

Plan for the Long-term Management of Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel: Engaging at the Local Level



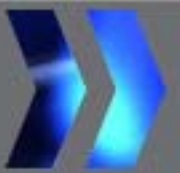
Canadian Nuclear Society - Waste Management,
Decommissioning and Environmental Restoration
for Canada's Nuclear Activities

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nwmo

NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
DES DÉCHETS
NUCLÉAIRES



- » Municipal Engagement
 - » Context setting

- » NWMO Municipal Forum
 - » Background and formation
 - » Work of the Forum

- » Municipal Associations
 - » Relationship building
 - » Communication

- » Sustained Municipal and Community Engagement

- » ***NWMO Mission statement:*** *The purpose of the 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*

Adaptive Phased Management: Canada's Plan for the Long-Term Management of Used Nuclear Fuel

APM emerged from dialogue with citizens and experts – best met key priorities

A Technical Method

- » Centralized containment and isolation of used nuclear fuel in deep geological repository
- » Continuous monitoring
- » Potential for retrievability
- » Optional step of shallow underground storage

A Management System

- » Flexibility in pace and manner of implementation
- » Phased and adaptive decision-making
- » Responsive to advances in technology, research, Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge, societal values
- » Open, inclusive, fair siting process - seek informed, willing host community
- » Sustained engagement of people and communities throughout implementation

APM approved by Federal government June 2007

Context Setting to Municipal Engagement

- » APM Project will be located in a willing and informed host community
- » Sustained engagement of people and communities throughout the phased process of decision-making and implementation
- » Understanding the community and local government perspective, issues and concerns critical to successful implementation of APM
 - » Hundreds of organized municipalities and constructs
 - » Ontario – 444
 - » Saskatchewan – 789
 - » Quebec - 1117
 - » New Brunswick - 102
- » Wide range of interests, views and local issues in communities in 4 nuclear provinces

Municipal Forum

- » Growing interest in the work of the NWMO and the siting process at the municipal community level
- » Informed communities will be key to the site selection process
- » Assembled municipal association leaders in late 2008 to discuss concept of a municipal forum.
- » Invited participants included:
 - » Provincial municipal associations (e.g. AMO and affiliates, UMNB, CNBA, SUMA, SARM)
 - » National municipal association (FCM)
 - » Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC)



- » Unanimous support for creation of a Municipal Forum
- » The Municipal Forum brings together municipal associations, and range of experience
- » The Municipal Forum created an opportunity for:
 - collaboration in shaping plans and processes,
 - to enquire and learn,
 - advise and guide NWMO on research to be undertaken to assist communities as they explore APM



Collectively the Forum :

- » Helped shape and guide the processes surrounding a multi-billion dollar national infrastructure project;
- » Contributed to the development of a research agenda to answer community questions and needs as they consider the site selection process;
- » Helped ensure municipal perspectives on engagement practices are identified;
- » Answered member questions and helped keep the membership informed;
- » Learned about issues related to the long-term management of used nuclear fuel and siting a deep geological repository;
- » Provided suggestions and comments to NWMO on municipal issues/concerns;
- » Provided guidance to NWMO on effective communication practices with municipalities;
- » Are involved in the development of international 'best practices' for engagement, communication and research related to the long-term management of used nuclear fuel and siting.

Contributions of the Municipal Forum



Municipal Forum agendas have included:

- » Identifying issues likely to surface during development of site selection process
- » Who should be involved in the process for selecting a site?
- » Comments on draft site selection process
- » Research on socio-economic impacts
- » Factors to consider in developing a transportation work plan
- » Legal questions and issues
- » Communicating the site selection process
- » Materials to support communities
- » Comments on NWMO Implementation Plan
- » Process for communities undertaking visioning exercises
- » FCM Conference Ambassadors
- » Issues and factors influencing regional engagement

Municipal Associations



- » Municipal Associations
 - » Federations of municipalities
 - » Specific interests and issues, e.g. ROMA, FONOM
 - » Annual conferences and trade shows
- » Forum members
 - » Represent municipal associations
 - » Also members of a community, service organizations, municipal politicians
 - » Close relationships with members - communities
- » Established relationships with upper levels of government
- » Information sharing
- » Credible and established



Sustained Municipal Engagement



Engagement at the municipal level includes:

- Briefings upon request, specialized dialogue sessions, and regular mailings of key documents;
- Municipal association conferences and trade shows including presentations, executive board briefings;
- Communities in the learn more process may receive information stands and kiosks, open houses





- » APM will be sited in a willing and informed host community;
- » Clear emphasis on community engagement in all stages;
- » Municipal Forum - a non-threatening, environment that allows the local community perspective to be discussed while helping guide a research agenda yielding tools to assist communities;
- » Relationships with associations encourage valuable communication with municipal members and communities, and learning opportunities;
- » Engagement and relationship management with communities is ongoing and constantly evolving



Questions

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