

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: September 19, 2022 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 September 19, 2022

Advisory Council Members Present:

David Cameron, Council Chair
Donald Obonsawin, Vice Chair
Joseph Cavalancia
Monica Gattinger
Dean Jacobs
Diane Kelly
Derek Lister
Dougal McCreath
Stella Swanson
Linda Thompson

NWMO Staff Present:

Laurie Swami	President and CEO (items 1-18)
Chris Boyle	VP & Chief Engineer (items 1-18)
Lisa Frizzell	VP Communications (items 1-18)
Joe Gaboury	Director, Indigenous Engagement-Southern Ontario (item 5)
Paul Gierszewski	Director, Safety & Technical Research (item 10 & 12)
Karine Glenn	Strategic Project Director (item 11)
Joe Heil	Director, Indigenous Engagement-Northern Ontario (item 5)
Sarah Hirschorn	Director, Geoscience (item 10)
Georgina Kossivas	Chief Financial & Risk Officer (item 6)
Erik Kremer	Section Manager, Siting Safety Assessment (item 12)
Monica Kumar Dhoat	Assistant Board Secretary (items 1-18)
Melissa Mayhew	Senior Environmental Scientist (items 1-18)
Lise Morton	VP Site Selection (items 1-18)
Doug Taylor	VP & General Counsel (items 1-18)
Bob Watts	VP, Indigenous Relations & Strategic Programs (items 1-18)
Allan Webster	VP Regulatory Approvals (items 1-18)
Derek Wilson	Chief Operating Officer (items 9-18)

Guests:

Tom Isaacs	Chair, Site Selection Review Group (item 17)
Celia Milne	Triennial Report Writer (items 18-19)

1. Constitution of Meeting / Approval of Agenda / Land Acknowledgement

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. EDT. The agenda was agreed upon as written.

The Chair led a discussion regarding the Treaties covering Toronto. A summary of three treaties was provided – the Treaty of Niagara; the Toronto Purchase of 1805; and the Williams Treaties of 1923. A PowerPoint presentation was provided to the Council with maps and pictures of the related Wampums.

2. Safety Moment

Chris Boyle provided the safety moment on preparing for the Fall and furnace safety, checking air filters, ensuring no storage around the furnace and the importance of carbon monoxide alarms and annually checking your furnace.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting / Action Items (In Camera)

The Chair highlighted that there will be a 96 second moment of silence at 1pm in honour of Her Majesty the Queen.

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting were discussed *in camera*.

4. President's Report

The President provided an update on recent developments regarding APM, SMRs, new internal appointments, the lessening impact of COVID and the award which the ISRW team has received for their inclusive work with young people and indigenous communities. The President reported on willingness in the communities and transportation engagement. The Council was also updated on how nuclear waste repository programs in other countries are gaining momentum.

Council discussed the President's report and asked about any concerns that NRCAN has with the ISRW report. Used SMR fuel was also discussed, in particular, how this is being considered by the communities and the cost of managing this used nuclear fuel.

A Council member asked about the number of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (WLON) off reserve members and how is NWMO going to engage with them. Management confirmed that the breakdown is approximately 250 on reserve and approximately 750 off reserve and WLON will be hosting a homecoming event in January 2023 to seek to get the community together – NWMO will attend this event.

5. Update on Engagement, Partnership and Willingness (In Camera)

This item was discussed *in camera*.

6. Business Planning Overview (In Camera)

This item was discussed *in camera*.

7. Visibility Strategy and Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Update (*In Camera*)

This item was discussed *in camera*.

8. Preparing for Regulatory Decision Processes (Great Earth Law)

An update was provided to Council respecting the preparations being made by the NWMO for the federal Impact Assessment process and the licensing by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

Management highlighted that the NWMO has been invited to enter into an agreement with Grand Council Treaty 3 (GCT#3) which should assist with IA process as GCT #3 are creating an environmental assessment process that will apply to any development in their territory governed by Great Earth Law. WLON appear supportive of this development. The Council had a long discussion regarding this development.

9. Standing reports

Updates were provided to Council members related to external landscape, transportation and the Council of Knowledge Holders.

10. APM Technical Overview

The Council was provided with highlights of technical activities since the last meeting which included updates on Geoscience fieldwork, Engineering, Transportation, and Safety & Technical Research. The Council was updated on the completion of the geoscience drilling and down the hole testing fieldwork and the ongoing environmental baseline work in the siting regions. Further information was provided by Management regarding salinity and corrosion. The Council discussed the repository design and the post closure scenarios.

11. Update on Integrated Strategy for Radioactive Waste (ISRW) Initiative

Staff updated the Council on the development of a national strategy for all of Canada's radioactive waste (ISRW) noting that on August 25, 2022 the NWMO published the draft ISRW report for a public comment period which will be extended by 30 days. Council received an update regarding the feedback from the public, industry and NRCAN. There was a discussion regarding the timing of the NRCAN policy which is scheduled to be published by the end of 2022. Management informed the Council that the extensive ISRW engagement was essentially built on the APM initial engagement with Canadians which resulted in the APM approach recommendation.

12. Implementing Social Safety

Erik Kremer joined the meeting to update the Council on NWMO's work on safety from a social perspective. The Council was very interested in the information that Lise Morton and Erik Kremer provided on NWMO's work on this subject. Erik provided an interesting summary of the hands-on, 1-1 engagement that is undertaken in the communities and how rewarding it is when individuals' opinions of APM change after an interactive discussion. Council highlighted how important this topic is for the success of the IA process and that there needs to be a real focus on social safety.

13. Possible Topics for December Meeting with Board of Directors

The Council had a discussion around possible topics for its annual meeting with the Board of Directors. Management proposed two topics which were accepted by the Council as good suggestions.

14. Next Meetings of the Advisory Council

The Council was presented with the 2023 meeting schedule. The Council will be meeting on November 15, 2022 in addition to the December 5, 2022 meeting.

15. SMR Waste (In Camera)

This item was discussed *in camera*.

16. Update on Centre of Expertise Visioning

Council was updated on the progress achieved with the Centre of Expertise (COE) visioning process for the communities of South Bruce and Ignace. Management commented that the indigenous communities have not focused on the COE at this stage in the Site Selection process.

17. Update on Site Selection Review Group (In Camera)

This item was discussed *in camera*.

18. Tracking Matrices – Annual & Triennial

The Council reviewed the annual tracking matrix and the Triennial Report Tracking Matrix.

19. In Camera Session – Council Discussion

The Council had the opportunity to review and discuss the current working draft of the Triennial Report for 2020 to 2022 with the assistance of their contracted writer.

20. In Camera Session

The Council held an in camera session.

The Chair declared the meeting terminated at 5:45pm.

(*) indicates action items.

Dated the 5th day of December, 2022

David Cameron
Advisory Council Chair