The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) was established in 2002 to develop a long-term management strategy for the safe and secure management of used nuclear fuel produced in Canada. The Government of Canada's decision to accept NWMO's recommendation for Adaptive Phased Management assigned the organization an important role in ensuring the long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

Our Work
The NWMO is responsible for developing and implementing a long-term management strategy for used nuclear fuel. This involves working with communities, stakeholders, and government agencies to ensure the safe and secure management of used nuclear fuel. The NWMO’s work is guided by the principles of transparency, accountability, and community engagement.

Board of Directors
The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the operations of the organization and ensuring that it is accountable to Canadians. The Board is composed of representatives from government, industry, and the public. The Board also includes a chairperson, who is an independent director, and a chief executive officer.

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The NWMO Social Research program supports our ongoing dialogue and collaboration activities including work to engage potentially affected citizens and interested organizations, visioning of the implementation process and the development of decision-making processes. We learn from the experiences of others, exploring the perspectives of citizens and specialists on key issues.

Public Engagement
The NWMO is building long-term relationships to develop awareness, understanding and support for Adaptive Phased Management. The success of Canada’s approach for the long-term care of used nuclear fuel is dependent on the involvement of interested Canadians, organizations and Aboriginal communities, transparent in action, respect and inclusive engagement processes.

Liability Management
The NWMO is responsible for ensuring that the cost estimates for Adaptive Phased Management remain updated and that the funding formula to pay for the plan collects and protects enough money to ensure that its entire costs are covered under a variety of social and economic circumstances, and within the required timeframe.

Technical Research
The NWMO Technical Research program is focused on developing engineering designs for a deep geological repository, advancing geoscience and site characterization methods, and preparing illustrative safety assessments to support development of the siting process. In addition to our in-house staff capabilities, the program benefits from strong working relationships with universities and consultancies, as well as collaboration and participation in joint research, innovation and demonstration projects internationally.

Corporate
As of January 1, 2009, the NWMO is a stand-alone employer with all of the necessary skills and capacity that will be needed to meet the challenges of implementing Adaptive Phased Management, Canada’s plan for the long-term care of used nuclear fuel.

Building an implementing organization...

The NWMO is growing from a small study-based organization to a sustainable corporation with all of the necessary skills and capacity that will be needed to meet the challenges of implementing Adaptive Phased Management, Canada’s plan for the long-term care of used nuclear fuel.