 2023. CNSC staff deemed the [submission incomplete in August 2023](#). On August 18, 2023, Denison re-submitted the EA package, and CNSC staff deemed the [submission complete](#) and the FIRT proceeded with a second round of technical reviews. CNSC staff shared a [second round of IRs](#) for Denison to address in December 2023.

## TIMELINES



## WHERE WE ARE NOW

In February 2024, Denison resubmitted the draft EIS with responses to the federal IRs. A third round of technical reviews have been concluded by the FIRT, and outstanding comments were shared with Denison in a series of technical meetings. Denison has provided supplemental information and this review is still underway. Once complete, the results of the review will be shared back with Denison and posted to the [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry](#).

With regards to the licensing technical review, Denison continues to develop, submit and revise licensing documents in order to address CNSC staff's comments. Final decisions on EA and on licensing must be made via a public Commission hearing, which will welcome Indigenous and public participation. No such hearing has yet been scheduled.

## UPCOMING OUTREACH

CNSC staff will continue to engage on the Wheeler River Project and are planning outreach events for 2024 and 2025, related to Denison's *in situ* mining proposal as this project progresses. Stay tuned!



*CNSC staff fishing with Kineepik Métis Local at the Pinehouse Elder's Gathering in June 2024.*

## STAY INFORMED, STAY CONNECTED!

Subscribe to the updated [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry notifications service](#) to receive updates on the Wheeler River EA process, and any other EA or Impact Assessment Processes that you are interested in. When you subscribe to this notification service, you will receive a personalized email when new content is posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for the projects you are following. Head over to [www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca](http://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca) to sign up!

### Wheeler River Project Bulletin

If you have any questions or suggestions on topics or issues that you would like to see covered, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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Project Page: <https://ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80178>

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