Moving Forward Together: Designing the Process for Selecting a Site

August 2008

nwmo
NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

Contents

NWMO's Values

The fundamental beliefs that guide our work are:

INTEGRITY
We will conduct ourselves with 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 of our actions.

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

An Invitation

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is committed to working in cooperation with interested citizens and organizations as we seek an informed and willing community to host the facilities required to manage Canada's used nuclear fuel for the long-term. We currently desire the help of Canadians in designing a process for selecting a site.

This document is meant to facilitate conversations on this important endeavour. We trust that these conversations will enable the NWMO to come forward with a proposed process for selecting a site that we will then test and validate with you.

Ultimately that proposal will, among other things, lay out the means by which communities will be invited to become involved in the process for selecting a site, the issues that will need to be addressed, the criteria for selecting a site, and the timeline for implementing the process.

In this document, we draw from the past study process in which many of you were involved, propose objectives to guide the future work, and identify a number of considerations, challenges and opportunities for discussion.

To help get the conversation going, we invite you to consider these questions:

QUESTION 1 ***Does the framework of objectives, ethical principles and requirements provide a sound foundation for designing the process for selecting a site?***

QUESTION 2 ***How can we ensure that the process for selecting a site is fair?***

QUESTION 3 ***From what models and experience should we draw in designing the process?***

QUESTION 4 ***Who should be involved in the process for selecting a site, and what should be their role?***

QUESTION 5 ***What information and tools do you think would facilitate your participation?***

QUESTION 6 ***What else needs to be considered?***

We look forward to working with you and hearing what you have to say.

Taking the Next Step

As required by the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) was established in 2002 by Canada's nuclear electricity generators. Our charge was to develop an approach for the safe long-term care of the used fuel produced by Canada's nuclear electricity generating and research reactors.

In taking up this challenge, the NWMO met with thousands of citizens from all parts of Canadian society to hear what they thought. We talked to people from local communities, and local and national non-governmental organizations, Aboriginal peoples, local and national politicians, technical and social specialists and business people. They all helped us think about the many social, technical, economic, environmental and ethical issues involved.

This generation wants to move forward in dealing with our used nuclear fuel, believing it to be imprudent and unfair to future generations to wait any longer. The extensive dialogue with Canadians, led by the NWMO, helped the Government of Canada decide how to proceed.

On June 14, 2007, the Government – based on NWMO's recommendations – selected Adaptive Phased Management as the best approach for safeguarding both the public and the environment over the very long time in which used nuclear fuel must be contained and isolated.

The NWMO was mandated to implement Adaptive Phased Management through a phased work program spanning decades and leading to the eventual placement and monitoring of Canada's used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository located in a suitable rock formation.

The NWMO is moving forward on several fronts. We are building a strong staff while also strengthening our governance structures and policies. We continue to build on our solid foundation of technical and social research to ensure we can apply the most advanced knowledge and expertise in all our work. We are striving to engage interested Canadians meaningfully in the development of our first five-year implementation plan. And we are establishing the mechanisms to ensure sufficient funding is always available to do the job.

We are now ready to work with Canadians in taking the next major step in implementing Adaptive Phased Management: designing *the process* for deciding *where* to contain and isolate Canada's used nuclear fuel.

»

Canadians have a decision to make: where should our used nuclear fuel be contained and isolated for the long term? The NWMO needs your help in designing a fair, ethical and effective process for making this decision.

Where we are in Adaptive Phased Management:
Designing a Process for Selecting a Site

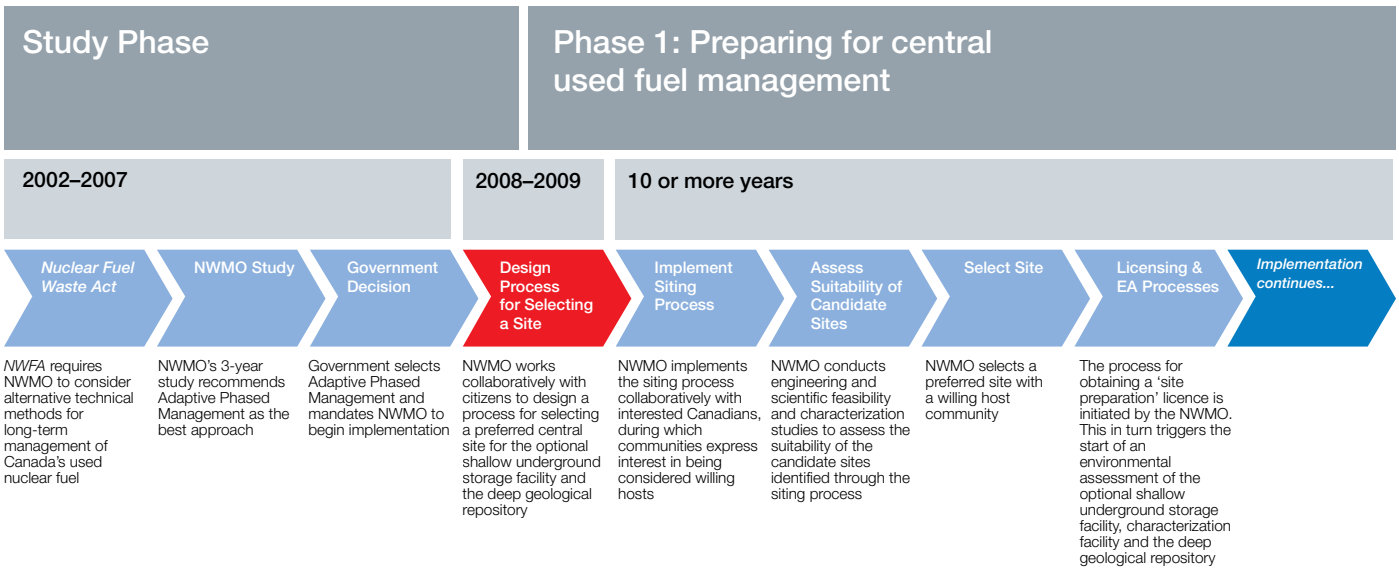
Adaptive Phased Management charts a course for the safe and secure management of Canada's used nuclear fuel for the long-term, in a manner that protects humans and the environment and that is fair to present and future generations. The end-point is the centralized containment and isolation of used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository in a suitable rock formation.

This destination will be reached in phases of work marked by key decisions. Flexibility in the pace and manner of implementation allows for research, new learning and new technologies to be incorporated. Flexibility makes it possible to adapt to changing social priorities, advances and innovations in technology, and unforeseen events.

Marking the way are key decision points at which Canadians will consider whether safety has been demonstrated adequately and what else is needed to be confident in moving to the next decision.

The first key decision is to select a site for the underground storage facility (optional) and the deep geological repository. The task at hand is to define, collaboratively with Canadians, the process by which that site will be selected.

The NWMO invites Canadians to work with us in fashioning a process for selecting a site that is open, transparent, fair and inclusive. Once designed, working together to implement the process and assessing the suitability of candidate sites may take another ten years or more before a preferred site is chosen.



What We Are Asking

The NWMO seeks your help in designing the process by which a site for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel will be selected.

Canadians told us they want to be sure, above all, that the site for the deep geological repository is safe and secure. The process for choosing that site must be grounded in values and objectives that Canadians hold important. The process must be open, transparent, fair and inclusive. And we believe it must be designed in a way that citizens across this country are confident it meets the highest scientific, professional and ethical standards.

The NWMO makes four important commitments as to how such a process must work:

- The decision by a community to host the site must be informed and made willingly.
- The site selected must meet strict, scientifically-determined safety requirements.
- In the interest of fairness, the process should focus on the provinces directly involved in the nuclear fuel cycle: New Brunswick, Québec, Ontario and Saskatchewan. Communities in other regions that express an interest will also be considered.
- Communities that decide to engage in the process for selecting a site, as potential hosts, shall have the right to withdraw consistent with any agreements between themselves and the NWMO.

Beyond these commitments, many questions arise. Who needs to be included? How do Canadians want to be involved? What information needs to be considered in deciding on a site? What specialists should have a role? What criteria should guide the decision? What concerns must be addressed and what principles ought to be protected? What safeguards must be in place for Canadians today and for future generations?

In the next few pages,

- We outline what the site may look like and some possible features of the process for choosing it.
- We present a framework of objectives and other considerations for Adaptive Phased Management, identified by citizens in the dialogues that led to our recommendations, to help guide the discussion.
- We describe some challenges and opportunities arising from other siting and decision processes that might be important.

As you think about this information, we invite you to consider some key questions.

We hope these questions will help people decide what matters to them about selecting a site. We want to hear the questions, ideas and concerns *you* have. Everyone's perspective counts. Your advice and help will contribute to a process designed and to be implemented *with* Canadians.

Selecting a Site

Canadians have been using electricity generated by nuclear power reactors for about four decades. Canada currently has 20 operating commercial reactors at 5 nuclear generating stations located in New Brunswick, Québec and Ontario. These reactors are fueled by uranium fabricated into bundles. Once used, the bundles are hazardous to humans and the environment, essentially indefinitely. They must be managed properly.

Canada has about two million used fuel bundles and is generating about 85,000 more each year. We can expect to produce about 3.6 million used fuel bundles if each of the current electricity generating reactors operates for its anticipated average life-span of about 40 years.

Currently, the used fuel bundles are safely stored at licensed facilities located at the reactor sites in Canada. The communities hosting these facilities understand this to be temporary, and that the used fuel has always been destined for long-term management at a specially designed facility.

Through Adaptive Phased Management, the used fuel bundles will ultimately be packaged into long-lived containers, transported to the selected site and placed in the deep geological repository.

While technical studies suggest that large geographic portions of Canada have rock formations potentially suitable for the deep geological repository, scientific, technical, social, ethical, economic, and environmental factors also have to be weighed in selecting a site for the repository.

That site will occupy a space of about 2 kilometres by 3 kilometres. Underground, the repository will be about 1.8 square kilometres in area. It will consist of a network of horizontal tunnels and rooms excavated in stable rock at a depth of approximately 500 to 1,000 metres. Once there, the used fuel will be monitored to confirm the safety and performance of the repository until a decision is made to close it. Used fuel will remain retrievable until such time as a future society decides on final closure and on the appropriate form and duration of post-closure monitoring.

People will be keenly interested in where the site is located, in how the used fuel will get there, and in how safety and security will be assured. Communities considering hosting the site will want to know how their well-being could be affected including what risks they might face, how they might benefit, and what commitments they will have to make.

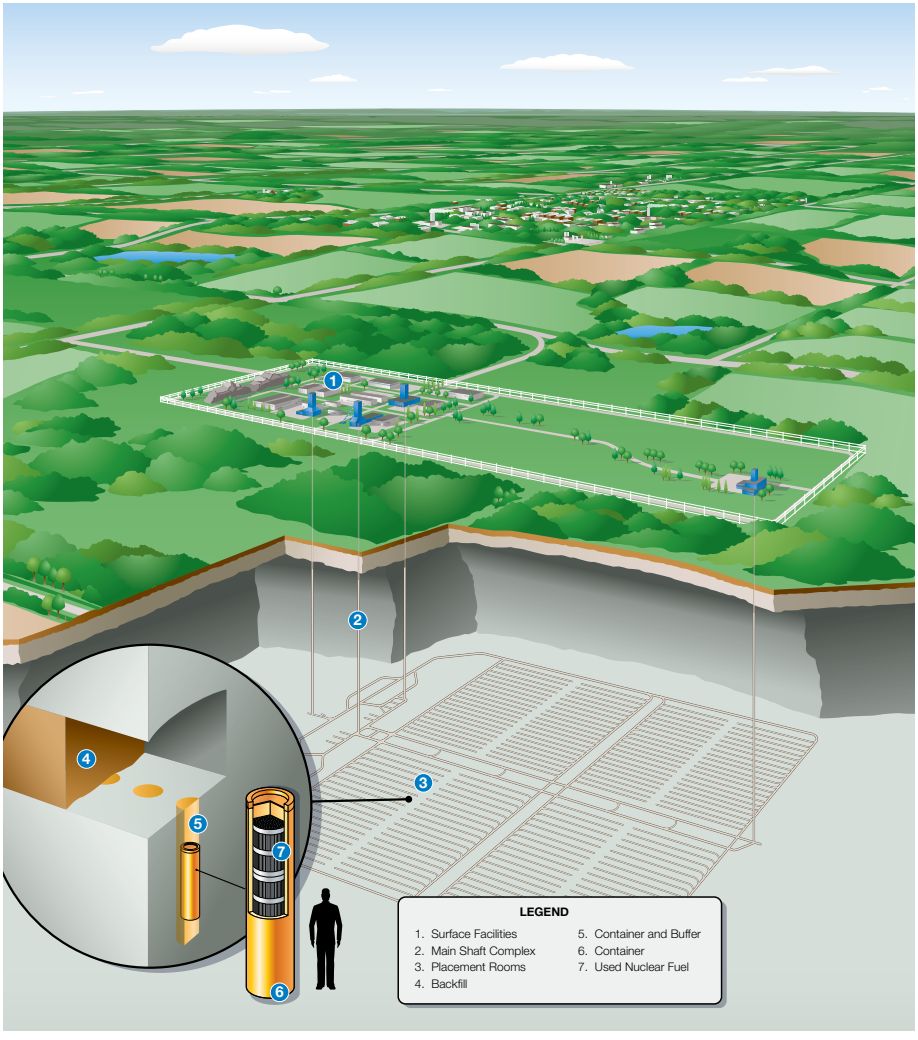
Communities will also want to have updated information about the used fuel to be managed. We will regularly publish inventory information on the current and future potential used fuel inventories. Recognizing the potential for industry to take decisions that may affect the amount and characteristics of the

» Communities considering hosting the site will want to know how their well-being could be affected including what risks they might face, how they might benefit, and what commitments they will have to make.

used fuel to be managed in future, we will continually monitor, review and invite broad discussion about new developments so that our plans may be adjusted as required.

Selecting the site thus requires dialogue and careful thinking. We expect that the design of the selection process will need to have many features including:

- The objectives of the siting process and the principles that would apply.
- The major steps in the siting process.
- The factors and criteria that will be applied in making siting decisions.
- How Aboriginal insights and traditional knowledge will be respected.
- How information will be communicated and shared.
- The studies required at each step.
- How to work collaboratively throughout the process.



Framing the Discussion

In conversations with Canadians during the study phase of our work, we heard that the approach for managing Canada's used nuclear fuel should be guided by a framework of objectives and characteristics. This framework will help shape the process for selecting a site and guide its implementation.

Objectives

The process for selecting a site should help Adaptive Phased Management achieve the objectives set for it by citizens:

Fairness – To ensure fairness (in substance and process) in the distribution of costs, benefits, risks and responsibilities, within this generation and across generations.

Public Health and Safety – To protect public health from the risk of exposure to radioactive or other hazardous materials and from the threat of injuries or deaths due to accidents.

Worker Health and Safety – To protect workers from and minimize hazards associated with managing used nuclear fuel.

Community Well-being – To ensure the well-being of all communities with a shared interest.

Security – To ensure the security of facilities, materials and infrastructure.

Environmental Integrity – To ensure that environmental integrity is maintained over the long term.

Economic Viability – To ensure the economic viability of the waste management system, while simultaneously contributing positively to the local economy.

Adaptability – To ensure a capacity to adapt to changing knowledge and conditions over time.

Of these objectives, people consider safety, security and fairness to be paramount: the management approach must ensure *safety and security* for people, communities and the environment, and it must be seen to be safe and secure from the perspective of current and future generations.

»

Regulatory Oversight:

Regulatory processes will demand that a strong safety case be demonstrated for the deep geological repository and for the optional shallow underground storage facility. The outcome of the site selection process, as for all aspects of Adaptive Phased Management, must (meet or) exceed all applicable regulatory standards and requirements for protecting the health, safety and security of humans and the environment.

QUESTION 1

Does the framework of objectives, ethical principles and requirements provide a sound foundation for designing the process for selecting a site?

How well do you think this framework addresses the challenges of siting? Does it cover all the important aspects? Will it be meaningful to those involved? Will it support accountability in implementation?

Characteristics

The process for selecting a site should seek to be responsive to the characteristics which Canadians said would be important for any siting process:

- Be open, inclusive and fair to all parties, giving everyone with an interest an opportunity to have their views heard and taken into account.
- Ensure that groups most likely to be affected by the facility, including through transportation, are given full opportunity to have their views heard and taken into account, and are provided with the forms of assistance they require to present their case effectively.
- Respect all Aboriginal rights, treaties and land claims.
- Be free from conflict of interest, personal gain or bias among those making the decision and/or formulating recommendations.
- Be informed by the best knowledge – from the natural and social sciences, Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge, ethics and technology development – relevant to making a decision and/or formulating a recommendation.
- Be in accord with the precautionary principle, which seeks to avoid harm and the risk of harm, and which demands ethical justification for such harm that is unavoidable.

A Matter of Ethics

The process for selecting a site should strive to:

- Respect life in all its forms, including minimization of harm to human beings and other sentient creatures.
- Respect future generations of human beings, other species, and the biosphere as a whole.
- Respect peoples and cultures.
- Promote justice across groups, regions, and generations.
- Be fair to everyone affected, particularly to minorities and marginalized groups.
- Respect the values and interpretations that different individuals and groups bring to dialogue and other means of collaboration.

QUESTION 2

How can we ensure that the process for selecting a site is fair?

Adaptive Phased Management seeks to ensure fairness in the distribution of costs, benefits, risks and responsibilities within this generation and across generations. How, in your view, can fairness be best assured in and by the process for selecting a site?

- Ensure that those who could be exposed to harm or risk of harm, or other losses or limitations, are fully consulted and are willing to accept what is proposed for them.
- Take into consideration the possible costs, harms, risks, and benefits of the siting decision, including financial, physical, biological, social, cultural, and ethical costs.
- Ensure that those who benefited most from nuclear power (past, present and perhaps future) bear the costs and risks of managing used fuel and other nuclear materials.
- Address scientific and technical factors that may help ensure safety.
- Ensure that implementation of the approach will respect the social, cultural and economic aspirations of affected communities.

Advancing Knowledge and Expertise Through Research

As with all decisions in Adaptive Phased Management, the process for selecting a site must be informed by the best knowledge available. The NWMO is constantly building its expertise and exploring new ideas through two strong and complementary *technical* and *social* research programs. This research will contribute to a fair and safe choice of a site.

NWMO's Technical Research and Development

The NWMO is committed to a vibrant and robust research and development program to enhance our understanding of the technology for long-term used fuel management and to support the collaborative development of the process for selecting a site.

In 2007, we assumed responsibility for managing and directing all aspects of Canada's established technical research program on used nuclear fuel. That work focuses on used fuel storage and repository engineering, geosciences, safety assessment, and technical support to the development of the process for selecting a site.

More than 20 multi-year technical research and development contracts previously held by Ontario Power Generation were assigned to our organization. Agreements with many Canadian universities support the research program. As well, NWMO collaborates closely with national nuclear waste management programs and organizations of other countries. We also support coordinated research initiatives through Canada's membership in the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency.

Our near-term work is focusing on developing the means to evaluate potential sites from a technical perspective. This includes exploring the kinds of scientific and technical factors that can help evaluate a site's suitability to host the deep geological repository and its ability to protect people, other life-forms, and the biosphere as a whole, indefinitely. These relate, for example, to geotechnical suitability, seismicity, groundwater characteristics, land use, transportation infrastructure and other factors.

As well, our work continues to strengthen our understanding of the safety case for a geological repository, and to develop conceptual designs for a repository.

Throughout, we will continue to focus on building our own human resource capacity to ensure that we have the necessary capabilities to manage the implementation of Adaptive Phased Management.

NWMO's Social Research

Implementing Adaptive Phased Management requires understanding of many social issues and concerns associated with the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. We must learn how best to communicate with a broad range of people and how to engage them in making decisions with us. Understanding people's needs and expectations, and facilitating genuine collaboration over the long-term requires sustained effort. Over the next several years, our social research will cover a broad range of topics and will take many forms. With respect to selecting a site, this research aims to help ensure that the choice of a site is safe and fair.

To this end, we are working with the help of experts to think through social and ethical issues that citizens have told us are important. This includes learning from the experience of others through case studies of site-selection and similar processes, both in Canada and abroad. We will continue studying evolving approaches to dialogue, collaboration and dispute resolution. We will learn more about building the capacity of dialogue participants. We will study means

» Continuous learning through research and development and monitoring of emerging trends and knowledge are vital to informed decision-making in implementing the long-term management approach for used nuclear fuel.

for weaving – in decision-making – Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge together with learning from research in the natural and social sciences. And we will continue gauging the evolving values of Canadians on the care of Canada's used nuclear fuel. A key research area concerns approaches for ensuring the well-being of potentially affected communities throughout the site-selection process and beyond.

We know that these matters can only be truly understood and addressed through dialogue with those who are interested in and potentially affected by site-selection and other key aspects of implementing Adaptive Phased Management. We trust that the products and learning from our 'desktop' research will be helpful to all who participate in our engagement activities.

We continue, for example, to reach out to Canadians through our website and specially designed communications materials. We are seeking multiple perspectives on key implementation issues through discussions with groups of community opinion leaders in the four nuclear provinces. Many people are contributing to our social research through Citizen Panel discussions about the NWMO and nuclear waste management. And we are looking forward to engaging younger Canadians in the work ahead.

Finally, the NWMO continues to participate, along with the nuclear waste management programs of other countries and organizations such as the OECD, in international initiatives concerning evolving public engagement approaches and best practices.

The NWMO publishes its research and posts reports at www.nwmo.ca/researchreports.

EXPECTATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION:
Canadians told us they want the NWMO to:

- continue building new knowledge
- inform the public about emerging innovations
- seek third-party verification as a measure of trust
- 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 public involvement in decision-making

Learning from Others

In beginning to think about the design of a process for selecting a site for Canada's used nuclear fuel, we take the view that a process for Canada needs to be designed by Canadians. In the study phase of our work, citizens told us a great deal about their concerns and expectations.

At the same time, siting experiences here and abroad – involving nuclear waste and other hazardous substances, as well as comparable decision-making processes–offer insight about what might be challenging and about what might work well. Overall, these experiences seem to confirm the merit of a site-selection process for Canada that seeks an informed and willing host community, that is collaborative and that considers technical, social, environmental and social factors together.

The following are some challenges and opportunities that may be important to consider:

Being Inclusive

Canadians told us that the success of the process for selecting a site hinges on open and fair collaboration with all potential host communities and other interested people and organizations at every step. At some point, the process will need to focus on candidate host communities and ultimately on the selected community. How can we ensure that the process for selecting a site involves the right people at the right times without leaving anyone out unfairly? Participation also carries important responsibilities for all participants. We seek the advice of Canadians in identifying those responsibilities and ensuring they are shared and applied fairly.

Some Challenges and Opportunities:

- being inclusive
- defining 'community'
- measuring community acceptance
- demonstrating fairness
- balancing social acceptability with other factors
- allowing adequate time and flexibility to complete the process
- building on Aboriginal traditional knowledge and processes
- strengthening community capacity
- partnership
- ensuring transparency in decision-making
- ensuring community well-being
- managing risks and impacts
- ensuring visible and appropriate review
- making information available and accessible

QUESTION 3

From what models and experience should we draw in designing the process?

The challenges and opportunities of site selection drive us to continue searching for examples, cases and models from which to learn. From your perspective, what experience and models do you think are the most relevant to consider and draw from in designing the process for selecting a site?

Defining 'Community'

We want to ensure that people and communities can participate in all aspects of the site selection decision that affect them. It will be important to identify what constitutes a 'community' and who can best speak on its behalf. Should a community be defined narrowly and by political boundaries, such as the confines of a town, or should it be based on patterns of economic activity and include the surrounding area?

Measuring Community Acceptance

We believe that any community which eventually hosts the nuclear waste management facility must be willing to do so. It will be important to identify how we might gauge the willingness of any community that expresses an interest. In what ways might potential host communities demonstrate they have the permission and trust of their residents to explore hosting the facility? And how might we consider the needs of future generations in considering expressions of interest?

Demonstrating Fairness

Fairness demands that any community expressing willingness to host a facility do so in a way which is free and informed. This means that the community has the information it needs to assess how it might be affected by the decision, and that it is not under undue influence of economic considerations. Key decisions must be taken through full and deliberate engagement. How can this be best accomplished?

Balancing Social Acceptability with Other Factors

If more than one community wishes to host the site, how might we decide between them? Each site is likely to have its own but different strengths. One site may be closer to where wastes are currently stored, but require more engineering to make sure the facility is safe. Another community may have more support among residents but require more technical research to ascertain whether the physical characteristics of the site are appropriate.

Allowing Adequate Time and Flexibility to Complete the Process

The process for selecting a site will span many years, and the outcome will remain unknown until the end. The building of long-term relationships and partnerships, strengthening the capacity of citizens and communities to participate, the process of making decisions and many other aspects of site selection will take time during which issues, politics, policies and the people involved will change. How can the process be kept flexible to accommodate changing circumstances while maintaining momentum?

QUESTION 4

Who should be involved in the process for selecting a site, and what should be their role?

We believe that many kinds of people and communities will want to and should be involved in selecting a site. As well, participation in the process for selecting a site carries important responsibilities. What are your views on who should be involved and the roles participants should have?

Building on Traditional Knowledge and Processes

We recognize the special knowledge and insights that Aboriginal peoples can offer in understanding how the actions we may take can affect people and the environment around them, both today and into the future. How can holders of Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge be engaged in the site selection decision in ways that reflect their knowledge and are respectful and effective?

Strengthening Community Capacity

People and communities must have the wherewithal to take part in the process. Different groups will have their own requirements, ideas and way of doing things. Particularly important are the time and resources that potential host communities will require to make informed choices. We need to understand the requirements of participants and seek tools that can aid their involvement. What suggestions do you have for ensuring that people are equipped to take part?

Partnership

Experience suggests that the building of long-term relationships and partnerships is vital to the success of the process for selecting a site. This takes time and effort, but the benefits can range from sharing information and resources to building trust and improving communication. What are the essential ingredients for building real and lasting relationships and partnerships? What kinds of agreements should be forged?

Ensuring Transparency in Decision-Making

We recognize that process transparency is crucial for gaining and maintaining the trust of communities and other participants in the process. What are the best ways for making sure that decision points, roles and obligations, and the commitments made are clear and understandable to those who may be affected?

Ensuring Community Well-Being

We are committed to ensuring that any community that decides to host the facility will be better off for having done so. The well-being of a community might be affected in a broad range of ways, from traditional use of land to economic development and socio-cultural cohesion. It will be important to understand how a community might be affected by its decision and to ensure this is weighed appropriately before proceeding. What processes need to be put in place to ensure that the community continues to benefit from the facility well into the future? How do we resolve potential conflicts and differences in perspective?

QUESTION 5

What information and tools do you think would facilitate your participation?

We are committed to ensuring that people and communities have sufficient information and access to useful tools and methods for engaging fully and effectively in siting. What information and tools will be essential for participating constructively in the siting process?

Managing Risks and Impacts

A way of managing the potential risks and impacts of the development and operation of the site will be needed. The long-term nature of the program and its anticipated risks and benefits make the choice of measures for mitigating, monitoring and compensating for potential effects challenging. How can the process for selecting a site take account of this?

Ensuring Visible and Appropriate Review

Knowing that there is strong and independent review of the key decisions to be made in implementing Adaptive Phased Management, including those made through the process for selecting a site, can increase confidence that the public interest is being considered and protected in the process. What needs to be done to assure such independent review?

Making Information Available and Accessible

To participate effectively, people and their communities will need to be informed about Adaptive Phased Management and the unavoidable uncertainties associated with planning for such long time periods. Information will need to be available not only to ensure safety and fairness, but also to answer the questions people may have and empower them to take part in dialogue. We would like to know what concerns people most about siting, what other research and information can aid their participation in the site-selection process, and what information would reassure them that the eventual choice of a site is sound and has been arrived at fairly.

These are but some of the ideas that emerge from the experience of others and from our previous dialogues with Canadians. As we begin discussing the design of the process for selecting a site, these challenges and opportunities, and others that are certain to arise, merit consideration by a broad cross-section of people who will be approaching the site selection process from many different perspectives.

What We Plan to Do Next

QUESTION 6

What else needs to be considered?

The questions posed in this document are a starting point for discussion on the design of the process for selecting a site for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel. We would like to hear about and discuss any related questions, issues and ideas that you think are important.

Designing a process for selecting a site must be a conversation about how Canadians are going to come together to make a difficult decision – where should a deep geological repository for managing Canada's used nuclear fuel over the long-term be located?

Fundamentally, a successful process for selecting a site will ensure that the values and objectives of everyone who is involved and affected are taken into account and reflected in the choice that will eventually be made.

Canadians have told us that the success of any process for selecting a site will be determined in part by ensuring that everyone who wishes to be involved can be confident that their most important issues and concerns have been understood and addressed in decisions made.

A successful process is also one developed collaboratively with citizens – openly, inclusively and transparently – the kind of discussion we seek to launch with this document.

This discussion will first lead to the development of a proposed process for selecting a site that includes:

- The means by which communities will be invited to express interest in learning more about the process and about how to become involved.
- Issues to be addressed and in what sequence.
- Preliminary criteria for selecting a site.
- An awareness, information, and education program.
- A list of policies, practices, structures and arrangements needed to support the process for selecting a site.
- A program of supplemental research as required.
- The timeline for implementation.

We will test and validate the proposed process with interested Canadians and then begin implementing it collaboratively with them.

Contribute *your* perspective as we work together in designing a site-selection process that works for Canada. Join the dialogue by registering on our website: **www.nwmo.ca**.

Nuclear Waste Management Organization

22 St. Clair Avenue E.
Sixth Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 2S3 Canada
Tel 416.934.9814
Toll Free 1.866.249.6966
www.nwmo.ca