Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: March 25, 2024 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 in Toronto, ON
commencing at 10:00 a.m. EDT on March 25, 2024

Advisory Council Members Present:
David Cameron, Council Chair
Donald Obonsawin, Vice Chair (virtual)
Joseph Cavalancia
Monica Gattinger
Dean Jacobs
Diane Kelly (virtual)
Dougal McCreath
Stella Swanson (virtual)
Linda Thompson (virtual)

NWMO Staff Present:

Laurie Swami	President and CEO (items 1-10)
Chris Boyle	VP & Chief Engineer (items 1-10)
Lisa Frizzell	VP Communications (items 1-10)
Monica Kumar Dhoat	Manager, Board Services (items 1-10)
Melissa Mayhew	Senior Environmental Scientist (items 1-10)
Lise Morton	VP Site Selection (item 1-10)
Jeff Quick	Chief Financial & Risk Officer (item 6)
Jennifer Spragge	VP Human Resources & Chief Ethics Officer (item 6)
Doug Taylor	VP & General Counsel & Board Secretary (items 1-10)
Bob Watts	VP, Indigenous Relations & Strategic Programs (items 1-10)
Allan Webster	VP Regulatory Approvals (items 1-10)
Derek Wilson	Chief Operating Officer (items 6)

Guest
Pat Beauchamp, Hill & Knowlton (Item 7) (virtual)

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01a.m. EDT. The agenda was agreed upon as written. The Chair provided an Indigenous territory acknowledgement.

2. Safety Moment

Lisa Frizzell provided the safety moment focusing on five common factors that contribute towards injuries in the workplace and how to take measures to prevent them. The factors are (1) distractions; (2) complacency; (3) poor housekeeping; (4) poor pre-planning; (5) taking shortcuts.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

The Chair brought the consent agenda items forward for consideration. The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the Consent Agenda.

The following items were approved under the consent agenda:

- December 4, 2023 Minutes and *In Camera* minutes
- Cover Note - Tracking Matrices
- Annual Tracking Matrix (for public posting)

The information items on the Consent agenda consisted of:

- Annual Tracking Matrix (full version)
- Advisory Council Actions from previous meetings
- Standing Reports and Updates
- Next Meetings of the Advisory Council

Council members discussed various points from the Consent Agenda:

- Further to a discussion regarding the NWMO Transportation Principles, a Council member requested that Management provide a definition of interim storage of used fuel along the transportation route. Management will provide the Council with a definition.*

- The Council discussed the importance of clear communication regarding NWMO's dialogue with stakeholders regarding managing Intermediate Level Waste (ILW), Small Modular Reactors' (SMR) waste and waste from other new nuclear projects.

- The Advisory Council workplan will be amended to include an item on Safety from a Social Perspective and the Council will be briefed on the development on this issue at the June 2024 meeting.*

- The Council requested an update on the Story of Water at the June 2024 meeting. Management confirmed that a communications water video was just launched last week.*

- A Council member requested the December Advisory Council minutes be updated at Item 6: Preparing for Regulatory Decision-Making Processes to clarify the limited progress developing the regulatory structure has been by **the government** regarding Indigenous-led assessments. The words "the government" should be added.*

- The Council discussed one of the recent Access To Information and Privacy (ATIP) requests that NWMO received. NWMO is putting as much information and

documentation as practical on the NWMO website to seek to counter voluminous ATIP requests because the public will already have access to the information.

4. Item 4 was held *In Camera*

5. Item 5 was held *In Camera*

6. Item 6 was held *In Camera*

7. Item 7 was held *In Camera*

8. Preparing for Regulatory Decision-Making Processes

Management updated the Committee regarding the preparations being made by the NWMO for the Federal Impact Assessment (IA) process and the licensing by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

Management highlighted that the Impact Assessment Agency is going to enter into a protocol agreement with NWMO to outline how the parties will work together, including an escalation process and an outline of the schedule for the work that will be undertaken. The Council discussed how tailored guidelines will be applied to the NWMO project. Management also commented on how there is a strong desire by the Impact Assessment Agency to accommodate Indigenous led assessments as much as possible in the IA process.

9. Report on Council of Knowledge Holders

A Council member reported on his attendance at meetings of the Council of Elders and Youth. He highlighted that, similar to the Advisory Council, the Council of Elders and Youth is considering how it will transition to a new membership after site selection.

The Council member highlighted that the Advisory Council should take time to read and discuss the Council of Elders and Youth *Declaration of the Keepers of the Land*. Management undertook to ask the Council of Elders and Youth for their permission to read out this Declaration at a future meeting of the Advisory Council.*

A Council member highlighted the importance of acknowledging who holds Indigenous rights. The Council member noted that it is individual Indigenous people that hold the rights within Grand Council Treaty 3 rather than the First Nations or Treaty organizations.

The Council and Management discussed how the Council of Elders and Youth could help NWMO interpret and implement UNDRIP.

10. Annual Letter to the Minister

The Council discussed the annual Advisory Council letter to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources regarding the commendable progress that NWMO is making implementing the APM project. This letter follows the publication of the NWMO Annual Report each year. The Council also discussed the timing and nature of the statement that the Council will make following the site selection decision later this year.

11. Item 11 was held *In Camera*

The Chair declared the meeting terminated at 3:28 p.m. EDT.

(*) indicates action items.

Dated the 17th day of June, 2024

David Cameron
Advisory Council Chair