Dear Minister Sohi,

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Natural Resources Canada!

On behalf of the Advisory Council to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO), I would like to introduce you to the Council and provide you with an update on some of our activities. The Council is an independent and arms-length body comprising individuals knowledgeable in the management of used nuclear fuel, and in working with people and communities on difficult public policy issues. As you may know, we have a mandate, via the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (NFWA), to review and comment on the NWMO’s work. The Council’s reports appear in the NWMO’s triennial reports every three years, most recently in NWMO’s 2014-2016 Triennial Report tabled in both houses of Parliament in 2017. We will be submitting our next comments in NWMO’s 2017-2019 Triennial Report in early 2020.

By way of introduction, there are 10 Advisory Council members (see biographies attached). I was appointed the Chair of the Council as of January 1, 2018 and have participated as a member of Council since its inception in 2002. Donald Obonsawin is Vice-Chair. Expertise reflected in the members includes geotechnical engineering, chemical engineering, nuclear engineering, engagement, public affairs, nuclear community relations, environment, sustainable development, law, political science, municipal affairs and government relations, Indigenous relations, Indigenous Knowledge, and community-based research. Most recently, the NWMO Board of Directors appointed Dr. Monica Gattinger from the University of Ottawa to the Council as of August 1, 2018.

In 2017, and continuing into 2018 we have focused on providing advice to NWMO in the following areas:

- Site assessment activities;
- Plans for narrowing down the number of communities in the siting process;
- Ethical Framework and road map for building partnerships with communities;
- Partnership development and community well-being funding to support building partnership agreements;
- Topics related to used fuel transportation;
- A fair and ethical plan for recognition of communities exiting the siting process;
- Technical matters related to long-term safety;
- Plans for accessing land; and
- A review of NWMO’s values.
Sincerely, on behalf of the members of the Advisory Council,

Dr. David Cameron
Chair, Advisory Council

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Donald Obonsawin, Vice-Chair
    Mr. Joseph Cavalancia  Dr. Monica Gattinger  Ms. Sue Hartwig  Mr. Dean Jacobs
    Ms. Diane M. Kelly  Dr. Derek Lister  Dr. Dougal McCreath  Ms. Linda Thompson