NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

Transparency Policy

NOVEMBER 2026

Policy statement

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) will be open and transparent in our process, communications and decision-making, so that the approach to the management of nuclear waste is clear to all Canadians and Indigenous Peoples. We will work to ensure our practices are aligned with the spirit of the NWMO's *Reconciliation Policy* (2026) and *Indigenous Knowledge Policy* (2020), as well as freedom of information, access to information and privacy legislation.

Rationale

The NWMO has identified "acting with openness" and "walking a Reconciliation journey" as values in our statement of vision, mission and values. This policy allows us to demonstrate how we adhere to our values and to establish the credibility of the results of our work.

Sharing information and encouraging an exchange of perspectives is fundamental to our mandate for the long-term management of Canada's intermediate- and high-level radioactive waste. In fulfilling our mandate, we undertake our work collaboratively with Canadians and Indigenous Peoples by:

- Seeking the participation of interested individuals and organizations and being responsive to a diversity of views and perspectives.
- Communicating proactively, promoting thoughtful reflection and facilitating a constructive dialogue.
- Pursuing the best knowledge, understanding and innovative thinking in our analysis, engagement processes and decision-making.

Transparency is a key component of our ability to carry out this work effectively. The NWMO is committed to open and transparent communication with the public and to fostering our relationships with communities. We endeavour to make information about our activities and regulatory submissions available, including information we create, receive or analyze in support of our work. We will also describe how we used this information when we document our decision-making.

Requirements and decision rules

We will continue to engage Canadians and Indigenous Peoples in our work through formal public engagement activities, round tables, public meetings and other forms of dialogue.

We will also provide access to information through our website, through social media and to members of the public upon request. Requests can be sent to contactus@nwmo.ca or through direct message on our social media accounts. We will endeavour to publish or provide information on a timely basis on our website, including regulatory and technical reports, and will do our best to accommodate reasonable requests for information.

We consider a variety of factors in determining what information we publish or provide. The following considerations reflect (i) the corresponding sections contained in federal and provincial freedom of information legislation applicable to public sector entities; and (ii) the NWMO's commitment to our *Indigenous Knowledge Policy* and *Reconciliation Policy*. These factors include:

a. Whether the information could reveal positions, plans, procedures, projects, criteria or instructions that have not yet been put into operation or made public.

b. Whether disclosing the information could reasonably be expected to reveal information that is confidential to the NWMO or any other person.

c. Whether disclosing the information could reasonably be expected to:

- Seriously threaten someone's life, health or safety or create an environmental, health or safety hazard or risk to the public.
- Harm the environment or an endangered species protected by law.
- Affect the security of particular buildings, structures, systems, components, vehicles, computer or other networks, or the systems or procedures that protect them.
- Interfere with law enforcement matters, including investigations or legal proceedings involving the NWMO.
- Affect relations with governments, including foreign, municipal, regional and Indigenous governments.
- Affect the defence or national security of Canada.
- Reveal consultations or deliberations involving management, member companies or the Board of Directors (or any committees of the Board).
- Reveal advice or recommendations of a NWMO employee or a consultant retained by the NWMO.
- Seriously affect the economic or financial interests of the NWMO or any other person, or result in undue financial loss or gain for the NWMO or any other person.
- Significantly interfere with any contractual or other negotiations.
- Result in similar information no longer being supplied to the NWMO.
- Deprive a NWMO employee or another individual of priority of publication.

d. Whether the information:
   - Is personal information.
   - Is subject to copyright or other intellectual property rights, including the rights of Indigenous Knowledge Holders.
   - Is interim work product (such as drafts).
   - Has been published, is available to the public from another source, or will be published within a reasonable period of time from the time of the request.
   - Can reasonably be expected to reveal a trade secret or industrial, scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information with monetary value or potential monetary value belonging to the NWMO or any other person.
   - Relates to employment-related matters in which the NWMO has an interest.
   - Relates to testing or auditing procedures or techniques.
   - Is subject to privilege, including solicitor-client privilege, litigation privilege and settlement privilege, or the professional secrecy of advocates and notaries.

e. Whether disclosure of the information is prohibited or restricted by law.

f. Whether the disclosure of the information is consistent with the NWMO's *Indigenous Knowledge Policy* or *Reconciliation Policy*, or would negatively impact the NWMO's relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

g. The age of the information.

h. Any compelling public interest in the disclosure of the information.

i. Whether we are of the opinion, on reasonable grounds, that a request for information is in bad faith, frivolous, vexatious, for a purpose other than to obtain access to information, or otherwise a misuse or abuse of our *Transparency Policy*.

j. The cost or time required to search for and prepare the information for disclosure.

Where consent from a third party is required for publication, we will not publish information without that consent.

The NWMO may require a person requesting information to pay fees for the searching, preparing, copying and shipping of the information. In deciding on fees to be charged, we will reference the *Fees, Fee Estimates and Fee Waivers* guidelines published by the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario to determine practices for claiming and calculating fees associated with freedom of information requests. A detailed statement of the fee calculation will be provided to the requestor. If the fee amount is expected to exceed $25, the requestor will be provided with a fee estimate. If the fee is expected to exceed $100, the NWMO may require a fee deposit equal to 50 per cent of the estimate.

Notwithstanding any other statement under this policy, where a request is made to the NWMO for access to information contained in a record that the NWMO determines not to publish or provide in accordance with this policy, the NWMO shall disclose any part of the record that does not contain and can reasonably be severed from any part that contains information or material that will not be provided or published.

NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

For more information, please contact:

Nuclear Waste Management Organization
30 Adelaide Street East, Suite 600
Toronto, ON M5C 3H1, Canada
Tel.: 416.934.9814 Toll free: 1.866.249.6966
Email: contactus@nwmo.ca
Website: nwmo.ca

@nwmocanada
/company/nwmocanada

© 2026 Nuclear Waste Management Organization