

TABLE OF CAMECO'S INCIDENTS

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Updated in 2016.

Cameco is a uranium mining company based in Canada.

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*"When you put the pieces together, they build a story of really fundamental issues about the competence of the company."
– Prof. Christopher Barnes, geologist and Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission member, [2003](#)*

Date	Location	Description of Incident	Source
1981–89	Saskatchewan	A total of 153 spills occurred at three uranium mines in Saskatchewan, Canada from 1981 to 1989. Amoc Mining reported 62 spills, Cameco 48 and Key Lake 43. The spill totals were requested after Cameco's Rabbit Lake mine reported a spill of two million litres of radium- and arsenic-contaminated water.	MediaScan Canada 10/11/89; WISE Nuclear Monitor #323/324, 22/12/89 http://scott-ludlam.greensmps.org.au/let-the-facts-speak
1989	Rabbit Lake, Canada	In November 1989, around two million litres of radioactive and heavy metal (radium, arsenic and nickel) -bearing fluids burst into Collins creek, which itself flows into Wollaston Lake. The seepage occurred from a faulty valve on a 10 km long pipeline carrying runoff and seepage from the Collins Bay mine: loss of pressure in the pipe was recorded by monitoring equipment but not noticed until 14 hours after the rupture. Rabbit Lake is majority owned by Cameco. Cameco was fined C\$10,000 under the Atomic Energy Control Act of 1946 – the maximum penalty applicable – after pleading guilty to two charges of negligence.	Moody, R, 1992, The Gulliver File : Mines, People and Land – A Global Battleground. Minewatch (London, UK), p.894.
1990, May 13	Blind River Uranium Refinery	Leak shuts down the Canadian refinery. Approximately 178 kgs of radioactive uranium dust leaked from Cameco's Blind River Uranium Refinery into the air over a 30-hour period during the week of the 13th May. The filter system was bypassed accidentally and officials are unsure whether	'Nuclear Awareness News', Canada, Spring 1990 WISE Nuclear Monitor #335 6/7/90 http://scott-ludlam.greensmps.org.au/let-the-facts-speak

		it was a mechanical or human error.	
1993	Canada/US	The Inter-Church Uranium Committee (ICUC) from Saskatchewan, Canada, has revealed the export of at least 500 metric tons of depleted uranium to the US military by Cameco Corporation, despite several Canadian treaties to export uranium only for "peaceful purposes".	http://www.wiseinternational.org/node/813
1993	Wollaston Lake, Canada	Cameco's evidence of public consultation is referred to as "a transparent manipulation of public opinion."	http://www.wiseinternational.org/node/796 Saskatchewan uranium hearings update, (March 28, 1993)
1998	Kyrgyzstan	70 litres of nitric acid spilled	http://www.miningwatch.ca/fatality-troubled-kumtor-gold-mine-kyrgyz-and-international-ngos-renew-call-independent-environmenta
1998	Kyrgyzstan	A mine truck spilled 2 tons of cyanide into the Barskoon River, a local drinking water and agricultural water source. Government and health officials attributed a number of human fatalities and many illnesses to the cyanide spill. Various reports listed the number of deaths at one, four or zero. The company, the Kyrgyz government and others disputed the reported deaths and a WHO report was unable to verify any deaths, although they were not given full access to all medical records. There is no dispute that many illnesses followed the spill. 2,600 people were treated and more than 1,000 hospitalized.	http://www.miningwatch.ca/fatality-troubled-kumtor-gold-mine-kyrgyz-and-international-ngos-renew-call-independent-environmenta
2000	Kyrgyzstan	A mine truck dumped 1.65 tons of ammonium nitrate.	www.miningwatch.ca/fatality-troubled-kumtor-gold-mine-kyrgyz-and-international-ngos-renew-call-independent-environmenta
2001–onwards	Bruce nuclear power plant – Ontario	We understand that Cameco part-owns the Bruce B nuclear power plant and that before a 2005 restructure Cameco part-owned Bruce A [1,2], and that Cameco's involvement in Bruce dates from the formation of Bruce Power in 2001 [2] if not earlier. A 2003 report by the Sierra Club of Canada provides details of 20 major safety-related incidents and unresolved safety concerns at the Bruce plant [3]. The report further states: "Since the Bruce Power took over operation of the Bruce nuclear stations, beginning in the second quarter of 2001, there have been 218 reportable events at the Bruce A station (to the end of the second quarter in 2003), despite the fact that there were no reactors	[1] www.cameco.com/fuel_and_power/bruce_power/ [2] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce_Power [3] www.sierraclub.ca/en/node/237

		<p>operating. From the beginning of the second quarter of 2001 to the end of the first quarter of 2003, there have been 397 reportable events at the Bruce B nuclear station. Reportable events are the more serious safety-related events at nuclear plants. Some of these events stood out dramatically as incidents of serious safety concern. There are also a number of unresolved safety concerns that merit special attention."</p> <p>The report further states: "The CNSC and Bruce Power have refused to provide the Sierra Club with six important safety-related documents."</p>	
2002	Kyrgyzstan	<p>Fatality at Kumtor Gold Mine. Death of a Kyrgyz national, who was buried in the collapse of a 200 metre high pit wall. This latest incident follows three chemical spills at the mine</p>	<p>www.miningwatch.ca/fatality-troubled-kumtor-gold-mine-kyrgyz-and-international-ngos-renew-call-independent-environmenta</p>
2003 April	McArthur River, Saskatchewan	<p>Cave-in and flood of radioactive water at the McArthur River mine, the world's largest uranium mine. Cameco had known about the danger of a cave-in for months if not years and how "miners worked without ventilation masks to save the mine and their jobs." Miners installing bulkheads to contain the water flow were not informed that radon levels were 0.2 working levels (WL) between the bulkheads, but reached 28.9 WL downstream of the bulkheads and 129.6 WL upstream. Dirty water was inadvertently pumped into the clean water line; as a result, miners experienced high radon exposures whenever they washed the floor in the refuge station or washed their hands.</p> <p>System Improvements Inc., a consultant hired by Cameco, stated: "If effective ground support had been in place on April 6, 2003, the ground would not have failed and the water inflow could not have occurred." The report also said that Cameco had been repeatedly warned by their chief geologist, the mine superintendent and contract workers about the potential dangers from water hazards right up until the accident happened. The mine resumed operation on 2 July 2003.</p>	<p>www.miningwatch.ca/comeco-comes-under-fire-mismanagement-mcarthur-river-uranium-mine</p> <p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html</p> <p>http://forum.stopthehogs.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=1254</p> <p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html</p>
2004	Key Lake	<p>CNSC approves Key Lake license renewal, in spite of continuing pit sidewall sloughing into the tailings disposed in the Deilmann pit. The license renewal was issued, although the tailings disposal in the former Deilmann open pit suffers from periodic sloughing of the pit sidewalls. One million cubic meters of sand have already slumped into the tailings, and another half a million</p>	<p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html</p>

		cubic meters potentially may follow. This sloughing not only decreases the capacity of the tailings disposal facility, it moreover distorts the performance of the facility in the long term which is based on the impermeability of the tailings.	
2004 April	Dr Power's school, Port Hope, Ontario	Gamma radiation was discovered in the school's playground during testing in advance of playground upgrades. Though the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Health Canada and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited tried to dismiss the findings as inconsequential at the time, the material under the school had to be removed when it was converted to low-cost housing in 2011. The contaminated material came from the uranium processing facility in Port Hope, now owned by Cameco	http://forum.stopthehogs.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=1254
2006 April	Cigar Lake, Saskatchewan	Construction delayed at Cigar Lake. A water inflow began on April 5 at the bottom of the 6-metre wide shaft, 392 metres below the surface. All the workers left the area and removed equipment. The company's preliminary assessment indicates that Cigar Lake production may be delayed by about six months and begin in late 2007. According to Bill Good, one of the first miners sent in, "the mine's radiation alarm kept going off, but the radiation technician merely re-set the alarm, assuring us that everything was fine. He'd just go over and turn it off, and on. And then it would go green and then ten minutes later it would be red again." The alarm normally turns red when radon levels rise above one picocurie per litre. However, radon levels in the first 48 hours went as high as 44 picocuries per litre.	http://www.wise-uranium.org/upcdncl.html Cameco, 4 May 2007, 'Shaft #2 flood investigation and management response', www.cameco.com/common/pdfs/media_gateway/news/Shaft%202-Responses_and_TapRoot.pdf Pat McNamara, 25 Sept 2012, http://forum.stopthehogs.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=1254
2006 October	Cigar Lake, Canada	More flooding hits Cigar Lake, delaying production by at least another year. Cameco CEO Jerry Grandey admits the uncertainties of groundwater geology. "Management's about taking risks -- calculated risks." he said of the Cigar Lake Incident. "We thought we were on the safe side of that calculation," he says. "And we were wrong." WISE-Uranium provides the following information: On Oct. 23, 2006, Cameco Corporation reported that Cigar Lake mine construction is expected to be delayed by at least a year after the mine experienced a significant water inflow following a rock fall and a portion of the underground development was allowed to fill with water. The incident began on October	Disgraced Uranium Miner Opens Alice Shop, 21 July 2008 http://no-waste.org/?page=fastpages/showarticle.php&id=3247 www.wise-uranium.org/upcdncl.html Cameco, 4 May 2007, 'Underground development flood investigation and management response',

	<p>22, 2006, in the future production area that previously had been dry. Cameco later reported that it was unable to contain the water inflow by closing bulkhead doors and that all underground areas of the Cigar Lake project are expected to be filled with water.</p> <p>On Mar. 18, 2007, Cameco announced that production startup is targeted for 2010, subject to regulatory approval and timely remediation. Total flood remediation cost is estimated at C\$92 million.</p> <p>On April 3, 2007, Cameco issued a Technical Report on Cigar Lake, including an updated capital cost estimate and a production forecast that are considered necessary because of the October 23, 2006 water inflow. Cameco Corp. said its "deficient" development of the Cigar Lake mine contributed to a flood that delayed the project by three years and will double construction costs. Blasting by contract miners was performed with the wrong equipment and inadequate safeguards, producing a greater opening in the earth than specified and allowing the mine to flood with groundwater on Oct. 22, 2006, Cameco said. "Insufficient assessment of the ongoing development, lack of quality control of the excavation and slow installation of ground support – when taken together – demonstrate" Cameco "failed to fully appreciate the degree of risk of developing in less than ideal ground conditions," Chief Operating Officer Tim Gitzel said in a May 2, 2007, letter to federal and provincial nuclear regulators that was included in the report. (Bloomberg May 4, 2007)</p> <p>On Oct. 31, 2007, Cameco announced that the production startup date is now expected to be 2011, at the earliest.</p> <p>An 20 April 2007 Bloomberg article states: "Comeco Corp. announced at 2:11 a.m. on Oct. 23 [2006] that its Cigar Lake uranium mine in northwest Canada had flooded after a "rock fall," jeopardizing the world's richest undeveloped source of nuclear fuel. In the six months since, Cameco has said little about the circumstances behind a disaster that will delay production at its \$25.5 billion claim for up to three years. ... Canadian government records and interviews with authorities reveal that blasting by Cameco workers may have triggered the flood at Cigar Lake and that the company couldn't control the water because it didn't</p>	<p>www.cameco.com/common/pdfs/media_gateway/news/Inflow_Responses_and_TapRoot.pdf</p> <p>Elliot Blair Smith and Christopher Donville, 20 April 2007, 'Flood at Canada Uranium Mine Tied to Cameco Blasting (Update 1)', http://web.archive.org/web/20150711205655/http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&refer=home&sid=aYNr8siTro.Q</p>
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	<p>fulfil repeated pledges to regulators to install more underground pumps there. Those promises came after a similar accident at another of its Saskatchewan mines three years earlier. ...</p> <p>"Previous Accidents: In April 2003, blasting contributed to a flood that exceeded Cameco's pumping capacity and almost cost the company its flagship McArthur River mine, 50 kms southwest of Cigar Lake, according to a company report filed with the nuclear safety commission. Another flood at Cigar Lake in April 2006 knocked out a secondary shaft that remains underwater. A company report on the accident that was due in February hasn't been filed with regulators yet. The setbacks are prompting Canadian regulators to question Cameco's ability to master the daunting geology of northern Saskatchewan's uranium-rich, water-laden Athabasca Basin. ...</p> <p>"Regulators' concerns about the accident have a precedent in the company's own findings that blasting and inadequate pumping capacity contributed to the April 2003 flood at the McArthur River mine. The Saskatchewan Labour ministry's investigation of that flood, completed two months later, attributed the inundation to workers blasting without adequate "ground support" -- that is, earth-stabilizing materials such as bolts, steel reinforcing rods and a form of sprayed concrete known as shotcreting.</p> <p>"An analysis for Cameco by Knoxville, Tennessee, consulting firm System Improvements Inc. also concluded: "If effective ground support had been in place on April 6, 2003, the ground would not have failed and the water inflow could not have occurred," according to a copy filed with federal regulators.</p> <p>"The consultants' report also said the chief geologist at McArthur River had warned as early as January 2001 about the company's "lack of readiness to fight serious water inflow." The mine superintendent and contract workers continued expressing warnings and misgivings to superiors about water hazards almost up to the time of the accident, the report says. ...</p> <p>"During the regulators' December hearing, nuclear commission member Christopher Barnes, a geologist, admonished Cameco officials for the Cigar Lake accident.</p> <p>"My concern is that you're developing a mine here without adequate</p>	
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		geologic, geotechnical, hydrogeologic knowledge; and when events like this one -- or the one at McArthur River -- take place, they put workers in considerable jeopardy," he said. "Barnes also criticized company officials three years earlier during a hearing on the McArthur River accident. "When you put the pieces together, they build a story of really fundamental issues about the competence of the company," he said in April 2003.	
2007	Port Hope, Ontario	Substantial leakage of radioactive and chemical pollutants into the soil under the conversion facility – leakage which was not detected by the monitoring wells set up around the plant. The Port Hope refinery plant was closed when contaminated soil was discovered, but during the “clean-up” it is likely that tailings found their way into the harbour.	CCNR submission on the proposed relicensing of Cameco's Port Hope Conversion Facility, 19 Dec 2011, www.ccnr.org/CCNR_Submission_2011.pdf Traditional owner: don't mine our land 4 Feb 2009, www.greenleft.org.au/2009/781/40253
2008	US/Canada	Failures of the corporation to adhere to research and reporting requirements including the filing of their license application which was missing 20 pages. According to research by done by Owe Aku, the ISL mines owned by Cameco, Inc. in Nebraska, Wyoming, and Canada have all had spills and leaks since beginning ISL mining of uranium, recently making a settlement payment of \$1.4 million to Wyoming for license violations, and \$50,000 to Nebraska for license violations. Cameco manages a radioactive waste site near Port Hope, Ontario, and have been charged recently by area residents with discharging the toxic cocktail of uranium, arsenic and radium onto a public beach of Lake Ontario in violation of Ontario Residents' Environmental Rights, and Cameco's ISL mine in Cigar Lake, Canada, shut down due to flooding.	http://censored-news.blogspot.com.au/2008/09/cameco-continues-to-target-lakota.html
2008		A recent controversy embroiling Cameco resulted in a US\$1.4 million settlement with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. This was in relation to non-compliance issues at the state's Smith Ranch Highlands mine. Listed environmental regulations breaches included pace of groundwater restoration, mine permit documentation, site reclamation schedules, spills and its reclamation cost estimates.	Disgraced Uranium Miner Opens Alice Shop 21 July 2008 http://no-waste.org/?page=fastpages/showarticle.php&id=3247
2008	Rabbit	Seepage discovered at Rabbit Lake mill. Seepage from underneath Cameco	The Leader-Post, April 11, 2008

January	Lake	Corp.'s Rabbit Lake mill was discovered after a contract worker noticed a pool of uranium-tainted ice at an outdoor worksite adjacent to the facility. After an investigation into the spill, the company found a solution used in processing uranium was leaking through certain areas of the mill floor and was travelling to the nearby worksite. The site is where an excavation was underway to install an addition to the area's environmental management system, said Cameco spokesman Gord Struthers. When the leak was first found on Jan. 26, 2008, the solution had a uranium concentration of 3.2 grams per litre, he said. As of March 16, 2008, solution that had not yet been pumped back to the mill for processing had a uranium concentration of 0.27 grams per litre. The mill floor has since been repaired and resealed.	www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html
2008 May	Port Hope, Lake Ontario	It was discovered during soil decontamination at the suspended Port Hope uranium processing facility in Canada that egress from degraded holding floors had contaminated the harbour surrounding the facility, which flows into Lake Ontario.	http://no-waste.org/?page=fastpages/showarticle.php&id=3247 www.iht.com/articles/2008/05/22/business/22pollute.php
2008 June	Key Lake	The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission intends to approve the license renewal for Cameco's Key Lake mill, although: * CNSC staff assigned C ratings ("below requirements") in four out of ten program areas assessed: operations (in particular waste management and fire protection), quality management, environmental protection, and training. * the measures taken to reduce molybdenum and selenium loads in the plant's effluents are not working * the problem of pit wall sloughing in the Deilmann open-pit tailings facility (characterized by Cameco as a "world class facility for long-term tailing storage"!) remains unresolved * no concept exists for the final long-term management of the tailings stored at the site.	www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html
2008 July	Wyoming, US	Cameco makes a US\$1.4 million settlement for not complying with Wyoming state environmental standards.	www.canada.com/saskatoonstarphoenix/news/story.html?id=a00edc3f-cd99-4b60-
2008	Cigar Lake	Cameco reports that remediation work at the No. 1 Shaft at its Cigar Lake	Cameco, 12 Aug 2008

August		<p>uranium project was temporarily suspended on Aug. 12, 2008, after an increase in the rate of water inflow to the mine was observed. No. 1 Shaft had been pumped down to 430 metres below surface when the increase was reported in the early morning of Aug. 12, 2008. Work in the shaft was suspended a few hours later. During the day, the inflow rate increased steadily to approximately 600 cubic metres per hour (m³/hr), which is beyond the range that can be managed while sustaining work in the shaft. The mine has a total depth of 500 metres and the mine underground workings are at the 480-metre level.</p> <p>Work in the shaft has been suspended while the situation is assessed to determine the source and characteristics of the inflow, implications for planned remediation work and the impact, if any, on our planned production date. Our current plan is to allow the water level in the shaft to rise to approximately 100 metres below surface.</p>	<p>www.wise-uranium.org/upcdncl.html</p>
2009	Rabbit Lake	<p>Sharp increase of uranium loads in lake sediments near Rabbit Lake mine. Effluents from the Rabbit Lake mine are causing a sharp increase in uranium loads in sediments of Wollaston Lake's Hidden Bay. While natural uranium levels in the lake sediment are below 3 µg/g, levels in Hidden Bay had reached approx. 25 µg/g in 2000, and have more than doubled each year since. According to the Athabasca Working Group, who performed the tests during its annual environmental monitoring program, "This has been recognized by the company and they are looking into ways of reducing uranium in the effluent." (Wollaston Lake, Athabasca Working Group Environmental Monitoring Program 2003)</p> <p>Apparently, efforts in reducing the uranium in the effluent were partly successful, since 2004 and 2005 sampling showed uranium levels in the lake sediment of approx. 90 µg/g, but these values are still approx. 30 times background. (Wollaston Lake, Athabasca Working Group Environmental Monitoring Program 2005)</p> <p>In 2007 and 2008, however, the uranium levels in sediment showed a sharp rise again, easily exceeding the federal "probable effects level" (PEL), at which no harmful effects to aquatic life are expected to occur. The 2008 level of approx. 280 µg/g even exceeded the peak level observed in 2003. In</p>	<p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html</p> <p>More information: Athabasca Working Group Environmental Monitoring Program 2009, www.areasources.ca/common/pdfs/library/athabasca_working_group/2009_Wollaston_Lake.pdf</p>

		2009, the level decreased again, but still remained above the PEL level.	
2009	Western Australia	Graded an old track that runs through two different registered Aboriginal Sites without permission from the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA).	http://censored-news.blogspot.com.au/2009/10/comeco-violates-australian-aboriginal.html
2009	Alice Springs, Australia	Cameco-Paladin were granted an exploration permit by the Northern Territory government in 2007. A May 27, 2008 media release from the Central Land Council (CLC) said that negotiations were being conducted with traditional owners, yet local owners such as Silverton, who do not want the plans to go ahead, say they have been excluded from the process. Silverton, who worked as a councillor for the CLC, said that consultation with the Aboriginal population has been either limited or non-existent.	Traditional owner: don't mine our land 4 February 2009 www.greenleft.org.au/2009/781/40253
2010	Rabbit Lake	2010: Uranium discharges from Rabbit Lake (highest by far in Canada) showed increase rather than the predicted decrease in 2010. In 2010, the average monthly uranium discharge concentrations of the Rabbit Lake facility exceeded the 0.1 mg/L Uranium Screening Objective during three months (Aug., Sep., Dec.), while in 2009, they had remained below the Screening Objective during all months. Moreover, the facility's total loading of uranium to the environment increased in 2010 by 15% to 390 kg. These increases stand in contrast to the further decreases expected for 2010 in the 2009 report.	www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html More information: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, 2010 Annual Report on Uranium Management Activities, www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/readingroom/report_s/uranium/2010-annual-report-on-uranium-management-activities.cfm
2011	Ship en route from Vancouver to China	A number of the sea containers that held drums of uranium concentrate damaged and loose uranium in the hold.	www.cameco.com/media/news_releases/2011/?id=543
2012 August	Port Hope fuel fabrication plant	CNSC staff received notification from Cameco Fuel Manufacturing Inc. (CFM) of an unusual event at their facility on August 21, 2012. There was a localized spill of uranium dioxide powder at one of the transfer stations within the facility that resulted in one worker being exposed to uranium and three other workers potentially exposed during cleanup. The worker was wearing personal protective equipment and early urinalysis tests do not indicate abnormal results. All four workers were examined by medical personnel and were temporarily re-assigned as a precautionary measure.	CNSC Aug. 27, 2012 www.wise-uranium.org/epcdn.html

		There was no risk to the surrounding environment and the general public as a result of this event.	
2012	Northern Saskatchewan	<p>Draft agreement between Cameco, Areva and the Aboriginal community of Pinehouse includes extraordinary clauses such as this: "Pinehouse promises to: ... Not make statements or say things in public or to any government, business or agency that opposes Cameco/Areva's mining operations; Make reasonable efforts to ensure Pinehouse members do not say or do anything that interferes with or delays Cameco/Areva's mining, or do or say anything that is not consistent with Pinehouse's promises under the Collaboration Agreement." [1,2] Unclear whether the 'gag order' was retained in the final agreement, signed in December 2012.</p> <p>On 24 June 2013, a statement of claim was filed in provincial court in Prince Albert on behalf of 42 plaintiffs who are challenging the legality of the agreement and the lack of consultation in Pinehouse, a primarily Métis community located 500 kilometres north of Saskatoon. [3]</p> <p>"They talk about prosperity and money coming into town, but they have a fixed view of what they would like to see and it seems to exclude everybody else," said Dale Smith, a Pinehouse resident and plaintiff in the case. [3]</p> <p>Fred Pederson said: "When we wanted the original document—contract—they wouldn't give it to us until after they signed the collaboration agreement. There was absolutely no consultation except for one or two days when they brought it and told the people what they are going to do. ... They're supposed to be trusted, elected leaders. They're supposed to [consult] the town. My hope is that [the legal action] will hopefully straighten out some of the dishonesty and stuff that has been going on with our leaders in Pinehouse. Because they have been pushing us down, pushing us down, pushing us down." [3]</p> <p>"They are trying to take away our voice as individuals and as a community," said John Smerek, a resident of Pinehouse. [2]</p> <p>The claim against the Pinehouse agreement asserts that it violates many statutes, including the Canadian Constitution, Treaty rights, the Northern Municipalities Act, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – particularly the right to free, prior and informed</p>	<p>[1] http://committeeforfuturegenerations.files.wordpress.com/2012/11/collaborationagreement.pdf</p> <p>[2] Jason Warick, The StarPhoenix, 27 Nov 2012, http://nuclear-news.net/2012/12/03/cameco-and-areva-s-deal-with-indigenous-people-to-silence-criticism-of-uranium-mining/</p> <p>[3] www.mediacoop.ca/story/legal-action-challenges-uranium-industry-agreement/18099</p> <p>[4] http://committeeforfuturegenerations.wordpress.com/2013/06/25/legal-action-seeks-to-annul-uranium-collaboration-agreement/</p> <p>[5] StarPhoenix Sep. 10, 2014. www.wise-uranium.org/upcdnsk.html</p>

		consent. Plaintiffs are also seeking an independent assessment of the impact of uranium mining on the environment and health of northerners.[4] In 2014 Justice Alison Rothery dismissed the suit.[5]	
2012	Key Lake	Caribou wanders into Key Lake uranium mill tailings pond. Anti-nuclear activist Pat McNamara says concerns have been raised about the health of wildlife in Saskatchewan's north, following a report that on April 22 a caribou had wandered through a fence and into a tailings pond at Cameco's Key Lake mine. The animal spent several hours in the water and McNamara claims northern residents are worried about how the animal may have been affected.	CBC Sep. 28, 2012 www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html
2012	Blind River refinery, Ontario	Workers sprayed with uranium dust at Cameco refinery. Three Cameco workers in Ontario were exposed to airborne uranium dust in an incident at the Saskatchewan company's Blind River refinery, federal regulators say. The exposure happened June 23 when a worker loosened a ring clamp on a 208-litre drum of uranium oxide yellowcake. The lid blew off and about 26 kilograms of the material were ejected into the air. The worker closest to the drum and two others in the area, who were not wearing respirators, were exposed to the dust. The drum of yellowcake came from Uranium One's Willow Creek facility in Wyoming. According to the U.S. government, several other Uranium One drums that had been shipped to Blind River were found to be bulging from internal pressure.	http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/workers-sprayed-with-uranium-dust-at-cameco-refinery-1.1146949 http://www.sierraclub.ca/en/search/node/cameco www.wise-uranium.org/epcdn.html
2012	Saskatchewan	Canada's Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is doing some of the industry's dirty work. Cameco is not directly involved in the NWMO but would presumably dump its high-level nuclear waste in any facility the NWMO manages to establish. The Saskatchewan government is perpetuating an 80-year history of genocide, racism and environmental degradation by provincial and federal governments. One episode involves the NWMO's attempt to find a site for Eastern Canada's high-level nuclear waste in northern Saskatchewan. Brad Wall's government is giving its tacit approval by allowing municipal officials in Pinehouse and NWMO staff to intimidate the community into accepting the project. The most disturbing examples of this intimidation were directed	[1] Pat McNamara, 25 Sept 2012, http://forum.stopthehogs.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=1254 [2] www.mediacoop.ca/story/extensive-open-consultations-behind-closed-doors/13430 See also: www.dominionpaper.ca/articles/4587

		<p>toward a 17-year old Metis youth who respectfully opposed the waste project at public meetings and in front of local council. The absolute low point came when one of NWMO's paid advisors pointed at the youth during a public meeting and said "you'll be in jail before you even graduate, so you might as well go hang yourself with your Metis sash." The 200 people who attended the meeting were shocked and many walked out. Suicide was already on everyone's mind as five youth in local communities had taken their lives in the preceding months. This callousness has been endemic to the treatment of northern people by the nuclear industry since its inception.[1]</p> <p>According to Fred Pederson, community residents being uninformed about meetings going on in their midst is not a one-time occurrence. Most of the visits to Pinehouse by NWMO representatives are unannounced meetings with the village mayor and council behind closed doors, he explained. "We're never told the dates. We're never told they're coming in," he said. "They go and have a closed door meeting with these guys. And then the public is never told what they've discussed or nothing. We are not told. The people are not told what goes on in the meeting, 'cause [it's] just them guys themselves." Critiques of the secrecy surrounding NWMO meetings abound in communities in northwestern Saskatchewan. Île-à-la-Crosse resident Jules Daigneault, 70, was out on the lake in his skiff looking for moose one day when he stumbled upon a NWMO meeting across the lake.[2]</p>	
2013–on going	Canada	<p>Cameco is battling it out in tax court with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). Up to C\$2.2 billion in corporate taxes allegedly went unpaid. Cameco set up a subsidiary in Switzerland allegedly for the sole purpose of avoiding taxes in Canada. The court case is due to be completed in 2017 and the court's decision will be finalised later in 2017 or in 2018.</p> <p>Cameco also involved in tax dispute with the United States: Cameco referenced the dispute with the IRS [United States Internal Revenue Service] in its 2014 Financial Results released Feb. 6, 2015: "The current position of the IRS is that a portion of the non-US income reported under our corporate structure and taxed in non-US jurisdictions should be recognized and taxed in the US on the basis that: the prices received by our US mining subsidiaries</p>	<p>www.leaderpost.com/news/Mandryk+Wall+silent+Cameco+move/8950686/story.html</p> <p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html</p> <p>Veritas Investment Research, 2 April 2013, 'Cameco's Tax Fallout', www.veritascorp.com/home/Accounting%20Alerts%20-%20Cameco%20Corp.%20April%20,%202013%20Veritas.pdf</p>

		<p>for the sale of uranium to CEL [Cameco Europe Limited] are too low; the compensation being earned by Cameco Inc., one of our US subsidiaries, is inadequate."</p> <p>According to Cameco, the IRS is seeking an additional \$32 million in taxes, plus interest. The company said the IRS may also seek penalties. Figures in the financial statements are reported in Canadian dollars. (CBC Feb. 9, 2015)</p>	
2013	Northern Saskatchewan	<p>Residents formally express their opposition to license renewals for uranium mining and milling projects at Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) hearings in La Ronge. Every day that one of Cameco's uranium mines is in operation, an even greater volume of extremely hazardous nuclear waste is created that will remain radioactive for a million years. It's time to put a stop to the destruction of the lands and waters we call home." Formal opposition to a license at these hearings would breach the agreements, jeopardizing contracts, jobs and funds. Our communities are being railroaded into becoming cheerleaders for industry... Cameco's operations – and the licensing and relicensing processes themselves – are taking place within a larger context of Canadian settler-colonialism, exploitative resource extraction, and dispossession of Indigenous territory."</p>	<p>http://committeeforfuturegenerations.wordpress.com/2013/10/01/northerners-to-oppose-relicensing-camecos-uranium-operations/</p>
2013	English River First Nation, Canada	<p>English River First Nation signs deal with Cameco and Areva: Uranium giants Cameco and Areva have reached a \$600 million deal with a Saskatchewan First Nation to support their mining operations and drop a lawsuit over land near the proposed Millennium project. The collaboration agreement is with the English River First Nation, a band of more than 1,000 people who live on reserves about 600 kilometres north of Saskatoon.</p> <p>A condition of the agreement was that English River First Nation discontinue their lawsuit against the Saskatchewan government relating to Treaty Land Entitlement section of lands near the proposed Millenium mine project.</p> <p>Some English River First Nation band members reacted strongly to the agreement. Cheryl Maurice, a life-long resident of English River First Nation, and a group of band members are expressing concern about the agreement signing process. At the heart of the issue was a lack of a proper consultation leading up to the deal's ratification, she said. "I am speaking for a group of</p>	<p>http://business.financialpost.com/2012/08/27/cam-eco-buys-while-uranium-valuations-are-low/</p> <p>www.wise-uranium.org/upcdnsk.html</p> <p>Nuclear Heritage Network – NukesNews #10, 29 July 2013, http://nukenews.nuclear-heritage.net</p>

		people who weren't aware that this agreement was being negotiated because there was no consultation process." (CJME June 4, 2013)	
2013 June		The provincial government should not issue any new permits for potash, uranium or other resource development until First Nations concerns are addressed, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Chief Perry Bellegarde says. "We need to change how we do business with the province," Bellegarde told chiefs and delegates at the FSIN assembly on the Whitecap Dakota Nation south of Saskatoon this week. Bellegarde said the province's lack of a revenue sharing deal with First Nations stemmed from "economic racism." "Do not issue a licence to Cameco or Areva or BHP until indigenous issues are addressed," he said.	Saskatoon Star Phoenix, June 7, 2013 www.wise-uranium.org/upcdnsk.html
2013	Ontario	Since 2010, more than one truck in seven carrying radioactive material has been pulled off the road by Ontario ministry of transportation inspectors for failing safety or other requirements. 16 out of 102 inspected trucks were placed "out-of-service," which means the vehicle "must be repaired or the violation corrected before it is allowed to proceed." Violations included faulty brake lights; "load security" problems; flat tyres; false log; damaged air lines; and a driver with no dangerous goods training. In other cases, trucks were allowed to proceed but were slapped with enforcement actions for problems with hours of service; annual inspection requirement; missing placards; exceed gross weight limit; speed limiter; overlength combination; overweight vehicle; and vehicle registration / insurance.	John Spears, 15 Nov 2013, 'Trucks with radioactive cargo fail inspections', www.thestar.com/business/2013/11/15/trucks_with_radioactive_cargo_fail_inspections.html Ministry of Transportation – Undertaking #61: www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/documents/p17520/95562E.pdf
2013 May	Northwest Saskatchewan	After the Pinehouse collaboration Agreement with Cameco and Areva in December 2012, with the English First River Nation in May 2013 another indigenous community of Northwest Saskatchewan has – against protests of some of their community members – signed an agreement with these uranium mining companies to support their business and not to disturb it any more. The agreement – which members have not been permitted to see – allegedly promises \$600 million in business contracts and employee wages to the Dene band, in exchange for supporting Cameco/Areva's existing and proposed projects within ERFN's traditional territory, and with the condition that ERFN discontinue their lawsuit against the Saskatchewan government	Nuclear Heritage Network, NukesNews #10, 29 July 2013, nukeneews.nuclear-heritage.net Committee for Future Generations http://committeeforfuturegenerations.wordpress.com/ Peter Prebble and Ann Coxworth, July 2013, 'The Government of Canada's Legacy of Contamination in Northern Saskatchewan Watersheds,

		relating to Treaty Land Entitlement section of lands near Cameco's proposed Millenium mine project.	http://tinyurl.com/uran-sask
2013 August	Troy, Ohio, US	Burning truck hauling uranium hexafluoride. On August 22, 2013 in Ohio, USA, a fire occurred on a truck carrying uranium hexafluoride. Nuclear regulators in Canada – where the cargo originated – and in the US were not informed of the incident. The fire was caused by brake overheating. The driver doused the fire with water and thought he had extinguished it, and climbed back into the cab to call for a service truck. Then he realised the fire wasn't out and disconnected the trailer. The shipment came from Cameco's refinery in Port Hope, Ontario.	www.thestar.com/business/2013/10/31/burning_truck_hauling_nuclear_load_flies_under_radar.html
2013 Sept.	Northern Saskatchewan	Sierra Club Canada produced a detailed report in September 2013 on Cameco's uranium operations in Northern Saskatchewan. It details systemic corporate failure by Cameco as well as systemic regulatory failure. It should be considered in detail by the WA Government and relevant WA assessment / regulatory agencies. A few short excerpts from the report: "Where there are standards, we show Cameco is not required to report about them all, including those for uranium, mercury, cadmium and lead in particular. And where there is reporting and despite crazy numbers above the limits, regulators turn a blind eye. This is a story about the failure to regulate despite the Canadian public interest and international commitments otherwise. ... "Even where there are standards, Cameco is not required to report airborne mercury emissions and waterborne mercury, uranium and cadmium release are merely identified as an "effluent characterization" not subject to specific limits. There is no limit for uranium in groundwater. Despite limits where they exist, Cameco is allowed to wildly exceed them without consequence. ... "As of 2010, water releases from Deilmann Tailings in cadmium exceed the Saskatchewan standard by an extraordinary 5,782 percent. Uranium concentrations were above the standard on average by 1,323 percent and at the high level value by 10,153 percent! Radium 226 and lead 210 concentrations on average exceed the standard by 1,481 and 140 percent respectively. ...	Cameco's Uranium Mines: Trouble Both Near & Far Sierra Club Canada's Submission to CNSC Cameco's proposed expansion of the world's largest Uranium mines and mills in Northern Saskatchewan 4 Sept 2013 www.sierraclub.ca/sites/sierraclub.ca/files/submission_scc.pdf

		"At the McArthur River site, concentrations of arsenic, selenium, and uranium in water effluent have exceeded the standards by 54 percent for arsenic, 700 percent for selenium and an astronomical 1,230 percent for uranium. There is no reporting done on mercury. Blueberries and fish are contaminated with uranium."	
2013 Dec.	Key Lake	License violations and reportable events at Key Lake. Dec. 2, 2013: approx. 200 cubic metres of treated Reverse Osmosis (RO) permeate water with pH >9.5 was released to Horsefly Lake over a period of approximately one hour.	www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html Cameco, Key Lake Environmental Incidents, www.cameco.com/mining/key_lake/environment_and_safety/reportable_environmental_incidents/
2014 Jan.	Port Hope	Port Hope properties tested for radiation. About 450 Port Hope homeowners have had their soil sampled and properties tested in the first phase of the biggest radioactive cleanup in Canadian history. Some 1.2 million cubic metres of contaminated soil will be entombed in a storage facility. A waste-water treatment plant at the site is close to completion, said Judy Herod of Port Hope Area Initiative, the agency in charge of the cleanup. The 450-plus homeowners whose properties were tested have yet to receive the results. Radon gas levels were measured inside their homes while bore hole drilling outside yielded soil samples. More than 5,000 private and public properties will undergo such testing to identify places which need remediation. Port Hope, 110 kilometres east of Toronto, is riddled with low-level radioactive waste, a product of radium and uranium refining at the Cameco refinery, the former Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. Crown corporation, from the 1930s to the 1980s. Contaminated soil used as fill was identified as a health hazard in the '70s but it took decades to find a long-term solution. The waste, from all over the town, will be dug up and trucked to the storage facility north of town, where it will be sealed and monitored. When Ottawa approved the cleanup 13 years ago, the cost was pegged at \$260 million. It has since ballooned to \$1.28 billion.	www.thestar.com/news/ontario/2014/01/13/port_hope_properties_tested_for_radiation.html www.wise-uranium.org/epcdnph.html
2014 March		A statement endorsed by 39 medical doctors calls on Cameco to stop promoting dangerous radiation junk science: The statement reads in part: "Cameco has consistently promoted the fringe scientific view that exposure to low-level radiation is harmless. Cameco has sponsored speaking events by	'CAMECO - Stop Promoting Radiation Junk Science', www.mapw.org.au/news/cameco-stop-promoting-radiation-junk-science

		<p>Canadian scientist Dr Doug Boreham, who argues that low-level radiation is actually beneficial to human health. (Dr Boreham has also travelled to Australia to promote these views in 2007 and 2010.) Those views are at odds with mainstream scientific evidence and expert assessment. It is irresponsible for Cameco to consistently promote fringe scientific views regarding the health effects of ionising radiation. Even more alarming is that Cameco has actively promoted this view through its newsletters to Aboriginal communities about the Kintyre project.) ... We call on Cameco to stop promoting fringe scientific views to uranium industry workers and to the public at large."</p>	<p>www.mapw.org.au/files/downloads/Medical%20Statement%20-%20Toro%20-%20final2.pdf</p>
2014 May		<p>Northerners and environmentalists criticise the ethics and practices of Cameco outside the company's headquarters during its annual general meeting.</p> <p>"All these years they've been causing contamination and there's a connection to every other link in the nuclear fuel chain ... It's having worldwide impacts," said Candyce Paul. She said collaboration agreements with her English River First Nation and the Northern Village of Pinehouse Lake are undemocratic. Those deals were negotiated by certain leaders while many people from the communities were left in the dark, she said. Critics of the agreements have said they promise jobs, business opportunities and other benefits to the communities in exchange for the people not opposing the company's activities in the region.</p> <p>Kirsten Scansen of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band said she is worried about the ill-effects of mining byproducts and waste on the environment in the long term.</p>	<p>Betty Ann Adam, 29 May 2014, 'Activists rebuke Cameco's practices', The Star Phoenix.</p>
2015		<p>A uranium supply contract was signed by Cameco and India's Department of Atomic Energy on April 15, 2015. Under the contract, Cameco will supply 7.1 million pounds of uranium concentrate from 2015–2020, all of it sourced from Cameco's Canadian mines. The two countries signed a Nuclear Cooperation Agreement in 2010 and it entered into force in September 2013.</p> <p>The uranium supply contract was criticised by delegates to the World Uranium Symposium held in Quebec City from April 14–16. Shri Prakash, one</p>	<p>www.wiseinternational.org/nuclear-monitor/802/cameco-signs-uranium-contract-india</p>

		<p>of several participants from India at the Symposium, said: "India's nuclear weapons program is very active, as demonstrated by a series of nuclear test explosions. Moreover tensions between India and Pakistan, a country with its own nuclear arsenal, are running very high. The attitude of Canada is irresponsible and alarming."</p> <p>Trevor Findlay, a senior research fellow at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and a member of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, said: "Normally there's some sort of tracking and accounting system so that Canada would be receiving information from India very specifically about what Canada-sourced material is being used for. In this case, because the agreement is secret, we have no idea whether that's in place, and it probably isn't because the Indians have been pushing against that."</p> <p>Australian nuclear arms control expert Crispin Rovere noted in a 2014 paper: "As with the proposed Australia–India nuclear agreement, the text of the Canadian deal likewise abrogates the widely accepted principle that the nuclear recipient is accountable to the supplier. This is ironic given it was nuclear material diverted from a Canadian-supplied reactor that led to the India's break-out in the first place. It would be like the citizens of Hiroshima deciding it would be a good idea to host American nuclear weapons within the city – the absurdity is quite astonishing."</p> <p>Asked if he shares concerns about the potential for Canadian uranium to free up India's domestic uranium for weapons production, Malcolm Bernard from the Canadian Nuclear Association said: "Those concerns are legitimate and we share them. Everybody should."</p>	
2015		<p>Cameco's uranium operations in Saskatchewan are facing opposition from the Clearwater Dene First Nation. A group called Holding the Line Northern Trappers Alliance has been camping in the area to block companies from further exploratory drilling in their territory. The group set up camp in November 2014 and plans to remain until mining companies leave. Spokesperson Candyce Paul said she was opposed to Cameco's uranium deal with India and that "scientific evidence is building towards proving that the uranium mining industry is killing the Indigenous people of northern</p>	<p>www.vancouverobserver.com/national-observer/multi-million-dollar-tax-battle-casts-shadow-over-harper-modi-uranium-deal</p>

		Saskatchewan."	
2015	Key Lake mill, Canada	<p>February 16: Contractors installing piping on the fourth floor of the yellowcake building reported dust in their work area on Feb. 16. The dust was identified as calcined UOC. Mill operators wearing respiratory protection subsequently cleaned the area and began the process of locating the source. On Feb. 17, Cameco determined that the source of this calcined UOC was a failed weld seal connecting two sections of a duct. As a result of this incident, Cameco determined through uranium-in-urine testing that one worker had an intake of calcined UOC, which resulted in a weekly effective dose of 1.16 mSv, exceeding the weekly action level of 1 mSv. Two other workers who were potentially exposed did not receive a discernible dose from the incident. Operations were halted at the Key Lake mill to repair the duct. In accordance with the corrective action process, Cameco initiated an investigation and developed a plan to safely repair the duct. This has been implemented.</p> <p>January 14: Cameco personnel identified the presence of calcined UOC within an area of the yellowcake building. After the UOC was identified, Cameco had all personnel removed from the area. Access to the affected area was restricted and clean-up work was undertaken by employees using personal protective equipment. As reported to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission on Feb. 4, 2015, Cameco did uranium in urine sampling of the potentially affected workers. This resulted in a calculation that five workers had received doses exceeding the weekly action level of 1 mSv with the highest exposure calculated at 1.8 mSv. These levels are well below regulatory dose limits of 50 mSv per year. Cameco identified the source of the UOC as coming from a small hole that had developed in a steel heat exchange pipe located within the calciner unit at the mill. Repairs were safely completed allowing for the mill to be restarted Jan. 22, 2015.</p>	www.wise-uranium.org/umopcdn.html
2016 June		<p>Martu Traditional Owners led a 140 km, week-long walk to protest against Cameco's proposed uranium mine at Kintyre in Western Australia. Kintyre was excised from Karlamilyi National Park – WA's biggest National Park – in 1994.</p> <p>Aboriginal Traditional Owners are concerned the project will affect their</p>	www.walkingforcountry.com/karlamalyi-walk/ www.ccwa.org.au/kintyre

		<p>water supplies as well as 28 threatened species in the Karlamilyi National Park. Nola Taylor said the mine represented a threat to the health of people in her community. "It's too close to where we live, it's going to contaminate our waterways, we've got our biggest river that runs right past our community," she said.</p> <p>Joining the walk was Anohni, the Academy Award-nominated musician from Antony and the Johnsons. She said: "It's really hard to put a finger on it but there's a sense of presence and integrity and patience, dignity and perseverance and intense intuitive wisdom that this particular community of people have. There is almost an unbroken connection to the land – they haven't been radically disrupted. They are very impressive people – it's humbling to be around these women. In many regards, I think the guys who run Cameco are desolate souls, desolate souls with no home, with no connection to land, with no connection to country."</p>	
2016		<p>Cameco's share price has dropped 70% between 2011 and 2015.[1] Cameco announced on April 21, 2016 that is suspending production at Rabbit Lake and reducing production at McArthur River / Key Lake in Canada. Cameco is also curtailing production at its two U.S. uranium mines, both in-situ leach mines – Crow Butte in Nebraska and Smith Ranch-Highland in Wyoming. About 500 jobs will be lost at Rabbit Lake and 85 at the U.S. mines. Cameco now expects its total production in 2016 will be 25.7 million pounds of U3O8 (about 15% of global demand), down from its earlier forecast of 30 million pounds.[2]</p>	<p>[1] Sarfaraz A. Khan, 30 Sept 2015, 'Whatever Happened To Uranium's Recovery?', http://seekingalpha.com/article/3543176-whatever-happened-to-uraniums-recovery</p> <p>[2] 'Uranium on the rocks; nuclear power PR blunders', www.wiseinternational.org/nuclear-monitor/823/uranium-rocks-nuclear-power-pr-blunders</p>
2016	Smith Ranch ISL uranium mine, Wyoming, USA	<p>The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission finds that a supervisor from Cameco subsidiary Power Resources deliberately failed to maintain complete and accurate records of contamination exit surveys, filling out logs to indicate that personnel contamination surveys were performed on two contractors when the surveys were not performed. The NRC also issues a Notice of Violation to Cameco, stating that "between 2006 through 2016 ... the licensee failed to calculate the committed effective dose equivalent to all significantly irradiated organs or tissues using the appropriate biological models."</p>	<p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopuswy.html#SMITHR</p> <p>http://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML16272A092</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uranium_mining_in_Wyoming</p>

2015– 2016	Smith Ranch ISL uranium mine, Wyoming, USA	<p>The Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued a Confirmatory Action Letter to Cameco subsidiary Power Resources documenting actions that the company has agreed to take before resuming shipments of radioactive sludge to a Utah facility. The letter followed two incidents in which containers of radioactive barium sulfate sludge, a byproduct of uranium ore processing, arrived at the facility in Blanding, Utah, with some external contamination from leakage during transport. The incidents occurred in August 2015 and March 2016. The NRC conducted an inspection of Power Resource's Smith Ranch-Highland Uranium Project facility and determined that while the company took some corrective actions after the first incident, they were not fully effective.</p>	<p>www.wise-uranium.org/umopuswy.html#SMITHR</p> <p>https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/view?AccessionNumber=ML16272A092</p>
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