

Understanding the Choices – The Future Management of Canada’s Used Nuclear Fuel

NWMO Information Session Final Summary Report

**September 29, 2004
Comfort Inn Hotel & Suites
Edmonton, AB**

1.0 PARTICIPANTS

There were 4 participants at the information session.

The NWMO representative was Pat Patton, and the assessment team member was Jo-Ann Facella. Peter Homenuck and Sergey Tkachev were present from DPRA Canada.

The following is a summary of comments from the Edmonton Information Sessions.

2.0 MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

What are the Strengths and Limitations of each Management Approach?

2.1 Storage at Reactor Sites

There were no comments regarding storage at reactor sites

2.2 Deep Geological Disposal

There were no comments regarding deep geological disposal

2.3 Centralized Storage

There were no comments regarding centralized storage

3.0 ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

Is the assessment framework comprehensive and balanced? Are there gaps, and if so, what do we need to add?

Participants felt that the values and principles as noted are reflective of their own values and principles and asked for more clarification.

There were also comments made by two participants that they are concerned that those who must make the decisions do not always hear citizens' concerns.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Are there specific elements that you feel must be built into an implementation plan?
What are your thoughts on what a phased approach must include?**

Participants did not provide any comments on the implementation plan.

5.0 Additional Comments on Discussion Document 2

With respect to the document, "Understanding the Choices?", the following comments were made:

No additional comments were made on Discussion Document 2.

6.0 Other Comments

The following are other comments provided by participants at the information session in Edmonton:

- Participants were concerned with the possibility of the use of the nuclear waste in a military context, especially by "bad" countries.
- Technical issues like reprocessing and transmutation of the used nuclear fuel, and management of the cooling water at storage facilities were discussed.
- Comments were made regarding the approach to the current information and discussion sessions. It was suggested that more advertisements in the media would attract more participants.
- Another comment was related to the NWMO website. It was recommended that more emphasis should be put on educating the general public about the nature of radiation and its hazards.

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