

Advisory Council to the  
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

**Record of Discussion: June 20, 2005 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 49 Jackes Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, commencing at 9:00 a.m. EST. on  
June 20, 2005.

Present

Advisory Council:

David Crombie	Chairman
David Cameron	Member
Helen Cooper	Member
Gordon Cressy	Member
Fred Gilbert	Member
Eva Ligeti	Member
Derek Lister	Member
Donald Obonsawin	Member
Daniel Rozon	Member

NWMO:

Elizabeth Dowdeswell	President (Items 1-2, 4-8)
Kathryn Shaver	Corporate Secretary (Items 1-2, 4-8)
Tony Hodge	NWMO Advisor (Item 5)
Donna Pawlowski	NWMO Advisor (Item 5)
Suzanne Barrett	Advisory Council Writer (Items 1-3)

***PART I***

***ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS***

**1. Constitution of Meeting / Approval of Agenda**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

## **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the Council meeting convened on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

*NWMO management withdrew from the meeting.*

### **PART II**

#### **IN CAMERA ADVISORY COUNCIL SESSION – REPORT PREPARATION**

## **3. Draft Study Report**

The Advisory Council met privately to work on the drafting of its independent comments, as required under the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*.

### **PART III**

#### **RESPONSE TO ADVISORY COUNCIL REQUESTS**

*NWMO management rejoined the meeting.*

## **4. Public Engagement on Draft Study Report**

The President provided a briefing on the early feedback to the Draft Study Report since its release in May 2005.

In her briefing, the President noted comments on the Draft Study Report originating from a range of sources:

- Meetings with the general public in open house sessions;
- Dialogues being led by Aboriginal organizations;
- Written responses and electronic submissions forwarded to NWMO;
- Preliminary findings from the focus groups underway at 24 locations, as part of the NWMO's continuing program of public opinion research;
- Endorsement by the NWMO's Roundtable on Ethics; and
- Comments and opinion reflected in the media coverage of the Draft Study.

The NWMO's facilitated dialogues around the Draft Study Report will take place in five provinces. The key questions to be addressed are:

- Is the recommended management approach appropriate for Canada?
- What are the conditions required to successfully implement the approach?

The first stage of NWMO's e-dialogue on the Draft Study report has been completed.

The Advisory Council requested ongoing reports from the various public engagement activities as they become available in the weeks ahead.

## **5. Engagement with Aboriginal Peoples**

Further to a request of the Advisory Council, the President presented a comprehensive review of the NWMO's process of engagement with Aboriginal Peoples.

The NWMO reviewed the components of the NWMO's engagement program, including activities at the national, regional and local levels.

- She reported on the range of activities, meetings and reports being produced by Aboriginal organizations through programs that they are designing and leading for NWMO.
- Mr. Hodge highlighted some key messages emerging in the review of NWMO's study by Aboriginal organizations.

The President noted that in the next phase of engagement, the NWMO looks forward to receiving comments from Aboriginal peoples on the Draft Study Report and the recommended management approach. In addition to dialogues led by Aboriginal peoples, the NWMO will continue to welcome the involvement of Aboriginal people in all NWMO engagement activities.

Discussion ensued, as the Chairman invited Council comments on the NWMO's Aboriginal engagement program.

The NWMO sought Advisory Council comments on a proposed format for a discussion forum with Aboriginal Elders. Through the forum, the NWMO would seek the perspectives of those who embody Traditional Knowledge and Wisdom, as they are invited to comment on the NWMO's draft recommendation, including conditions required to successfully implement the approach.

- As part of this discussion, the Council expressed strong support for the NWMO proceeding to implement the Elders' forum. Members of the Council's Sub-Committee on Aboriginal Engagement reported that they had strongly endorsed the concept of such a dialogue in prior discussions with the NWMO.
- Council members supported the suggestion that Aboriginal organizations be invited to select participants for the forum. They suggested that it would be beneficial to the discussion to both invite back participants who have previously engaged with NWMO through Aboriginal Dialogues or NWMO's other activities, as well as provide for participation of Elders not yet involved in the dialogue.
- The Advisory Council emphasized the importance of ensuring some local representation in the forum.
- Council was strongly supportive of extending an invitation to each Elder to invite a young person to serve in a support role.

NWMO will proceed to arrange the forum, taking into account suggestions offered by the Council members.

Following discussion, Council members thanked Mr. Hodge for providing the update on Aboriginal engagement.

The Advisory Council requested that NWMO provide members with a summary of comments arising from the Aboriginal dialogues presently in progress. The President confirmed that NWMO would be providing this summary.

#### **6. NWMO Study Process**

Upon the request of the Advisory Council, the NWMO provided further updates on its workplan to assist the Council in developing its matrix of comments on the NWMO study.

#### **7. Draft Study Report**

Advisory Council members offered several comments to NWMO on the Draft Study Report, identifying some areas for clarification and elaboration to strengthen the report.

#### **8. Other Business**

The Advisory Council Chairman reported that the Council would be convening a private meeting the week of July 1<sup>st</sup> for the purpose of continuing with the preparation of Council comments on the NWMO study.

*NWMO management withdrew from the meeting.*

<b><i>PART IV ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS - IN CAMERA</i></b>
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#### **9. In Camera Session**

This portion of the meeting was dedicated to an in camera session of the Advisory Council, without the presence of NWMO management.

#### **Termination of Meeting**

The Chairman declared the meeting terminated at 4:00 p.m.

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Dated the 20th day of July, 2005  
Corporate Secretary