

**MINUTES**

**FROM THE MEETING**

**OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE**

**NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (NWMO) /  
SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES (SGDN)**

**convened on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
commencing at 8:00 A.M. EST.**

**Present**

Ken Nash	Director, Chairman (Acting)
Laurie Comeau	Director
Fred Long	Director, Treasurer
Adèle Malo	Director

and

Elizabeth Dowdeswell	President
Kathryn Shaver	Corporate Secretary

**Absent:**

Richard Dicerni	Director
Rene Pageau	Director

1. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Nash chaired the June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004 Board meeting.

Notice of the meeting having been given to all of the Directors of the Company and a quorum of the members being present, Mr. Nash declared the meeting duly constituted for the transaction of business at 8:00 A.M. EST.

The Directors approved the Agenda for the June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004 meeting.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004, a copy having been sent to each member of the Board, were approved as recorded.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

The President outlined the status of actions arising from the previous Board meeting.

4. Draft Discussion Document

The President tabled an early draft of Discussion Document 2 with the Board of Directors.

In introducing the draft document, the President noted that an earlier draft had been shared with the Advisory Council for discussion at its June 22, 2004 meeting. The NWMO has benefited from the Advisory Council's suggestions on the structure and presentation of the content for making it a comprehensive yet accessible document for the public. The President provided a verbal debrief on the nature of the Advisory Council's comments on the draft document. The Council's comments will be integrated into the next draft.

The President noted that the document tabled with the Board is still an early working draft. However, it is indicative of the NWMO's proposed objectives and approach to the report.

- Part 1 of the document includes the NWMO's report back on the insights and comments received through the engagement activities over the last year.
- Part 2 presents the findings of the Assessment Team's work in developing a methodology and applying the methodology in a preliminary assessment of management options.
- Part 3 is intended to outline the NWMO's path forward – including key findings that emerged through both engagement and assessment work; areas of further study required in fulfilling the requirements of the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*; and the NWMO's approach to the next phase of its study plan.
- The document also sets out some discussion questions to support the next phase of public engagement. The President emphasized the important role of public comment and guidance in shaping the NWMO's further work.
- NWMO is proposing to include website links for the many complementary reports that will provide further details on dialogues and the assessment for those interested in learning more.

The President emphasized that this document will not contain any draft recommendations from NWMO on a preferred management approach.

- The work of the Assessment Team made an important contribution in developing a methodology from the key questions NWMO identified collaboratively with Canadians. In addition, the Assessment Team helped to delineate many of the strengths and limitations of the different options, by applying the methodology in a preliminary assessment.
- The President confirmed that the assessment of the options is continuing. The NWMO has much more work to do, and more public dialogues to convene, before it is in a position to complete a comparative assessment of the options or begin drafting recommendations.
- The NWMO will not be in a position to develop draft recommendations before early 2005.

Board discussion ensued on the draft document:

- The Chairman agreed with the President that it would be premature for NWMO to make any draft recommendations at this time, in light of the remaining issues requiring further study as part of the comparative assessment.
  - The Board acknowledges and commends the Assessment Team for its important contributions, but believes that the engagement activities designed to provide public input, as well as some further work as identified in the workplan, will be essential as NWMO considers the relative merits of each option and develops recommendations.
- Board members emphasized the importance of providing clarity in the discussion of different management approaches. In this regard, the use of graphics was suggested to communicate key differences in the technical methods under study. The Board also encouraged NWMO to provide additional detail in the document to describe the NWMO's consideration and screening of additional technical methods, beyond the three required for study under the legislation.
- The Board suggested that the document make more explicit the fact that insight from public engagement and analysis will continue to inform NWMO's further work, including the development of the implementation plans. The document should articulate the ongoing role of public engagement in guiding and shaping the NWMO's continuing assessment of the options.
- Board members commented that the document as drafted provides a comprehensive review of the Assessment Team work, but noted the challenge associated with presenting the complex material in a clear and concise manner.
- Members suggested a more detailed account be provided of the findings from the other key parallel activities – the public engagement, and in particular, the National Citizens' Dialogue, given the important role of the Dialogue in identifying the values upon which the assessment framework was developed.

5. Business Risk

The Board of Directors reviewed and discussed potential areas of business risk for the NWMO, and potential mitigative measures.

Termination of Board Meeting

There being no other items for discussion, the Directors concluded their session at 12:00 P.M. EST.

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Corporate Secretary  
Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2004