

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: February 10, 2016 Meeting

Record of discussion of the meeting of the Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) /
Société de gestion des déchets nucléaires (sgdn)

Convened at 22 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario,
commencing at 9:00 a.m. EST On February 10, 2016

Advisory Council Members Present:

Hon. David Crombie, Council Chairman
David Cameron, Vice Chairman
Joseph Cavalancia
Dean Jacobs
Eva Ligeti
Derek Lister
Dougal McCreath
Donald Obonsawin (via conference call)
Linda Thompson
Diane Kelly (via conference call)

NWMO Staff Present:

Ken Nash President and CEO (items 1-9)
Kathryn Shaver VP, APM Engagement and Site Selection (items 1-9)
Gillian Morris Assistant Board Secretary (items 1-9)

Contributing Staff:

Mahrez Ben Belfadhel Director, APM Geoscience (items 1-9)
Jo-Ann Facella Director, Social Research & Dialogue (items 1-9)
John Fraser Director, Community Engagement (items 1-9)
Lisa Frizzell Director, Corporate Affairs (items 1-9)
Paul Gierszewski Director, Safety & Licensing (items 1-9)
Monique Hobbs Siting Project Coordination Manager (items 1-9)
Bob Watts Associate Vice President, Aboriginal Relations (items 4-9)
Derek Wilson VP, Design and Construction (items 1-9)

Guest:

Suzanne Barrett Advisory Council Triennial Report Writer

ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Constitution of Meeting / Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The agenda was agreed as written.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting / Action Items

The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the record of the meeting convened on December 1, 2015.

In response to an earlier Council request, Jo-Ann Facella reviewed how NWMO incorporates the ideas of Peter Sandman on risk communication into its work.

STANDING ITEMS AND UPDATES FROM NWMO

3. President's Report

Mr. Nash reported on the following recent and upcoming activities in the NWMO work program:

- NWMO will be undertaking significant fieldwork in the communities in 2016 and stressed the importance of obtaining social license to proceed in the communities;
- NWMO recently held an all staff meeting which was well attended by enthusiastic staff;
- The update of the lifecycle cost estimate has been completed and is going to the Board for approval later in February;
- Work on ensuring regulatory certainty for APM continues;
- NWMO's work continues to focus on important areas related to: site selection field activities; building relationships with municipalities and First Nations in siting areas; further developing NWMO's business processes and project controls; and, working to locate staff in siting areas where possible.

Mr. Nash also reviewed developments in the nuclear industry nationally and internationally. He noted that officials from the U.S. Department of Energy recently visited NWMO to learn about NWMO's site selection process.

Council members sought clarification on the reference number of fuel bundles used for the cost estimating process. Management reported on how annual inventory projections are published to take into account the latest plans for refurbishments and associated increases of fuel bundles projected. Council members discussed with management how fuel quantities to be placed in the repository would be determined.

4. APM Overview and Risk Assessment

As context for Council's advice and discussion, management highlighted key areas of business risk relevant to near-term activities in APM implementation.

5. APM Site Selection Process: Status Update

Management provided the Council with a detailed review of the status of the site selection process in all areas, covering work plans and activities. Updates were

provided on municipal and Aboriginal engagement and relationship-building underway to build a positive foundation in the communities. Management reported on progress related to geoscience studies and engagement activities.

A Council member suggested Council members need to better understand the decision-making processes and governance of First Nation community organizations in relation to the siting process. In that regard, Council requested that management bring to the next meeting a number of items to help further the Council's understanding on this topic. (*)

Council discussed the traditional land use studies that NWMO will be supporting and suggested that this is a platform that could support collaboration and partnership with other area municipalities, Aboriginal communities and organizations. Council members suggested that there could be a collaborative sharing of land use studies and plans to support regional consideration of the APM project, which helps build partnership potential.

Council members discussed how municipalities, First Nations and Metis communities and, Community Liaison Committees (CLCs) from the various siting areas were, or could be working together. A Council member suggested that in the future it will be important for CLCs to work together and agreed that economic modelling work being delivered this year will be a good platform for bringing area communities together.

A Council member asked for reassurance that NWMO has the skills, funds and people to manage a rapidly escalating geoscience program. Management outlined its resourcing plans with the Council to bring on additional resources to support different phases of geoscience work.

A Council member suggested that as NWMO begins drilling, communities will gain wider public attention and NWMO will need to prepare communities for this. Management noted that this was a consideration when developing capacity-building programs in communities.

6. Transportation Engagement Update

As a result of Council's long-standing interest in the socio-political challenges associated with transportation, Council was pleased to have a new standing item added to the agenda on NWMO's plans for transportation engagement activities. Following the presentation of the high-level transportation plan given to Council in December, management reviewed planned 2016 activities.

7. Building Relationships

Council received NWMO's updates on building relationships which included information on the external landscape, media coverage and recent meetings of the Council of Elders.

A Council member suggested NWMO plan to meet with Ontario's Assistant Deputy Attorney General in the Aboriginal Justice Division.

8. APM Technical Update

The Advisory Council was provided with an update on NWMO's APM engineered barrier and proof testing program.

A Council member requested more detailed technical information on the bentonite buffer boxes. (*) A Council member also suggested the Council would be very interested in visiting NWMO's test facility. (*)

Council members also discussed international involvement in NWMO's technical research programs.

9. Review of NWMO Support to OPG

Council members were provided with an update on NWMO's work in support of the low and intermediate level waste (L&ILW) DGR. Derek Wilson reported that the statement from the Minister on the OPG L&ILW DGR was delayed until March 1, 2016.

10. Advisory Council In Camera Session

Part of the Council's agenda was devoted to Council business, conducted in camera, to discuss the following items;

- planning for the development of Council's comments that will be included in NWMO's next Triennial Report;
- review of Council's annual letter to the Minister regarding the 2015 Annual Report; and
- finalization of Council's tracking matrix for 2015, which reports on how NWMO has dispositioned Council's advice from 2015.

Upcoming Meetings of the Advisory Council

The next meeting of the Advisory Council is confirmed for:

Tuesday, May 31
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Termination of Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting for the day terminated at 2:45 pm.

Dated the 31st day of May, 2016

David Crombie
Advisory Council Chair