
Dialogue on Proposed Transparency Policy



DRAFT POLICY
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nwmo

NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
DES DÉCHETS
NUCLÉAIRES

Dialogue on Proposed Transparency Policy

The NWMO has made a commitment to be “open and transparent in our process, communications and decision-making, so that the approach is clear to all Canadians” as part of its Vision, Mission and Values Statement. To demonstrate its commitment, the NWMO is proposing a transparency policy and wants to receive your views on it. The proposed policy is set out below, followed by a description of how the policy would work in practice.

NWMO Transparency Policy (Draft)

Commitment

The NWMO is committed to making accessible to the public the information we create, receive and analyze in support of our work. We will also describe how we used this information when we document our decision-making.

Rationale

Transparency is one of the values we have identified in our statement of Vision, Mission and Values:

We will be open and transparent in our process, communications and decision-making, so that the approach is clear to all Canadians.

Sharing information and encouraging an exchange of perspectives is fundamental to our mandate to implement Canada’s plan for the long-term management of Canada’s used nuclear fuel. In fulfilling our mandate, we have undertaken to carry out our work collaboratively with Canadians by:

- » seeking the participation of all interested individuals and organizations and being responsive to a diversity of views and perspectives;
- » communicating actively, promoting thoughtful reflection and facilitating a constructive dialogue; and
- » pursuing the best knowledge, understanding and innovative thinking in our analysis, engagement processes and decision-making.

Implementation

We will provide access to our information through our website. We will publish our information on a timely basis. In determining what we will publish on our website, we will respect:

- » personal privacy;
- » intellectual property rights; and
- » commercial confidentiality.

We will not publish information that is legally privileged or protected for security reasons. Where consent is required for publication, we will not publish such information without that consent.

How The Policy Works

(a) Background

The purpose of the NWMO is to develop and implement collaboratively with Canadians a management approach for the long-term care of Canada's used nuclear fuel that is socially acceptable, technically sound, environmentally responsible and economically feasible. Our vision is the long-term management of Canada's nuclear waste in a manner that safeguards people and respects the environment, now and in the future.

We have adopted the following values to guide our work:

INTEGRITY

We will conduct ourselves with openness, honesty and respect for all persons and organizations with whom we deal.

EXCELLENCE

We will pursue the best knowledge, understanding and innovative thinking in our analysis, engagement processes and decision-making.

ENGAGEMENT

We will seek the participation of all communities of interest and be responsive to a diversity of views and perspectives. We will communicate and consult actively, promoting thoughtful reflection and facilitating a constructive dialogue.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We will be fully responsible for the wise, prudent and efficient management of resources and be accountable for all our actions.

TRANSPARENCY

We will be open and transparent in our process, communications and decision-making, so that the approach is clear to all Canadians.

Transparency allows us to demonstrate how we adhere to our values and to establish the credibility of the results of our work.

NWMO's initial mandate was to study options for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. During the course of the study process, we relied on our website for disseminating information and providing access to a wide range of documents that were generated during that process, in addition to our public engagement activities. We have continued to use our website as a place where anyone can provide comments and submissions on our work. The website also allows people to subscribe to an email service that allows us to alert people to new postings on the website.

(b) What will be posted on the website?

We will continue to use our website to provide access to documents that are generated as we proceed with the task of finding a site for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel and to receive submissions on our work.

The following is intended to provide examples of what will be posted to the website. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

NWMO WORK PROGRAM

- » NWMO implementation plan
- » NWMO commissioned research reports
- » Reports from formal consultations, roundtables, public meetings and other dialogues arranged or commissioned by the NWMO where there has been prior notification to the participants that such reports will be published on the website and the documents developed to initiate and support those processes.
- » Comments and submissions made by the public to the NWMO through the submissions tool on the NWMO website.
- » Correspondence received by the NWMO where the correspondent has given permission to post it on the website.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS AND CORPORATE REPORTS

- » Legislation – *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act* (outlines mandate and responsibilities of NWMO)
- » NWMO Vision, Mission and Values Statement
- » NWMO Annual Reports to the federal Minister of Natural Resources
- » Ministerial responses to NWMO Annual Reports
- » NWMO Annual Audited Financial Statements
- » Member Company Trust Funds – Annual Audited Financial Statements

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- » Minutes from Meetings of the Board of Directors

ADVISORY COUNCIL

- » Records of Discussion from Advisory Council Meetings