The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is responsible for Canada’s plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel, in a manner that protects both people and the environment. A key part of that plan is building a deep geological repository in an area with informed and willing hosts. We expect to identify a single, preferred site by 2023, and Huron-Kinloss and South Bruce are two of the communities participating in the process.

In order for the NWMO to take the next steps towards site selection, we must first assemble sufficient land in the area to house the repository by optioning land. This will give us the assurance that we have enough land to build a repository in the area, and allow us to conduct studies to ensure the land is suitable.

We are asking local landowners to join us in this Land Access Process, and in doing so, help ensure the protection of people and the environment for generations to come. The NWMO has studied the local landscape and geology, and worked with local communities to identify areas where the repository could be situated and where it could not.

In the attached map, you will find an area within a thick border that indicates the general area where we are hoping to option land. Within this area, certain land parcels are coloured with shades of red or yellow because we already know they do not meet our requirements. Other areas are covered with shades of blue, green or purple to indicate environmentally sensitive or wellhead protection areas respectively. We will take these areas into account when we are determining whether to move ahead with agreements on certain parcels of land.

This map is intended only as a guide, and other considerations may affect whether the NWMO enters into an option agreement with landowners in the area. The relative size of the area the NWMO is looking to option is shown below the legend on the map. It is only a small fraction of the total area of interest displayed on this map.

If you are interested in learning more, please email landaccess@nwmo.ca or visit one of our Learn More Centres.