

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: June 17, 2019 Meeting

Record of discussion of the meeting of the Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) /
Société de gestion des déchets nucléaires (sgdn)

Convened at 22 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario,
commencing at 9:00 a.m. EDT On June 17, 2019

Advisory Council Members Present:

David Cameron, Council Chair
Donald Obonsawin, Vice Chair
Monica Gattinger (via conference call)
Sue Hartwig
Derek Lister
Dougal McCreath
Linda Thompson
Diane Kelly
Joseph Cavalancia
Dean Jacobs

NWMO Staff Present:

Laurie Swami	President and CEO (items 1-16)
Mahrez Ben Belfadhel	VP Site Selection (items 1-16)
Jo-Ann Facella	Director, Social Research & Dialogue (items 1-15)
Lisa Frizzell	VP Stakeholder Relations (items 1-16)
Joe Gaboury	Director Aboriginal Relations (items 1-15)
Gillian Morris	Board Secretary (items 1-16)
Sarah Hirschorn	Director, Geoscience (item 1-15)
Jamie Matear	Director, Municipal Engagement (items 1-15)
Doug Taylor	VP & General Counsel (items 1-15)
Bob Watts	VP, Indigenous Relations (items 1-15)

Guests:

Celia Milne Advisory Council Triennial Report Writer (1-17)

1. Constitution of Meeting / Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The agenda was agreed upon as written. The Chair acknowledged Toronto and NWMO are located in Indigenous Territory, the Dish with One Spoon Territory.

2. Safety Moment

Derek Wilson provided a safety moment related to summer garden safety, lawn mowing, pruning trees, maintaining equipment and using ladders. Council members provided some examples of this danger.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting / Action Items

The draft minutes and in camera minutes from the March 25, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved by Council members. The actions list was also reviewed.

4. President's Report

The President updated the Council on recent developments which included updates on:

- Borehole drilling in Ignace is progressing as planned;
- NWMO's Land Access program in Southern Ontario was launched;
- The status of Bill C-69 and the impact of this on NWMO's regulatory approvals timing;
- How NWMO is enhancing its safety culture and learning initiatives;
- AECL/CNL's decommissioning license application for Whiteshell;
- NWMO's participation in the Clean Energy Ministerial meeting;
- NWMO's membership in the Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA); and
- A meeting of international nuclear waste management organizations – EDRAM.

The Council discussed how other countries are proceeding with their repositories: some are on a consent-based program, while others by governmental decrees. A Council member asked management to bring to a future meeting, a discussion about how NWMO's communities will interact once NWMO narrows down to two sites (*).

5. Update on APM Site Selection

The Council received updates from staff on NWMO's site selection engagement activities and assessment work. The report included discussion on strengthening relationships with First Nations, workshops with the siting communities on partnership agreements and the rollout of land access materials.

Council asked questions about NWMO's process for narrowing down communities in the siting process. Management reported the process will focus on three overarching criteria: safety, transportation and partnership.

Dr. Hirschorn gave a presentation on the status of borehole drilling and technical studies being conducted on borehole samples from Ignace. Council asked a number of questions related to the technical studies. A Council member requested to see information related to measuring stresses on the rock (or "borehole breakout") (*).

Dr. Ben Belfadhel updated the Council on the successful launch of NWMO's Land Access process in Southern Ontario.

Council held a discussion regarding further correspondence received from Hornepayne First Nation (HFN) and discussed how the Council should respond. Council members agreed that they wish to respond to HFN with a letter once again encouraging Chief Kocsis to meet with the NWMO. (*)

Item 6 was held In Camera

7. Reconciliation Policy Draft and Work Plan

Council members were provided with an overview of the work undertaken to develop NWMO's Draft Reconciliation Policy and the activities planned for its implementation. Council asked questions about how NWMO would annually measure its implementation. Mr. Watts stated that NWMO is in the process of developing a reconciliation assessment tool to assist NWMO in determining if its policies and procedures are in alignment with NWMO's commitment to contributing to reconciliation.

Council members were very impressed with the leading edge work NWMO has undertaken to develop the Reconciliation Policy and are very supportive of the policy as written. Council suggested that it will be important for NWMO's partners to share its values on reconciliation.

8. Transportation Work in Indigenous Communities

At the request of the Advisory Council, Jo-Ann Facella updated them on transportation work underway to involve Indigenous communities. Ms. Facella reported that the NWMO is beginning to build a foundation of public confidence in safety. NWMO is collaboratively developing with citizens a social framework incorporating the common ground of values, principles and objectives to guide transportation decision-making.

Council posed questions about traffic flow; transportation safety; veto and consent related to transportation.

Item 9 was held In Camera

10. Environmental Responsibility Statement

Council was updated on the development of NWMO's Environment Responsibility Statement. Ms. Frizzell summarized the work that had been done to incorporate feedback from a number of different sources including the Council. Council members were supportive of the proposed statement as written.

11. Report on Municipal Forum / Council of Elders

Linda Thompson provided a summary of her attendance at the recent NWMO Municipal Forum meeting. She reported that the forum's key topics of discussion were: regional & youth engagement, NWMO's approach to gauging awareness and support and plans for municipal engagement.

Dean Jacobs reported on his attendance at the recent Council of Elders and Youth meeting which focused on the development of NWMO's Reconciliation Policy.

12. Standing Reports

There were a number of updates provided to Council members related to: Council of Elders and Youth, a media analysis, an update on the external landscape, and NWMO's work in the engineered barrier and proof testing programs.

Council members requested copies of the recently developed brochure on the Ethical and Social Framework (*). Council members asked about how the Reconciliation Policy aligns to NWMO's Ethical and Social framework; planned testing for NWMO's bentonite block testing and plans for handling any defective used fuel bundles.

13. Environmental Scan

In preparation for writing the Council's Triennial Report, Lisa Frizzell provided the Advisory Council with an environmental scan which covered Canada's evolving political and Indigenous landscape as well as the status of industry and international activities related to nuclear waste management.

14. 2019 Advisory Council Tracking Matrix

Council reviewed the draft 2019 Advisory Council Advice Tracking Matrix and had no further comments or questions.

15. Next Meetings of the Advisory Council

The Council agreed on the 2020 schedule as presented.

Item 16 was held In Camera

17. Next Meetings of the Advisory Council

The next meeting of the Advisory Council will be on September 24th followed by a working session on the Triennial Report on September 25th. The Chair declared the meeting terminated at 2:45 pm

The Council then met in camera to work on preparing its Triennial Report comments.

Dated the 24th day of September, 2019

David Cameron
Advisory Council Chair