

SOUTH BRUCE IMPACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 15, 2008
RESPONSE TO:

Nuclear Waste Management Organization Implementing Adaptive Phased Management 2008 to 2012

First, the draft Plan is built around objectives in seven key areas.

Have we identified the right objectives? Have we missed key areas?

We feel there should be an addition of an eighth objective to the draft plan. Part of the Strategic Objectives should be to increase the level of understanding about the current successful interim management of used fuel. It has been managed successfully for over 40 years.

The NWMO is guided by five fundamental values. One of which is Accountability. Although there is no mention to whom the organization is accountable or how this will be monitored and measured. NWMO is in the process of establishing governance and is subject to the Nuclear Safety Control Act and the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act.

Recommendation: The Implementation Plan should consider more specific references to these Acts and how they help to provide guidance, governance and accountability in achieving the five fundamental values.

The draft plan details seven strategic planning objectives and actions to be completed during 2008-2012. Monitoring the achievement of these objectives is not specifically identified nor is successful achievement defined – although an ongoing public consultation and feedback process is well defined. (Pages 15, 17 & 23)

Recommendation: That the NWMO establish an annual report card identifying the level of success in each of the seven strategic objectives.

An Advisory Council has been appointed by the NWMO, which has obligations identified within the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act. As well a Technical Review Group will be appointed by the NWMO to advise both the board and the Advisory Council on scientific and technical approaches and methodology.

Recommendation: Identifying a qualified third party to appoint qualified people to the Technical Review Group will improve the public's confidence in the board's commitment to accountability, transparency and collaboration in its processes, communications and decision-making.

Second, the draft Plan identifies work and activities we propose to undertake to accomplish these objectives.

Have we set out appropriate activities?

We are looking forward to a detailed definition of "informed willing host community". We feel this is crucial to the whole process. What boundaries are implied in "community"? For example, geographical, political, etc.

Third, what more would you like to know about the NWMO's draft Implementation Plan?

We would like continual updates and notification of any changes.

Please provide us with any comments on our draft transparency policy.

We have address this in our comments above.

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