

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: February 21, 2007 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 49 Jackes Avenue, Toronto, Ontario,
commencing at 9:00 a.m. EST. on February 21, 2007.

Present

Advisory Council:

Hon. David Crombie	Chairman
David Cameron	Member
Helen Cooper	Member
Gordon Cressy	Member
Fred Gilbert	Member
Eva Ligeti	Member
Derek Lister	Member
Daniel Rozon	Member

Regrets:

Donald Obonsawin	Member
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In Attendance:

Ken Nash	President (Except for Item 6)
Kathryn Shaver	Vice President, Corporate Affairs (Except for Item 6)
Gillian Adshead	Assistant Board Secretary (Except for Item 6)
Pat Patton	Senior Advisor – Engagement (For Items 4 and 5 only)

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 reviewed and approved, subject to the addition of another item for the *in camera* session.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the previous meeting, convened on November 23, 2006, pending a minor amendment.

DISCUSSION WITH NWMO

3. Staff Report

The Chairman invited the President to report on NWMO's recent activities.

In his report, the President discussed the challenges NWMO faces associated with the absence of a government decision on the management approach and the possibility of further delay. Council reflected on the strategic issue of how the NWMO continues to progress with preparations in the period preceding a decision of government. The Advisory Council was in agreement that the NWMO should continue on its established course of preparing for implementation.

The President updated the Council on the planned expansion of the Board of Directors. He reported that the search for additional directors was complete and that two independent directors, appointed by Ontario Power Generation (OPG) - Mr. Ronald Jamieson and Ms. Deborah Poff - would be joining the Board as of March 1, 2007. Mr. C. Ian Ross will succeed Mr. Fred Long, who is stepping down from the Board as of March 1st. Ms. Josée Pilon, appointed by Hydro-Québec, assumed the director position in January. The Advisory Council expressed its desire for the new Board to continue operating under the existing principles established by the NWMO and its vision for Adaptive Phased Management.

Mr. Nash reviewed a number of meetings and outreach activities that occurred since the beginning of the year. He reported that the first full meeting of the Aboriginal Working Group had taken place and would be discussed in detail later in the meeting. He reviewed upcoming meetings, including NWMO's presentation scheduled for the February meeting of the Canadian Association Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC).

In updating the Council on NWMO's analytical work since the beginning of 2007, it was noted that a number of contracts have been established with universities and research institutions to further the NWMO's technical research program. NWMO also signed an international cooperation agreement with SKB (NWMO's equivalent organization in Sweden) in order to facilitate an exchange of information and on-going bilateral meetings.

In his report, Mr. Nash informed the Council that both the NWMO Membership Agreement and the By-Law, in preparation for implementation, were completed and ready for signature once a government decision is received. He also noted that the funding formula had been agreed to in principal.

Internally the organization continued preparing for implementation by reviewing its policies and procedures. In its efforts to expand staff capabilities, the NWMO extended offers for intern positions and continued its search for additional social research staff. The President reported NWMO may not be able to move into its new offices until later in

the summer. Despite the physical separation, the technical research and development staff became part of NWMO as of January 1, 2007.

4. Strategic Planning Preparation

The President outlined the preparatory activities for the upcoming Strategic Planning sessions of the Board taking place on March 19-20 and April 30–May 1, 2007. The first session in March will focus on sharing information, defining the external environment, identifying key strategic issues and promoting dialogue amongst the Board members. The second session will focus on setting the NWMO's strategic objectives. NWMO expects to have a completed 5-year strategic plan by September.

The President expressed his desire to invite Council input and discussion on the strategic issues and directions in advance of each session with the Board, commencing with this February 21st review with Council members.

In discussing the overall planning process, the Advisory Council surfaced some issues for consideration by NWMO as it develops its five-year plan: Would the 5-year strategic plan be based on assumption of a government decision? What will be the scope of the strategic plan? How will NWMO anticipate or consider significant increases in used fuel volumes or changes in types of used fuel to be managed? The Council noted that these are issues it would like to see included as contingent elements in both the strategy and medium-term business plan.

The Advisory Council supported review of the organization's Vision, Mission and Values as part of the strategic planning process, and proposed for consideration that principles of transparency and openness should be embedded therein and assigned greater prominence.

5. Issues and Considerations for Five-Year Plan

Kathryn Shaver introduced the discussion on the range of issues planned for review with the Board of Directors at the upcoming 2-day strategic planning session. The intent is to initiate a dialogue with the Board around the broad range of communities of interest that may be involved with the NWMO over time.

The Advisory Council was invited to engage in discussion on a range of planning considerations. NWMO sought feedback on whether it was highlighting the key issues and questions for the Board and providing adequate information.

Lengthy discussion ensued as Council members provided a range of comments and suggestions for the strategic planning session with the Board. The Advisory Council highlighted additional issues and considerations for the planning period, advised NWMO to broaden the range of communities of interest that may wish to engage, and offered suggestions for refining the presentation of the material and providing greater clarity on the issues. In flagging key implementation issues to the Board, the Council advised that transportation issues should be more prominent in the proposed briefings for the Board.

Overall the Council was pleased with the thoroughness and scope of information to be taken to the Board. NWMO undertook to incorporate the Advisory Council's suggestions in the Board material.

NWMO staff and management withdrew from the meeting.

6. In Camera Session

The Advisory Council convened a private session without the presence of NWMO staff and management.

Following the *in camera* session, the Council requested NWMO to post on the NWMO website the paper written by Council member Dr. Daniel Rozon, on "CANDU Spent Fuel: a Waste or a Resource?". The paper is to be posted on NWMO's website as an Appendix to the minutes of the meeting at which it was presented (January 22, 2005).

The Council also reviewed and confirmed the content of its letter to the Minister of Natural Resources regarding NWMO's Annual Report submission.

Staff and management rejoined the meeting at 1:40 pm.

7. Strategic Planning - Development of a Governance and Management System

The President reviewed the overall structure of the NWMO governance and management system and asked the Council for feedback.

Pat Patton joined the Advisory Council meeting to provide an update regarding the first meeting of the Aboriginal Working Group, held in January. She reported on a very good meeting with the Working Group, in which the President and several NWMO staff participated. Extensive discussion took place around the purpose of the group and its draft mission statement. The Working Group will begin drafting a workplan for 2007. The group's primary goal will be to assist NWMO with understanding aboriginal needs and issues. A key initiative, in the short term, will be to develop a pilot employment project for Aboriginal youth at the NWMO.

Council members were very supportive of the establishment of the Working Group and expressed interest in having direct interaction with the Working Group. Council commented that the relationship with the Working Group should not restrict NWMO's engagement and communication with the broader aboriginal community.

8. Discussion of Advisory Council Terms of Reference

At the request of the Chairman, discussion concerning the mandate and membership of the Advisory Council for the next phase was deferred to the next Council meeting and requested that this issue be a significant focus on the agenda for the April meeting. The President undertook to invite the Board Chairman to attend the Council's April discussion.

9. Next Meeting

The Advisory Council Chair asked members to assume that the April 16th meeting will be a full day from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Termination of Meeting

The Chairman declared the meeting terminated at 2:20 pm.

Dated the day of , 2007

Corporate Secretary