

MINUTES

FROM THE MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE

NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (NWMO) / SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES (SGDN)

convened on March 30th, 2005
at 49 Jackes Avenue, Toronto, Ontario
commencing at 8:30 A.M. EST.

Present

Ken Nash	Director, Chairman
Laurie Comeau	Director
Fred Long	Director
Adèle Malo	Director
Michel Rhéaume	Director

and

Elizabeth Dowdeswell	President
David Crombie	Advisory Council Chair (Agenda Item 7)
Kathryn Shaver	Corporate Secretary

1. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Nash chaired the March 30, 2005 Board meeting.

Notice of the meeting having been given to all of the Directors of the Company and a quorum of the members being present, Mr. Nash declared the meeting duly constituted for the transaction of business at 8:30 A.M. EST.

The Directors approved the Agenda for the March 30th, 2005 meeting.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on February 16th 2005, copies having been sent to each member of the Board, were approved.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

The President reviewed the status of actions arising from the February 16th, 2005 Board meeting.

- She noted the actions that had been completed.
- The report from the workshop on the nature of the hazard will soon be finalized and available for distribution to Board members.
- The President distributed a recent report from France on the study of options for managing used nuclear fuel undertaken in that jurisdiction.

4. Appointment of Chair

The Corporate Secretary reported that, with the resignation of Richard Dicerni from the NWMO Board of Directors, it was necessary to elect a new Chair of the NWMO Board.

Accordingly, approval of the Board of Directors was sought on the appointment of the new Chair.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

- THAT Ken Nash be and is hereby elected as Chair of the Corporation.

The motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed.

5. Draft Study Report

The President provided an update on the organization's preparation of the Draft Study Report. The Board of Directors was presented with the most recent draft of the report for review and discussion.

The discussion with the Board of Directors began with a review of the part of the document that summarizes the themes that the NWMO heard in its engagement with the general public and aboriginal peoples. The President reviewed areas of refinement to the study that had been undertaken subsequent to the previous version reviewed by the Board. She noted that the text has been streamlined for clarity. Further to the Advisory Council suggestion, this section will be made more prominent in the study, moved up to precede the analytical component of the report.

The Chairman invited Board comments:

- Board members expressed support for the NWMO's comprehensive reporting out on what Canadians said in the course of their dialogue with the NWMO.

- The Board suggested that NWMO consider the addition of schematic diagrams for the purpose of communicating the processes that NWMO followed in the course of its iterative phases of engagement and analysis leading up to the draft recommendations.

The President invited Board comments on the appendices that had been proposed to offer elaboration on key areas of the document. She invited Board comments on whether the list of proposed appendices was sufficiently comprehensive. The Board:

- proposed some additional information for inclusion in the regulatory appendix; and
- identified the inventory of used fuel bundles, reported by NWMO in the appendix, as an area requiring Board review to ensure that it reflects the most recent factual information on the volume of used fuel to be managed.

6. Report from Advisory Council Chair

Mr. Crombie, Advisory Council Chairman, joined the meeting, to provide the Board with an update on the activities of the Advisory Council to the NWMO.

- He noted that the Council is conducting many of its sessions in camera, without the presence of NWMO management. The focus for the Advisory Council at this time is discussion around Council's independent comments on the NWMO study. The Advisory Council intends to contract with an external writer for assistance in drafting the Council report that will be included in the final NWMO study, submitted to government in November 2005.
- As part of the March 14, 2005 Council meeting, the Advisory Council met with two representatives from Natural Resources Canada. This provided an opportunity for the Council to update Natural Resources Canada on how it is fulfilling its legislated mandate.
- The Advisory Council has been providing comment to the NWMO on the drafting in progress of the Draft Study Report, offering comment to ensure full, clear reporting out on the findings from the NWMO's engagement and assessment activities from the past two and a half years.

In responding to an inquiry of Mr. Nash, the Advisory Council Chairman confirmed that the Advisory Council was comfortable with the way in which the NWMO study was proceeding, and the direction of the recommendation under development by NWMO.

7. Draft Study Report (continued)

The President introduced the first two parts of the Draft Study report, tabled for review with the Board of Directors.

The Chairman invited Board discussion:

- There was discussion on the sequence of activities and timelines suggested for the management approaches, including the sequence of regulatory approvals required under each approach.
- It was noted that the document sets out illustrative timelines for implementation of each of the four management approaches. The President reported that it is NWMO's intention that these be presented as possible timelines for implementing the management approaches, indicative of the sequence of decisions to be taken along the implementation possible path, but not intended to prescribe the specific timing of each step in the implementation process.
- It was suggested that there be elaboration in the text to clarify the roles and responsibilities in implementation and, in particular, the bodies responsible for making the decisions referenced in the implementation plans.
- It was proposed that an elaboration on the rationale underlying NWMO's recommendation be included in the first part of the document for clarity.
- It was suggested that the implementation plans clarify the focus and purpose of the research proposed under each management approach.
- It was noted that a greater level of specificity would be appropriate for near-term actions on the implementation plans, while a more general discussion provided for later stages in implementation.
- It was proposed that the report add commentary to identify provincial policy and/or regulatory activities that may be relevant in the implementation process, in addition to federal approvals.

8. Draft Study Report -- Next Steps

The Chairman invited the NWMO President to address next steps in the process of finalizing the Draft Study.

- The President reported that the NWMO seeks to release the Draft Study by early May 2005, to enable dialogues around the Draft Study to be scheduled in the May-June period.
- NWMO is seeking comments from the public and aboriginal peoples on the draft directions proposed in the draft study, to assist the organization in refining and finalizing its report in the period leading up to November 2005.
- A further Board meeting is planned for April 11 to support discussion around NWMO's final draft. The Board proposed a full day meeting for April 11th.

Termination of Board Meeting

There being no other items for discussion, the Directors concluded their session at 12:30 P.M. EST.

Corporate Secretary
Dated this 7th day of June , 2005