

You have asked the public to respond to the following questions:

“Are we asking the right questions?”

“Is our proposed decision making process understandable and appropriate?”

You are indeed asking very good questions but by themselves they are not enough. The next step, as was identified on page 58 of “Asking the right questions” is to identify the criteria by which the questions will be answered. I very much look forward to Discussion Document 2 in which these criteria will be presented. I am left with many questions after reading “Asking the right questions” which may or may not be addressed in your next discussion document.

- The ten questions require “yes” or “no” answers, is there an intention to give a sliding scale for the response (for example from “absolutely not” to “definitely”)? If so how will scale this be defined?
- Will it be possible for two approaches to have all “yes” answers?
- What if no approach has all “yes” answers?
- Are different questions assigned different weights? For example, what if one management approach scores high on Question 6 while another approach scores high on Question 4?
- Who will answer the questions? (who answers each question will probably affect the answer more than any other variable)
- How will you obtain consensus on the answers?
- How will you use the answers to help in decision making? It is not immediately apparent in reading the document what the process will be by which the NWMO uses these questions to make key decisions that will ultimately lead to a recommended nuclear waste management approach. I have made a flow chart as an example of one possible thought process on the next page.

My answer the second of your questions (noted at the top of the page) is that I don’t fully understand your proposed decision making process. I suspect, however, that the process will be more apparent in your second discussion document. There are only 17 months left for you to complete your report and so you have your work cut out for you. I wish you well. I have my own very strong opinions on nuclear fuel waste management but I will keep them to myself until you have submitted your second discussion document. I expect that you will receive most of your responses from the public only after you have made a recommendation. I hope you are leaving sufficient time in your schedule to deal with these seemingly 11<sup>th</sup> hour public responses.

