

## Number of licenses refused by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

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*From: M\*\*\*\*\**

*Sent: February-27, 2017.*

*To: Information (CNSC/CCSN)*

*Can you please provide me with a list of license refusals or withdrawals that have been issued since the inception of the CNSC?*

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From: Belzile2, Han-Sen (CNSC/CCSN)

Sent: March 30, 2017.

### **Subject: List of licence refusals and withdrawals**

Hi M\*\*\*\*\*,

Thank you for your patience. Please see below for the response approved by CNSC subject matter experts:

As you may know, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment, and to respect measures of control and international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

The CNSC is therefore responsible for the issuance of a variety of licences to ensure safe uranium mining, nuclear power, nuclear medicine, nuclear research, waste management, export and import, etc.

The Commission (the tribunal component of the CNSC) makes decisions on the licensing of major nuclear facilities and nuclear-related activities. The Commission deals with about 30-40 of the 1700 CNSC licensees, and **since the enactment of the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA) on May 31, 2000, there has not been any licence refusal by the Commission.** This does not mean that all applications were accepted as is, but that applicants made the necessary changes and the Commission issued specific conditions prior to a licence being granted.

Most licensing decisions fall within the authority of designated officers (DOs). DOs are CNSC senior staff members who have been designated by the Commission and granted licensing and/or certification authority for all licences other than Class 1 and uranium mines and mills licences.

The following numbers relate to applications to import and export nuclear substances, prescribed equipment and prescribed information under the NSCA, and pursuant to application requirements under the Nuclear Non-

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proliferation Import and Export Control Regulations (NNIECR) and under the General Nuclear Safety and Control Regulations (GNSCR). These statistics go back to when the NSCA and relevant Regulations came into force. The numbers thus are those accrued over a 17-year period.

The numbers represent export and import licence application withdrawals and denials, including applications that have been withdrawn formally by applicants after formal submission to the CNSC (at their own volition), and applications for which the CNSC formally has refused to issue a licence following assessment of the application (pursuant to s. 24(4)(b) of the NSCA).

- Import/export application withdrawals: 363
- Import/export licence denials (refusal to issue a licence): 13

**Withdrawals of applications by applicants primarily arise due to changes in commercial or business arrangements** into which the applicant may have entered. Withdrawals have been made of applications submitted under both the NNIECR and the GNSCR.

Refusals to issue a licence relate to applications made under the NNIECR only. Since 2000, the CNSC has received **around 14,000 applications** of this type.

A large portion of the licences issued by the CNSC are for the possession and **use of nuclear substance and radiation device licences**. **In 2016, there were four (4) refusals and one refusal to authorize a transfer of nuclear substance and radiation device licences.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any other questions.

Best regards,

Han-Sen Belzile

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