

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Quarterly Financial Report for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2016

August 2016





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Statement outlining results, risks and significant changes in operations, personnel and program

1. Introduction

This quarterly financial report has been prepared by management, as required by section 65.1 of the *Financial Administration Act*, and in the form and manner prescribed by the Treasury Board Secretariat. The report should be read in conjunction with the *Main Estimates* and *Supplementary Estimates*. The quarterly financial report has not been subject to an external audit or review.

1.1 Authority, mandate and program activities

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) was established on May 31, 2000, with the coming into effect of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* (NSCA). The CNSC is a departmental corporation and reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources.

As an independent regulatory agency and quasi-judicial administrative tribunal, the CNSC has jurisdiction over all nuclear-related activities and substances in Canada. Its mandate under the NSCA is to:

- regulate the development, production and use of nuclear energy in Canada to protect health, safety and the environment
- regulate the production, possession, use and transport of nuclear substances, and the production, possession and use of prescribed equipment and prescribed information
- implement measures respecting international control of the development, production, transport and use of nuclear energy and substances, including measures respecting the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices
- disseminate objective scientific, technical and regulatory information concerning the CNSC's activities, and about how the development, production, possession, transport and use of nuclear substances affect the environment and the health and safety of persons

The CNSC adopted a new program alignment architecture, which it implemented in 2015–16. The new architecture reflects the fundamental aspects of the CNSC's regulatory work.

To deliver on its mandate, the CNSC has six programs:

- Nuclear Fuel Cycle Program
- Nuclear Reactors Program
- Nuclear Substances and Prescribed Equipment Program
- Nuclear Non-Proliferation Program
- Scientific, Technical, Regulatory and Public Information Program
- Internal Services

Further details on the CNSC's authority, mandate and program activities can be found in the *Report on Plans and Priorities* and the *Main Estimates (Part II)*.

1.2 Basis of presentation

This quarterly report has been prepared by management using an expenditure basis of accounting. The accompanying *Statement of authorities* (see appendix) includes the CNSC's spending authorities granted by Parliament and those used by the CNSC, consistent with the *Main Estimates* and *Supplementary Estimates* for the 2015–16 and 2016–17 fiscal years. This quarterly report has been prepared using a special purpose financial reporting framework that is designed to meet financial information needs with respect to the use of spending authorities.

The authority of Parliament is required before moneys can be spent by the Government of Canada. Approvals are given in the form of annually approved limits, through appropriation acts or through legislation (in the form of statutory spending authority for specific purposes).

When Parliament is dissolved for the purposes of a general election, section 30 of the *Financial Administration Act* authorizes the Governor General, under certain conditions, to issue a special warrant authorizing the Government of Canada to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Revenue Fund. A special warrant is deemed to be an appropriation for the fiscal year in which it is issued.

The CNSC uses the full accrual method of accounting to prepare and present its annual departmental financial statements that are part of the departmental performance reporting process. However, the spending authorities voted by Parliament remain on an expenditure basis.

1.3 The CNSC's financial structure

The CNSC has a structure where various funding mechanisms are used to deliver its mandate. Most of the CNSC's funding is received from statutory budgetary authorities, with the remainder from voted budgetary authorities.

In Budget 2013, the CNSC received statutory authority – pursuant to subsection 21(3) of the NSCA – to spend during a fiscal year any revenues that it receives in the current or previous fiscal year through the conduct of its operations. The revenues received from regulatory fees for licences and applications are charged in accordance with the *Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Cost Recovery Fees Regulations*. This authority to spend revenues provides a sustainable and timely funding regime to address the rapid changes in the regulatory oversight workload associated with the Canadian nuclear industry.

The CNSC is also funded through the voted budgetary authority from Parliament (Vote 1 – Program expenditures). Voted authority is used to fund some activities and certain types of licensees, which are by regulations, not subject to cost recovery. The regulations state that some licensees, such as hospitals and universities, are exempt from paying fees as these entities exist for the public good. Additionally, fees are not charged for activities that result from CNSC obligations that do not provide a direct benefit to identifiable licensees. These include activities with respect to Canada's international obligations (including non-proliferation activities), public responsibilities (such as emergency management and public information programs), and the updating of the NSCA and its associated regulations.

Contributions to the employee benefit plans are statutory budgetary authorities.

2. Highlights of fiscal quarter and fiscal year-to-date results

This section highlights the significant items that contributed to the net increase in authorities for the year, and actual expenditures for the quarter and year-to-date ended June 30, 2016.

2.1 Authorities analysis

As reflected in the table below, the CNSC's total authorities available to spend have increased by \$1.9 million (to \$134.8 million), or 1.4%, as of the end of the first quarter of 2016–17, compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

Authorities (in thousands of dollars)	2016–17	2015–16	Variance
Vote 1 – Program expenditures	38,687	38,921	(234)
Contributions to employee benefit plans	4,609	4,502	107
Spending of proceeds from the disposal of surplus Crown assets	28	30	(2)
Expenditures pursuant to subsection 21(3) of the Nuclear Safety and Control Act	91,443	89,452	1,991
Total budgetary expenditures	134,767	132,905	1,862

Vote 1 – Program expenditures and contributions to employee benefit plans

The total authorities decreased by \$0.1 million (to \$43.3 million), or 0.3%. The decrease is mainly due to the:

- \$0.4 million decrease in funding for the government-wide Single Window Initiative that was announced in Budget 2013 and which will streamline government import regulations and border processes for commercial trade
- \$0.2 million increase in funding, as a result of the completion of the repayment of a loan to the Treasury Board Secretariat's Management Reserve for improvements made to the CNSC's systems infrastructure
- \$0.1 million increase in contributions to employee benefit plans (EBP)

Budgetary statutory authority – Expenditures pursuant to subsection 21(3) of the NSCA

The CNSC's statutory authority for expenditures pursuant to subsection 21(3) of the NSCA is based on the CNSC's forecast of yearly expenditures for activities subject to cost recovery fees. The total authorities have increased by \$2.0 million (to \$91.4 million), or 2.2%, due to cost-of-living adjustments, including salaries and wages as well as a growth in revenues resulting from a phased-in review of formula fees charged under the *Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Cost Recovery Fees Regulations*.

2.2 Expenditure analysis

Statement of authorities (see appendix)

Vote 1 – Program expenditures

The authorities used during the first quarter (Q1) of 2016–17 have decreased by \$0.3 million (to \$7.3 million), or 3.6% mainly due to the timing of personnel-related expenditures (such as maternity and parental allowance and overtime) and a decrease in professional and special services.

Contribution to employee benefit plans

The authorities used during Q1 of 2016–17, which are monthly installments of the *Main Estimates* EBP amount, have increased by 0.1 million (to 1.2 million), or 2.4%. This is due to an increase in the 2016-17 Main Estimates personnel expenditure authority under Vote 1 - Program expenditures.

Expenditures pursuant to subsection 21(3) of the NSCA

The authorities used during Q1 of 2016–17 have decreased by \$0.2 million (to \$18.3 million), or 0.7% primarily due to the timing of expenditures compared with the same period in the prior year.

Budgetary expenditures by standard object (see appendix)

Planned expenditures

The total planned expenditures for the year have increased by \$1.9 million (to \$134.8 million), or 1.4%, compared to the previous year. The increase in planned expenditures for the year is due to the:

- \$1.7 million increase in personnel costs due to projected salary increases and
 costs for the workforce renewal initiative, which is part of the CNSC's
 comprehensive workforce strategy to ensure workforce sustainability by
 addressing the potential impact of attrition and ensuring an effective
 knowledge transfer
- \$0.7 million increase in transportation and communications costs that are mainly due to an anticipated increase in domestic travel resulting from operational requirements as well as an increase in travel for training purposes
- \$0.5 million increase in transfer payments primarily attributable to a forecasted increase in contributions for the Research and Support Program

- \$0.7 million decrease in professional and special services due to an anticipated reduction in the use of information technology and telecommunications consultants
- \$0.3 million net decrease in other expenditure areas

Expended during the quarter

The total actual budgetary expenditures in Q1 of 2016–17 decreased by \$0.4 million (to \$26.8 million), or 1.3%, when compared to the previous year. The decrease in expenditures is due to the:

- \$0.3 million increase in rentals due to timing of payments for building rentals
- \$0.2 million decrease in personnel costs
- \$0.2 million decrease in transportation and communications due to a decrease in relocation costs
- \$0.2 million decrease in professional and special services due to a reduction in expenditures for information technology and telecommunications consultants
- \$0.1 million net decrease in other expenditure categories

3. Risks and uncertainties

Most of the CNSC's expenditures are funded through revenue from fees received from the industry. While the authority to spend revenues provides a sustainable and timely funding regime to address the changes in the regulatory oversight workload, it also poses a financial risk due to changing industry patterns and global economies. The CNSC works to mitigate such risk by increasing its use of term employees, a practice that increases workforce flexibility.

The CNSC continues to review its strategic planning framework to reflect changes taking place in the nuclear sector, and to reflect and anticipate the needs of a changing industry. Recent changes in the nuclear sector include:

- delays in proceeding with new uranium mine projects
- the Ontario government's announcement on January 11, 2016 that it will invest in refurbishing the first of four units at Ontario Power Generation's (OPG's)

 Darlington Nuclear Generating Station in addition to planning to pursue continued operations at the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station through 2024
- the licensing process for OPG's proposed Deep Geologic Repository for low-to-intermediate-level radioactive waste, which is dependent on the environmental assessment currently underway via a joint review panel and on a decision by the Minister of Environment

The CNSC is currently implementing a workforce renewal initiative, part of a comprehensive strategy to ensure workforce sustainability, by addressing the potential impact of attrition and ensuring an effective knowledge transfer. The outlook for CNSC regulatory oversight requirements is stable.

4. Significant changes in relation to operations, personnel and programs

There have been no significant changes in relation to operations, personnel and programs during the first quarter of 2016-17.

5. Approval by senior officials

Approved by:	
Original Signed by:	Original Signed by Daniel Schnob for:
Michael Binder	Stéphane Cyr
President	Chief Financial Officer
Ottawa, Canada	
Date: August 16, 2016	

Appendix

Statement of authorities (unaudited)

	Fiscal year 2016–17				Fiscal year 2015–16			
(in thousands of dollars)	Total available for use for the year ending March 31, 2017*	Used during the quarter ended June 30, 2016	Year to date used at quarter-end	Total available for use for the year ended March 31, 2016*	Used during the quarter ended June 30, 2015	Year to date used at quarter-end		
Vote 1 – Program expenditures	38,687	7,342	7,342	38,921	7,605	7,605		
Budgetary statutory authorities								
Contribution to employee benefit plans	4,609	1,152	1,152	4,502	1,125	1,125		
Spending of proceeds from the disposal of surplus Crown assets	28	-	-	30	-	-		
Expenditures pursuant to subsection 21(3) of the <i>Nuclear Safety and Control Act</i>	91,443	18,330	18,330	89,452	18,454	18,454		
Total budgetary authorities	134,767	26,824	26,824	132,905	27,184	27,184		
Non-budgetary authorities	<u>-</u>	-		<u>-</u>	-	-		
Total authorities	134,767	26,824	26,824	132,905	27,184	27,184		

^{*} Includes only authorities available for use and granted by Parliament at quarter-end.

Departmental budgetary expenditures by standard object (unaudited)

	Fiscal year 2016–17				Fiscal year 2015–16			
(in thousands of dollars)	Planned expenditures for the year ending March 31, 2017*	Expended during the quarter ended June 30, 2016	Year to date used at quarter-end	Planned expenditures for the year ending March 31, 2016*	Expended during the quarter ended June 30, 2015	Year to date used at quarter-end		
Expenditures:								
Personnel	94,816	21,980	21,980	93,071	22,178	22,178		
Transportation and communications	5,546	1,169	1,169	4,802	1,348	1,348		
Information	1,365	241	241	1,358	211	211		
Professional and special services	19,082	2,255	2,255	19,808	2,497	2,497		
Rentals	5,309	700	700	5,173	424	424		
Repair and maintenance	1,733	47	47	1,967	44	44		
Utilities, materials and supplies	703	108	108	802	151	151		
Acquisition of machinery and equipment	3,945	185	185	4,154	147	147		
Transfer payments	2,253	216	216	1,740	162	162		
Other subsidies and payments	15	(77)	(77)	30	22	22		
Total gross budgetary expenditures	134,767	26,824	26,824	132,905	27,184	27,184		
Total net budgetary expenditures	134,767	26,824	26,824	132,905	27,184	27,184		

^{*} Includes only authorities available for use and granted by Parliament at quarter-end.