

Advisory Council: 2009 Advice to NWMO

Recommendations	Action taken
APM SITE SELECTION PROCESS	
<p>Throughout 2009, the Advisory Council was invited to discuss and comment on NWMO's development of the draft Site Selection Process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March, Council discussed a working draft of the Site Selection Process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members proposed greater emphasis in certain areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ fuller description of APM; ▪ fuller description of context – the case for APM, need for a plan; ▪ emphasis on adaptability of the program over time to respond to range of future scenarios; and ▪ elaboration on the anticipated economic benefits and community impacts over different phases of APM implementation. ○ Members proposed editorial enhancements. • Council members also suggested that NWMO needs to continue to reinforce in its communications that NWMO's direction could change as plans are adapted and to further articulate that the waste will be retrievable. • In May, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council emphasized that transportation will continue to be an issue at the forefront of the siting process. ○ NWMO was urged to build into the siting process opportunities for transportation communities to have their questions and concerns addressed. NWMO should address transportation early in siting process. • In November, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council asked NWMO to make interested municipalities aware of the importance of Aboriginal involvement in siting once the process begins. ○ NWMO is encouraged to consider comments on the siting process provided by the Municipal Forum in November. ○ Council requested opportunity to discuss and comment on Revised Site Selection Process, prior to finalization in 2010. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions have been incorporated in drafting of Site Selection Process. • Suggestions also noted in revisions to fact sheets and backgrounders. • Retrievability and adaptability are being included in all public materials, recognized as key elements of the APM program. • Addressed in Site Selection Process • Addressed in Site Selection Process. Is written into Site Selection Process and is emphasized in all early meetings with communities as they learn about the project. • Council discussion of revised Site Selection document discussed at March and April 2010 meetings.

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PLANS FOR INITIATING SITE SELECTION	
<p>Council underscored importance of having Provincial Governments and the Federal Government well informed and prepared in advance of the launch of the siting process, and supportive of NWMO's work. Provincial support will be critical to success of APM siting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial governments should recognize their responsibilities for supporting implementation of APM. Council suggested NWMO seek indications of support for the siting process from the Provinces. • A member suggested NWMO explore opportunities to have APM siting addressed at the Ontario Deputy Ministers' committee. • Concerning the resolution of the Quebec National Assembly, Council felt it important to respect the resolution and yet to ensure Quebec is briefed. <p>In September, Council was asked to address "How should NWMO approach the launch of the siting process?" Council offered suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council generally agreed that a measured and gradual launch of the siting process would be appropriate. • Council emphasized the importance of a clear launch date to indicate the transition to the actual siting process. • NWMO's success will be determined by the quality of its partner and NWMO should consider the values of what would define an acceptable partner and whether the partner is willing to accept NWMO's values. • NWMO should plan for how it would manage a potentially large number of communities coming forward. <p>In September, Council was asked "how to address community well being in APM implementation?" Council offered suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community well-being also means protection from harm (not just benefits), and that NWMO should provide statements about the long-term safety of the project and protection of the community from harm; • A distillation of the international best practices might assist NWMO with this discussion with communities; • Important to ensure any potential host not be disadvantaged; and • NWMO should provide funds for communities to participate in siting process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWMO continues to devote much effort to engagement of Provincial Governments. <p>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice has been incorporated in launch plan for siting, under development. • Specific launch date was established, under discussion with Board (May 25, 2010). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource planning has taken this into account. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments were addressed in finalization of Siting Process. • Tracking of international practices continues. • Capacity-building support is offered through the "Learn More" program and will be offered at all points in the process.

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ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PLANS	
<p>The Council was invited to comment throughout the year on NWMO's ongoing relationship-building initiatives, and specifically, the design of the engagement program in for 2009, developed to invite public review and comment on the Proposed Site Selection Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March, Council was invited to comment on engagement plans for 2009, designed to invite comments on the proposed siting process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council asked if opportunities could be provided for youth to comment on siting process. ○ In designing dialogues with Aboriginal organizations, Council suggested that the involvement of Elders from the local areas would be important. • In May, Council requested a copy of the DVD being shown at the NWMO public dialogues on the siting process. • Council had previously urged engagement of Municipal Associations. • In November, Council members indicated that the presentation on economic benefits, delivered to Municipal Forum, was informative and requested that it be tabled at a 2010 Council meeting. • Council urged that the NWMO to continue its journey with its NWMO and Aboriginal partners need to firmly grasp hands and continue on the journey as there is an opportunity to develop and build a best practice template that is essential for future relationships between Aboriginal traditional cultures and other Canadians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWMO advised that Youth Roundtable would be reviewing Siting Process. In addition, some members of youth organizations would participate in dialogues. Youth from the Elders Forum continue to engage on APM. • Involvement of local Elders was built in as requirement for 2009 engagement led by Aboriginal organizations on APM siting process. • DVD sent to Council. • In March NWMO reported on the recent establishment of the Municipal Forum with associations from nuclear provinces and national associations. Council was pleased with the establishment of the Municipal Forum and felt the Forum would make an important contribution to NWMO's work. • Council member Eva Ligeti attended each Forum meeting and regularly briefed the Council on the group's activities. • Was scheduled for May 2010 Agenda of Council. • Is consistent with NWMO's work with Elders Forum and Niigani.

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TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF APM	
<p>The Council was regularly briefed and invited to comment on the progress in NWMO's technical program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members suggested that natural analogues will be important to discuss in public engagement activities and in discussions with Elders. • Members urged NWMO to be clear in its public communications that the used fuel will be retrievable – that retrievability is key element of the plan built into APM. • In May, a Council member requested information on the scope of work under way for updating the conceptual designs for different rock types and cost estimates for APM. • Council emphasized the importance of NWMO providing a consistent technical message to the public on safety and program features. • Council proposed NWMO may leverage international research to verify its technical approaches. • Council requested a follow up session to explain the details of the technical design aspects of APM- a “Technical 201” seminar on technical terms, what is unique in NWMO design, materials being used • In November, Council requested a future meeting provide plain language presentation on the work being conducted in both crystalline and sedimentary rock. • Council member requested paper on microbial activity in copper containers. <p>In November, Council met Chair of the Independent Technical Review Group (ITRG) to discuss the findings of the ITRG's 2009 review of NWMO's technical program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council discussed the ITRG's recommendation that the data whenever possible be provided by accredited laboratories. Council queried whether this might limit the expertise available to NWMO. • Council asked to review NWMO's responses to ITRG recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff have confirmed that natural analogues are part of regular briefings in engagement including work with Elders • Advice accepted. Retrievability is noted in communications materials and presentations. • In May, RFP for this work was mailed to Council. In September meeting, Council was briefed on the plans to update conceptual designs and cost estimates. • Advice accepted. • NWMO has collaboration internationally. • Technical briefing arranged for September 2010. • Arranged for 2010 agenda. • Paper was sent in January 2009. • Council reviewed the disposition report in March.

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BUSINESS PLANNING	
<p>In September, the Advisory Council was presented with the 2010-2014 Business Plan and invited to comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council discussed the plan and was in agreement with the plan as drafted. 	<p>No action required.</p>
NIIGANI	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has requested annual meetings with Niigani to hear perspectives of the Elders and an update on their work over the last year. • At Council's November 2009 meeting, members advised NWMO that it is important for Niigani to be involved with as many of NWMO's discussions with Aboriginal groups in Canada as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWMO arranged for meeting of Council and Niigani in November 2009. Annual meeting for 2010 panned for December. • NWMO will continue to engage Niigani Elders in meetings with Aboriginal organizations. It has been the practice over the last few years for a Niigani Elder to accompany NWMO when possible. This will continue. • In addition, as communities express interest in learning more about siting, NWMO extends to communities the offer of Niigani Elders to speak with local Aboriginal communities.
ABORIGINAL TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2009, the Advisory Council identified the area of Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) as a topic members wished to address. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In March, Council discussed the Aboriginal dimension of NWMO's work and the many ways NWMO has sought to interweave Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge and the advice of Niigani. Members suggested that NWMO's entire process and operations has been innovative in going beyond standard western policy-making to consider seven generations. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council Chair invited Dr. Cameron to prepare a paper to foster continued Council discussion on this topic. ○ Council requested that NWMO prepare its own reflections on how it has worked to interweave Aboriginal ways. ○ As a result of these reflections and Council discussion, Council suggested a number of areas NWMO will need to consider in determining how NWMO and its siting partner will integrate Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge once the siting process is initiated. <p>Suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creating a summary of how ATK is part of the siting process; ○ Work with Aboriginal people in communities being assessed; ○ Describe how Aboriginal traditional land might be recognized; ○ Consider beginning meetings with spiritual ceremonies; ○ Ensure Aboriginal perspective is considered in the siting process; ○ Consider working with Aboriginal people of the selected host site to conduct a spiritual ceremony; ○ Clarify how NWMO will include knowledge that comes to it through traditional ceremonies; ○ How NWMO and siting partner will integrate ATK in assessing site, recognizing ATK is intellectual property must be protected; and ○ Integrate ATK in NWMO communication materials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Advisory Council invited Member Dr. Marlyn Cook to deliver a session on traditional healing to the Council, to highlight challenges facing Aboriginal communities and review important factors in building healthy communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Cameron's paper was presented and discussed as part of the May 2009 Agenda, outlining areas in which NWMO has embraced some concepts of Traditional Knowledge. ● As requested by the Advisory Council, NWMO staff developed a summary paper that outlines how the organization has sought to integrate Aboriginal insight and perspectives in its work to date. Staff tabled and discussed with Council at the September meeting. ● NWMO continues to work in this area to advance its understanding of Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) and how to interweave it in APM implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workshop was convened in Fall 2009 with industry practitioners who have experience in this area. ○ Elders Forum expressed interest in advancing work on Traditional Knowledge for NWMO. ATK is a key project area for Niigani and Elders in 2010. ● NWMO continues to work on ATK in the context of informing the site selection process. ● Dr. Cook delivered a presentation and invited Council discussion on this topic at the May 2009 Council meeting.

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YOUTH	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Advisory Council has consistently encouraged NWMO to engage young people in its work, in light of the intergenerational nature of decision-making, implementation and operations. Council asked to be kept informed of how NWMO will address the Youth Roundtable advice. The Advisory Council requested an opportunity to meet directly with the Youth Roundtable again in 2010, for comment on how NWMO has implemented the Roundtable advice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2009, NWMO established a Youth Roundtable to advise on how NWMO can reach out to youth in its work through engagement and communications. In May, Council members met with NWMO's Youth Roundtable and received a presentation on its work. Members were impressed with the quality of the presentation, and the content and the relevance of the group's recommendations. In September, staff presented to Council NWMO's dispositioning of the Roundtable recommendations. Council commended the organization for its timely responses. Due to time constraints caused by the Council's work on its Triennial Report comments, a face to face meeting with Youth members was not possible. An update was provided to the Council in December on the meeting held to brief the Youth Roundtable on how NWMO has dispositioned its recommendations.
TRANSPORTATION	
<p>Council discussed transportation-related aspects of Adaptive Phased Management throughout the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In March, Council emphasized the importance of public discussion on transportation as APM site selection advances. Council requested copies of NWMO publications addressing transportation. Council encouraged NWMO to elaborate the corporate DVDs to address transportation safety and regulation, the strong safety record and robustness of transportation infrastructure. Council requested a follow-up dedicated section on Agenda on Transportation for an upcoming meeting with video. Council suggested conducting a fictional / illustrative transportation route study to allow NWMO to work through the process. Consider involving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation remains an important element of APM implementation. Transportation is being profiled more in communication materials for siting. Materials forwarded to Council in January 2009. New DVD on Transportation produced for release in 2010. Staff presented on Transportation at the May meeting. Suggestions will be taken into account. CNSC staff to deliver presentations on regulation of

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Municipal Forum in study to learning from community experiences.	transportation to communities and to public audiences on request.
EVOLVING EXTERNAL LANDSCAPE	
<p>At the request of the Council, the NWMO provided regular updates on the evolving external landscape in the nuclear industry in both Canada and internationally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On <u>new nuclear build</u> and implications for APM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council is particularly interested in the possible impacts on NWMO's work of changing plans in several provinces for new nuclear build. ○ Council identified new nuclear build as important issue requiring further discussion. Members requested dedicated Agenda item to review, confirm Council's position on this topic. • On <u>technological developments</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In March Council flagged the importance of monitoring technological developments and possibility of NWMO needing to adapt its plans. ○ Council was interested in knowing status of reprocessing. They discussed the financial feasibility of reprocessing and potential impacts on the deep repository. ○ Council urged that NWMO communications emphasize adaptability to changing landscape - that NWMO's directions for APM may adapt over time. • On <u>social changes</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council urged that NWMO consider long-term scenarios in its planning – such as societal changes that could impact on ability to implement APM in long term. ○ In November, Council requested copies of reports from the 2009 public opinion telephone survey once published. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2009, the Agenda included item on possible impacts of new nuclear build, and how other countries are addressing this uncertainty. The President reviewed how NWMO is proposing to address in the draft site selection process. • March 2010 Council meeting included discussion of new nuclear build. • NWMO maintains watching brief on developments. Publishes paper. • Staff provided verbal response on status of reprocessing • NWMO materials will address adaptability. • Copies of 2009 public opinion survey transmitted to Advisory Council

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STATUS OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS	
<p>At each meeting, Council was updated by the President on national and international developments on progress in implementing long-term plans for radioactive waste management.</p> <p><u>AECL Plans:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council discussed AECL's plans for the long-term management of its low and intermediate level waste. The Council asked to continue to be informed on AECL's work and has scheduled an update for its September meeting. • In September, Council continued to express concern over potential impacts and confusion for APM from AECL's potential plans. Council passed a resolution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The NWMO Advisory Council has a continued interest in AECL's work on the low and intermediate level waste particularly with respect to the risk it proposes to NWMO and asks that an update be brought forward to the Council's November meeting.</i> <p><u>Coordination of Canadian Waste Owners:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November, Council discussed some advantages and disadvantages of NWMO possibly playing larger role in radioactive waste management in Canada. <p><u>International:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March, Council asked about changes in the U.S. program for used fuel. • In May Council requested some written updates on international programs for used fuel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is regularly briefed by President. • At the November meeting, NWMO provided focused agenda item on AECL plans • In September staff provided Council with a backgrounder outlining the status of national programs across jurisdictions.

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OPG Low & Intermediate Level Waste (L&ILW) DGR	
<p>Advisory Council has requested NWMO keep members apprised of the developments on the OPG DGR for low and intermediate level waste in Kincardine, given that there is helpful learning and experience to come from the OPG DGR, and progress on the OPG project will have implications for the success of the APM DGR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November, Council discussed NWMO's recent meeting with the Saugeen Ojibway Nations. • Council discussed importance of the relationship with SON for the L&ILW project of OPG, and the effects it may have on NWMO's work with Aboriginal people • As part of Council's discussion above, a member suggested NWMO consider arranging a ceremony for a site blessing for the OPG DGR site in Kincardine. • Council continuing to seek clarity on scope of its advisory role – and whether their role should extend beyond regular briefings in case of the OPG project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Advisory Council agreed that while it does not have an obligation to comment on the work on the OPG L&ILW DGR it is important that it be kept informed on both the technical and the engagement aspects the project due to its relevance and possible impacts on APM.
NWMO STAFFING	
<p>Further to the Council's 2005 recommendation that the NWMO required broader skills, Council has asked to be kept apprised of all recruitments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council agreed all areas of the organization have been strengthened. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through 2009, the President briefed Council on its hiring plans and the capabilities provided by its recent recruits. • Bios of recent hires sent to Council in January 2009. • A dedicated agenda item was part of the November Council agenda, for the VP, Human Resources to brief Council on the hiring in 2009. • Ongoing updates on hiring will be provided.