# Venison Mines Wheeler River Project 2022 Highlights

# **Meeting with you**

Following a year of virtual community engagement activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Denison was able to return to in person engagement focused on the preliminary results of the Environmental Impact Statement. We were happy to connect face to face with many of the wonderful folks who came to learn about the Wheeler River Project. Here is a list of the meetings we held:

- English River First Nation, Patuanak Reserve on May 30, 2022
- English River First Nation, La Plonge Reserve / Northern Village of Beauval on May 31, 2022
- Kineepik Métis Local / The Northern Village of Pinehouse on June 1, 2022

Thank you to everyone who attended! Over 95 people participated and more than 35 people completed our survey. We value the feedback we received.

Thanks to these types of community meetings and your engagement, Denison was recently named "Best in Class Engagement" by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment. We are humbled to have received this recognition and would like to extend our deepest gratitude to you all for supporting us as we seek to maintain meaningful engagement.

We are excited to connect with you again in 2023 and hope to have an even bigger turnout this year.

### Be first to hear about valuable information, subscribe to our new SMS Service for project updates.

Visit **www.redefiningmining.ca** to subscribe, learn more about the Wheeler River Project and discover ways in which Denison is redefining mining.









# Supporting what matters to you

Although Denison does not yet have a producing operation in northern Saskatchewan, we are working hard to find ways to support community initiatives important to you. Here are examples of just some of your community initiatives we were proud to support in 2022:

- English River First Nation Patuanak Pats at the Tony Cote Summer Games, Treaty Days, and the August Wellness Camp
- The Northern Village of Beauval Youth Music Program
- The Kineepik Métis Local Elders Gathering and Culture camp, and the Pinehouse Polar Bear Plunge
- The Northern Village of Ile a La Crosse Drone Camp, Wellness Camp, and the Sakitawak Elders Group Market Garden
- Saskatoon Tribal Council's Backpack Carnival for inner city youth

# Advancing the project in the field



The project team worked hard and made the 2022 field season a year of notable achievements for Denison and The Wheeler River Project. Using the In Situ Recovery (ISR) method, we successfully recovered uranium bearing solution during our feasibility field test. Denison is the first to do so in Canada! This was an historic moment for Denison, the Athabasca Basin Region and the industry.

#### Here are some highlights of the feasibility field test (FFT):

Denison proved successfully that uranium could be leached using the ISR mining method in the Athabasca Basin. The leaching phase of the FFT involved the controlled injection of a mining solution and the recovery of the solution containing dissolved uranium back to the surface using existing test wells. This test began in September 2022 and was completed in October 2022.

The horizontal and vertical containment of the mining solution was maintained throughout the leaching phase. Denison also confirmed that the containment of the many monitoring wells throughout the area was maintained.

During the important neutralization phase Denison was able to verify the process of returning the leaching zone to environmentally acceptable pH conditions after achieving the key pH restoration parameter identified in the applicable regulatory approvals for the FFT.



#### anium bearing solution

# Completing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

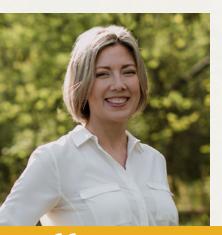


The Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS for short, is a document that is a regulatory requirement; it describes the potential effects that our proposed activities might have on the environment. Completing a draft EIS takes years of challenging work from many people. We reached a milestone as we submitted our draft EIS to regulators in fall of 2022.

The EIS is more than 6000 pages and you can read it all on the federal regulator's website by searching for the Wheeler River Project at **iaac-aeic.gc.ca.** There is also a brief Executive Summary available, which provides highlights from the full document.

#### Here are a few of the main points:

- We assessed potential changes to the land, air, water, wildlife, plants, and more. We assessed risks, mitigation measures, human health, potential cumulative impacts, and land use.
- The evaluations and conclusions of the EIS are that the Wheeler River Project can be constructed, operated, and decommissioned while regional plant communities are stable and continue to thrive, regional fish and wildlife populations are viable and healthy, human health is protected, there is continued opportunity for land use activities, including exercising Indigenous rights, and there is continued social and economic viability of local economies.
- The EIS outlines mitigation measures, monitoring requirements, and commitments needed for Denison to have confidence that the Project is operating as planned and that the actual effects resulting from the Project's Construction, Operation, and Decommissioning are at or below predicted effects.
- Indigenous knowledge was uniquely weaved throughout the EIS, based upon extensive engagement and consultation with Indigenous and non-Indigenous interested parties.



I am very proud to be a par of the regulatory process for a first in kind ISR uranium mine in Canada.

# Introducing our Director of Health, Safety, and Environment: Janna Switzer

Hi, my name is Janna Switzer, and I'm the Director of Health, Safety and Environment & Regulatory Compliance at Denison Mines. I grew up in Prince Albert where I started working at a very young age for my father's local business. I took an interest in environmental science and obtained a university degree in this field from the University of Alberta. My professional experience has included field and office work across British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. I have been working in an environmental role for 20 years and in the uranium industry for 15 years.

Spending time with family is a top priority for me. In my free time, you will find me hanging out in various hockey rinks around Saskatoon because I have two young boys who love the sport. Leading the completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement was a great opportunity to work with a wide range of experts in land use, community and Indigenous Knowledge, engineering and science. I consider the submission of the draft EIS to be a notable accomplishment.

I am proud of the work we have done and continue to do at Denison Mines. I believe that each day presents new opportunities to make a positive impact in the world and I believe that uranium production supports a low carbon energy future.



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