

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: September 21, 2006 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 September 21, 2006.

Present

Advisory Council:

Hon. David Crombie	Chairman
David Cameron	Member
Helen Cooper	Member
Gordon Cressy	Member
Fred Gilbert	Member
Eva Ligeti	Member (via conference call)
Derek Lister	Member
Daniel Rozon	Member

Regrets:

Donald Obonsawin	Member
------------------	--------

In Attendance:

Gary Kugler	Board Chair (Except for Item 9)
Ken Nash	President (Except for Item 9)
Kathryn Shaver	Executive Director (Except for Item 9)
Gillian Adshead	Assistant Corporate Secretary (Except for Item 9)
Elizabeth Dowdeswell	Special Advisor to the Board (For Item 10)
Jo-Ann Facella	NWMO Staff (For Item 10)
Sean Russell	NWMO Staff (For Item 4)
Pat Patton	NWMO Staff (For Item 5)

ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Constitution of Meeting / Approval of Agenda

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Crombie welcomed Mr. Nash as the new President and Dr. Kugler as Chairman.

The Agenda was reviewed and approved.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the previous meeting, convened on May 8, 2006.

DISCUSSION WITH NWMO

3. President's Report

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

The President gave the Advisory Council a brief update on the status of the government decision. Mr. Nash continued with an update on NWMO's transition activities, reviewing the plans in progress to expand the capability of the organization and prepare the NWMO for its future implementation mandate. Specifically, Mr. Nash outlined the intention to further build on the social/ethical research while also integrating the technical capability.

The President reviewed NWMO's participation in a range of briefings and meetings convened recently. In response to requests made to NWMO, staff attended presentations in Uranium City, and Ile-a-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan. As part of this update, the President reported on his meeting with representatives of Securad to brief them on NWMO's mandate under the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act* and provide clarification on the status of the NWMO's activities in the transition period preceding the government decision.

The President reviewed upcoming meetings including the Elders' Forum that NWMO is convening in October. He also noted the continued work of NWMO Members on the final drafting of a new membership agreement and the drafting of a new by-law to support implementation.

The President highlighted the preparatory activities planned for fall 2006 to support the future collaborative design of a siting process and capacity building to create conditions for successful implementation.

The Chairman invited general discussion and questions from the Advisory Council as they sought elaboration on NWMO's activities and an update on the strategy following a government decision.

4. Update on International Developments

Sean Russell reviewed developments concerning long-term used fuel management in the United Kingdom, France and Belgium. The Advisory Council engaged in a discussion around the international activities on which NWMO maintains a watching brief.

5. Engagement with Aboriginal Peoples

Pat Patton reviewed NWMO participation in the Youth Wellness Outdoor Conference at Isle-a-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan and the Athabasca Economic Development Conference in Uranium City, Saskatchewan.

The full reports of the two Aboriginal Issues tables on the topics of *Innovative Approaches to Natural Resource Management* and *Developing Effective Communications Between Canada's Aboriginal Community and the NWMO* were distributed to Council. Council members, Helen Cooper and Fred Gilbert had attended these meetings and offered their perspectives that these were worthwhile initiatives. The attending Council members noted that the reports very well documented what transpired at the issues tables. It was also noted that there was a strong level of engagement amongst participants at the meetings and an important outcome was their apparent willingness to continue the engagement process with NWMO.

The Council suggested NWMO review the Aboriginal Literacy Program initiated by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario as an example of a strong outreach program with the Aboriginal community.

Pat Patton also discussed the planning for the upcoming Elders' forum and extended an invitation to Council members to attend some or part of the 3 day meeting. The Council, expressed interest and the Chairman requested that the Executive Director forward details of the dates and the agenda of the Elders' Forum to the Advisory Council.

6. 2007 Business Plan

The President provided the Advisory Council with an overview of directions planned for the 2007 Business Plan. As part of this discussion, Mr. Nash provided an update on the transition activities of the organization as it plans to consolidate and expand its capabilities.

The Council was in agreement with the intent of the plan and with its prudent approach of building capacity within the NWMO organization. The presentation prompted some discussion around the size of the staff complement. Noting the small staff complement from the study phase, the Council feels it is prudent to expand the capacity in preparation for implementation. It was suggested that NWMO may need to grow through the addition of resources, beyond the consolidation of existing NWMO staff with technical research staff.

The importance of complementing internal capability with a broad range of contractors was considered appropriate as NWMO plans for the future phase.

In responding to Council questions, Mr. Nash outlined the integration of resources for the siting plan development and related engagement within the NWMO business plan. Mr. Nash clarified the cost-sharing arrangements by the nuclear organizations for NWMO's operating budgets.

7. Governance

A focus of the morning session was an item led by the NWMO Board Chairman as he reviewed proposed timelines and process for review of both the Board and Advisory Council membership.

Dr. Kugler noted that it was hoped that an expanded NWMO Board would be in place by January 2007. Once the new Board members are in place, the intent is to review the Advisory Council's future membership (early in 2007). In the interim, it was proposed that Council's appointments be extended through to the end of June 2007. In responding, the Council expressed interest in contributing its views to the Board concerning its terms of reference, membership, including how it maintains its independence and works with NWMO.

In the ensuing discussion, members exchanged preliminary thoughts on the new focus of the Council in the next phase and possible implications for Council membership.

The Chairman confirmed that discussion would continue at upcoming Council meetings.

8. Meeting Calendar

The Chairman confirmed the date for the next Council meeting, scheduled for November 23rd, 2006.

NWMO staff and management withdrew from the meeting.

9. In Camera Session

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

The Council meeting resumed at 12:45 p.m.

10. Siting Case Studies

Jo-Ann Facella provided a briefing for Council on work to date in learning from practitioners and researching siting case studies and considerations for the development of an appropriate siting process in Canada. This work explored lessons learned from several Canadian and international examples.

In the discussion that followed, Council members discussed experiences of different countries' siting processes and approaches for societal engagement. There was discussion of the importance of understanding the communities of interest and their key concerns regarding issues for implementation.

Liz Dowdeswell, Special Advisor to the Board, updated the Advisory Council on some preliminary considerations for the development of a siting process that seeks to be both adaptive and collaborative. In outlining her underlying assumptions and objectives for the project she highlighted the need to be consistent with commitments made in the Final Study report. She reviewed the four phases of illustrative activities and the associated resource requirements.

Extensive discussion ensued as the Advisory Council discussed the proposed approach and timing for development of the siting process, asked questions and sought clarification regarding aspects of the proposed considerations.

The Advisory Council expressed their support for Ms. Dowdeswell's preliminary considerations for the development of the collaborative siting process. The Chairman thanked Ms. Dowdeswell for her very informative briefing.

Termination of Meeting

The Chairman declared the meeting terminated at 2:30 p.m.

Dated the 23rd day of November, 2006

Corporate Secretary