

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: May 27, 2014 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 May 27, 2014

Advisory Council Members Present:

Hon. David Crombie Council Chairman
David Cameron
Marlyn Cook (via conference call)
Fred Gilbert
Eva Ligeti
Derek Lister
Dougal McCreath
Donald Obonsawin

Regrets:

Michel Rhéaume
Wesley Cragg

NWMO Staff Present:

Ken Nash President and CEO
Kathryn Shaver VP, APM Engagement and Site Selection
Gillian Morris Assistant Board Secretary

Contributing Staff:

Mahrez Ben Belfadhel Director, APM Geoscience (Items 3-7)
Jo-Ann Facella Director, Social Research & Dialogue
John Fraser Director, Community Engagement (Items 3-7)
Lisa Frizzell Director, Corporate Affairs (Items 3-7)
Paul Gierszewski Director, Safety & Licensing (Items 3-7)
Sean Russell Director, Environmental Assessment (Items 3-7)
Bob Watts Director, Aboriginal Community Relations

Guest

The Honourable Bob Rae (Item 2)

ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Constitution of Meeting / Approval of Agenda

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The agenda was agreed as written.

2. Discussion with Invited Guest: The Honourable Bob Rae

At the Council's request, the Honourable Bob Rae was invited to the meeting to discuss with Council and NWMO management his experience with the Ring of Fire project, and in particular Aboriginal engagement.

NWMO staff began with providing a brief overview of NWMO's work in siting and Aboriginal engagement.

Mr. Rae began by commending NWMO for the depth and thoughtfulness of NWMO's process and for allowing time for the process to unfold.

Drawing on his own experience, Mr. Rae interacted with Council members in informal discussion:

- Building support to move forward on a project takes time. Mr. Rae referenced his experiences of it taking a year or more to agree on a framework document;
- First Nation issues are evolving legally and politically: the required level of attention today is unprecedented and will continue to evolve. Law and public policy are in constant evolution. There will not be a clear or predictable process for NWMO's project;
- It will be important for NWMO to assess the required level of engagement, consultation and accommodation, and understand who must be involved in the process. Interpreting the meaning of consultation and defining what a traditional territory of a particular First Nation can also be complex;
- First Nations will expect meaningful involvement and opportunities for the project to bring lasting social and economic opportunities for the well being of the community. NWMO will be expected to speak to how the project will improve overall health of the communities through the life of the project. There may be ways NWMO can start building that wellness in earlier stages;
- NWMO must be willing to spend significant time in each siting area as there is no substitute for face to face discussion by senior officials;
- There needs to be a team from NWMO in each siting area. NWMO needs to be there, stay for a while and be prepared to talk for a long time, respecting the culture and listening to the people;
- As the project comes closer to fruition, transportation will become a larger component of the public dialogue, requiring advance consideration as to whom will need to be consulted as NWMO gradually narrows down potential sites;

- Mr. Rae highlighted the importance of NWMO treating communities well throughout the process:
 - What are reasonable financial and economic benefits to be provided in siting communities?
 - What about the communities in broader the area that are potentially affected?
 - What benefits might transportation communities see from the project?

Mr. Rae emphasized it is important to also provide benefits to the communities not chosen to continue in the process, those screened out. NWMO should consider what a reasonable financial benefit might be to recognize their involvement;

- The depth and timing of government support at each stage will be important, particularly as siting decisions and transportation dialogue becomes higher profile.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the record of the previous meeting, convened on February 3, 2014 with one minor change. A Council member requested a copy of the Financial Surety presentation provided in February 2014 to Council (*). Another Council member requested a copy of the presentation by Dr. Dan Longboat provided at the February meeting (*).

STANDING ITEMS AND UPDATES FROM NWMO

4. President's Report

Mr. Nash reported on recent activities in the NWMO work program, discussing:

- the announcement of a continuation of the Joint Review Panel (JRP) hearings on OPG's low and intermediate level waste repository to take place in September;
- meetings with Natural Resources Canada and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission;
- ongoing work in communities on Phase 2 siting and continued scoping of remaining Phase 2 work;
- work on engineered barrier design and development including completion of an international peer review of design and proof testing plans;
- feedback from the CNSC on the 4th and 5th case studies; and
- the workplan supporting reference designs for crystalline and sedimentary rock geospheres.

Advisory Council members discussed the additional hearings announced by the JRP.

5. Phase 1 Assessments

Kathryn Shaver updated the Council on the 10 communities continuing to be engaged in the Step 3, Phase 1 preliminary assessments which are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2014.

Mahrez Ben Belfadhel, Bob Watts and Jo-Ann Facella highlighted work in progress for the social and geosciences components of the assessments, including updates on the

municipal and Aboriginal community engagement. Lisa Frizzell presented planning considerations and draft timelines for completion and release of Phase 1 assessments. It was noted that NWMO had recently received a request by the Township of Nipigon to provide an interim report on assessment work to date.

Ms. Shaver noted that updates on Phase 1 studies will be provided to Council on the status of the assessments and NWMO's findings in September and November.

6. Phase 2 Assessments

Staff reviewed the work underway in the Phase 2 assessments in the areas of Ignace, Schreiber, Hornepayne and Creighton. Council was briefed on the engagement work undertaken to lay the groundwork for the airborne studies. Staff reviewed the airborne surveys being conducted to capture high resolution geophysical data for the study areas.

Council members discussed next steps which include preliminary walking of the land, and how NWMO plans to work collaboratively with local communities and First Nations.

7. Building Relationships and Risk Assessment

Council received NWMO's report on building relationships which included information on: the external landscape; an engagement report; a report on the Council of Elders; a media analysis; and risk assessment report.

Council members discussed the reports. Bob Watts and Elena Mantagaris provided further background sought by Council on:

- the change in leadership at the Assembly of First Nations;
- the appointment of youth members on the Council of Elders;
- transportation sessions being held by M.P. Bruce Hyer; and
- recent events at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, N.M.

8. In Camera Meeting

The Council met *in camera*. The Advisory Council also met for a scheduled half-day in camera session on the morning of May 28.

Termination of Meeting

The Chairman declared the meeting terminated at 3:25 pm.

Dated the 15th day of September, 2014

David Crombie
Advisory Council Chair