NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

Who We Are

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) was established in 2002 by Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG), Hydro-Québec and New Brunswick Power Corporation in accordance with the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (NFWA)* to assume responsibility for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel. Used nuclear fuel is presently safely stored on an interim basis at licensed facilities at nuclear reactor sites in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick, where it is generated, and at Atomic Energy of Canada Limited's (AECL) nuclear research site in Manitoba and Chalk River Laboratories in Ontario.

The NWMO's first mandate was to study options for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. In 2005, the NWMO completed its study and put forward its recommendation to Government. On June 14, 2007, the Government of Canada selected the NWMO's recommendation for Adaptive Phased Management (APM). The plan moves towards a goal that Canadians themselves identified: safe and secure long-term containment and isolation of used nuclear fuel produced in Canada, with flexibility for future generations to act in their own best interests. The plan will be implemented over several decades as the NWMO sites, constructs and operates the repository in long-term partnership with the host community and region. The NWMO has now initiated the implementation of the project.

The NWMO also entered into a services agreement with OPG to develop and license that company's proposed repository project for low and intermediate level waste in Kincardine, Ontario.

Board of Directors

Consistent with the requirements of the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*, the nuclear energy corporations appointed the NWMO a Board of Directors. The NWMO Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of the organization and taking a leadership role in the development of the organization's strategic direction. Members recognize the importance of ensuring that the Board reflects the appropriate skills, experience and competencies required to oversee the managerial, financial and operational activities associated with the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The Board also includes independent directors to ensure a diversity of views. For biographical information on the NWMO Board of Directors, please visit **www.nwmo.ca/board**.

Advisory Council

The NWMO Advisory Council is an independent and arm's-length body composed of individuals knowledgeable in nuclear waste management issues. They are also experienced in working with citizens and communities on a range of public policy issues.

Established in accordance with the *NFWA*, the Advisory Council's role is to ensure that the views of the public are considered and are reflected in a thoughtful, balanced way in the proposed approaches and reports of the NWMO. The Council also assists the NWMO in ensuring that its processes are of good quality and are open, transparent, thorough and sound.

The NWMO Advisory Council regularly provides advice and views on how the NWMO discharges its responsibilities. The Council commented on the NWMO's Study Report in 2005 and will be providing comments in the NWMO's triennial reports; the first triennial report will be published in 2011. These comments are submitted to the Minister of Natural Resources and made public at the same time. For biographical information on the NWMO Advisory Council, please visit **www.nwmo.ca/advisorycouncil**.

NWMO Staff

The NWMO has grown from a small study-based organization established in 2002 to a sustainable corporation with full responsibility for implementing Adaptive Phased Management. The NWMO now counts well over 100 employees and is growing. The move to full independence enhances the NWMO's long-term viability and improves its capacity to recruit and retain personnel.

An agreement struck between the NWMO and OPG saw the transfer to the NWMO of all OPG personnel who had been working on NWMO programs and on OPG's proposed deep geologic repository for low and intermediate level waste. The move has provided the NWMO with the experience base of an established nuclear waste management and repository team.

The organization is making sure that it has the necessary personnel to carry out its expanding work program. In 2009, more than a dozen specialized professionals were hired in the areas of geoscience, safety assessment, repository engineering and regulatory affairs, bringing with them extensive experience in the nuclear and mining industries. Our workforce was also reinforced with the addition of more specialists in the fields of social research, public and Aboriginal engagement, communications and new media, finance, human resources and law. Staffing capabilities will continue to be increased, as needed, consistent with growth in the work program.

The organization works with an extended group of consultants, practitioners and academics from across Canada and internationally to ensure that its work benefits from the best available research and experience.

Our Work

The NWMO has responsibility for directing and managing all aspects of the established Canadian social and technical research on used nuclear fuel, in addition to siting and concept design development. The research program focuses on used fuel storage and repository engineering, geosciences, safety assessment, and technical support to the development and implementation of a siting process. Contracts with many Canadian universities support this research.

Implementing a long-term management process for used nuclear fuel requires an understanding of the many social issues and concerns associated with this issue. We are committed to carrying out our work collaboratively with interested and affected citizens and organizations in a manner that is socially acceptable, technically sound, environmentally responsible and economically feasible.

The NWMO will continue to learn from and contribute to Canadian and international developments

in public engagement concerning radioactive waste management, as part of a program to meet the expectations of Canadians. Canadians have told us that they want the NWMO to continue to:

- build new knowledge
- inform the public about emerging innovations
- seek third-party verification
- consider the work of other countries
- assure that best knowledge and expertise is applied
- measure actions against independent benchmarks
- report in easy-to-understand, non-technical language
- ensure ongoing involvement in decision-making.

Through a services agreement, the NWMO will develop and license OPG's proposed repository project for low and intermediate level waste in Kincardine, Ontario. As a result, the NWMO is gaining first-hand experience in relationship-building with a host community and licensing a repository through the regulatory system. Working on design, development, safety assessment, environmental assessment and construction of a deep repository is increasing the NWMO's organizational capacity to implement Adaptive Phased Management.

Vision, Mission and Values

VISION

Our vision is the long-term management of Canada's nuclear waste in a manner that safeguards people and respects the environment, now and in the future.

MISSION

The purpose of NWMO is to develop and implement, collaboratively with Canadians, a management approach for the long-term care of Canada's used nuclear fuel that is socially acceptable, technically sound, environmentally responsible and economically feasible.

VALUES

The fundamental beliefs that guide us in our work include:

- **Integrity:** We will conduct ourselves with openness, honesty and respect for all persons and organizations with whom we deal.

- **Excellence:** We will pursue the best knowledge, understanding and innovative thinking in our analysis, engagement processes and decision-making.

- **Engagement:** We will seek the participation of all communities of interest and be responsive to a diversity of views and perspectives. We will communicate and consult actively, promoting thoughtful reflection and facilitating a constructive dialogue.

- **Accountability:** We will be fully responsible for the wise, prudent and efficient management of resources, and be accountable for all our actions.

- **Transparency:** We will be open and transparent in our process, communications and decision-making, so that the approach is clear to all Canadians.

The NWMO has grown from a small study-based organization to a sustainable corporation with all the necessary skills and capacity that will be needed to meet the challenges of implementing Adaptive Phased Management, Canada's plan for the long-term care of used nuclear fuel, and to develop and license OPG's proposed repository for low and intermediate level waste in Kincardine, Ontario.

Boye Abdul | Luba Alexandrova | Diane Barker | Mahrez Ben Belfadhel | Ken Birch | Michael Borrelli | Andrew Boushy | Mike Budge | Angelo Castellan

Steve Cavan | Ginni Cheema | Angela Ciccotelli | Sally Clark-Mills | Alejandro Covarrubias | Maryam Dabir | Janet David | Monica Dias

Nicole DiCarlo | Jo-Ann Facella | Kent Feng | Jose Freire-Canosa | Mike Garamszeghy | Gowie Garcia D'Aguanno | Frank Garisto | Stephen George | Paul Gierszewski

SOCIAL RESEARCH

The NWMO Social Research program supports our ongoing dialogue and collaboration activities, including work to engage potentially affected citizens and interested organizations. We learn from the experiences of others, exploring the perspectives of citizens and specialists on key issues such as ensuring the social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being of communities affected by the NWMO's work.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The NWMO is building long-term relationships to develop awareness, understanding and support for Adaptive Phased Management. The success of Canada's approach for the long-term care of used nuclear fuel is dependent on the involvement of interested Canadians, organizations and Aboriginal peoples in key decisions through open, transparent and inclusive engagement processes.

Mark Gobien | Jessica Gosbee | Laura Grant | Vaneet Gupta | Paul Hader | Marni Halter | Daniela Heimlich | Richard Heystee

Sarah Hirschorn | Michael Hung | Neale Hunt | Mihaela Ion | Viva Isbasoiu | Ivana Ivanovic | Joanne Jacyk | Mark Jensen | Cynthia Jourdain

Anda Kalvins | John Kennard | Laura Kennell | Atika Khan | Frank King | Erik Kremer | Mike Krizanc | Gloria Kwong

TECHNICAL RESEARCH

The NWMO Technical Research program is focused on developing engineering designs for a deep geological repository, advancing geoscience and site characterization methods, and preparing illustrative safety assessments to support development of the siting process. In addition to our in-house staff capabilities, the program benefits from strong working relationships with universities and consultancies, as well as collaboration and participation in joint research, development and demonstration projects internationally.

LIABILITY MANAGEMENT

The NWMO is responsible for ensuring that the cost estimates for Adaptive Phased Management remain updated and that the funding formula to pay for the plan collects and protects enough money to ensure that its entire costs are covered under a variety of social and economic circumstances, and within the required timeframe.

Tom Lam | Kitty Lee | Helen Leung | Tiger Liu | Zvonko Lovasic | Lori Lucas | Dylan Luhowy | Peter Maak | Elena Mantagaris

Jennifer McKelvie | Jim McLay | Ellen Meadd | Chantal Medri | Pat Moran | Gillian Morris | Alan Murchison | Ken Nash

Sean O'Dwyer | Kevin Orr | Phyllis Pandovski | Andy Parmenter | Pat Patton | Karen Poon | Ian Pritchard | Jamie Robinson | Sean Russell

CORPORATE

As of January 1, 2009, the NWMO is a stand-alone employer with all the necessary supporting infrastructure including human resources, finance, legal services, quality assurance and administrative support.

OPG'S DGR FOR L&ILW

In addition to implementing Adaptive Phased Management, another major project for the NWMO is seeking regulatory approval, on behalf of Ontario Power Generation, for the construction of a Deep Geologic Repository for the long-term management of its low and intermediate level waste.

Deb Rzeplinski | Maria Sanchez-Rico | Kelly Sedor | Branko Semec | Kathryn Shaver | Kevin She | Stella Shiv | Peter Simmons | Maria Simone

Wei Song | Ulf Stahmer | Larry Starecky | Erik Sykes | Kevin Tsang | Andres Urrutia-Bustos | John Van Heerden | Jorge Villagran

Andre Vorauer | Ian Walker | Toivo Wanne | Tim Weber | Debbie Williams | Derek Wilson | Marie Wilson | Wendy Yan | Tammy Yang

Moving Forward Together

The management of used nuclear fuel involves very long time frames, complex technical questions, and challenging social and ethical considerations. Canadian citizens expect and deserve to be involved in deciding major public policy questions. The NWMO has worked hard to listen to Canadians and is committed to continuing an open, transparent dialogue as we move ahead to implement Canada's approach for the long-term care of used nuclear fuel.

The Government of Canada's decision to accept the NWMO's recommendation for Adaptive Phased Management assigned the organization an important role in ensuring the safety of Canadians and the environment in the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The NWMO is drawing from the best technical expertise in Canada and internationally. It is also continuing to benefit from the knowledge of specialists, perspectives of citizens and wisdom of Aboriginal peoples to address the social, ethical and technical challenges. The successful long-term management of used nuclear fuel is dependent on the NWMO's commitment to moving forward collaboratively with Canadians.

For more information, please contact:

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