

Advisory Council to the
Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Record of Discussion: November 29, 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 November 29, 2016

Advisory Council Members Present:

Hon. David Crombie, Council Chair
David Cameron, Vice Chair
Joseph Cavalancia
Dean Jacobs
Diane Kelly
Eva Ligeti
Derek Lister
Dougal McCreath
Donald Obonsawin
Linda Thompson

NWMO Staff Present:

Laurie Swami	President and CEO
Mahrez Ben Belfadhel	Director, APM Geoscience
Jo-Ann Facella	Director, Social Research & Dialogue
Lisa Frizzell	Director, Corporate Affairs
Joe Gaboury	Director, Aboriginal Relations
Marni Halter	Senior Counsel
Monique Hobbs	Siting Project Coordination Manager
Elena Mantagaris	Director, Government and External Relations
Gillian Morris	Board Secretary
Bob Watts	Associate Vice President, Aboriginal Relations
Derek Wilson	VP Design & Construction, Interim VP, APM Engagement and Site Selection

Guest:

Suzanne Barrett Advisory Council Triennial Report Writer

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. Mr. Crombie welcomed NWMO's new President, Laurie Swami to the meeting.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting / Action Items

The Advisory Council reviewed and approved the record of the meeting convened on September 26, 2016.

The Council was provided with the status of the actions from the last meeting and a draft of their advice tracking matrix for 2016 to-date.

3. President's Introduction

Laurie Swami introduced herself to the Advisory Council. She noted NWMO's excellent achievements, world class engagement and success to date in attracting and maintaining communities in the siting process. She noted NWMO's very good technical work, and significant achievements in working with Aboriginal people including the development of a leading-edge Indigenous Knowledge Policy. She noted that going forward, NWMO will continue to focus on building partnerships with communities, reviewing the safety case, and building a socially acceptable transportation solution. Over the next five years as NWMO moves toward selecting one site, decisions will continue to be made carefully under the existing established frameworks.

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. In response to a request from the Council, the overall corporate risks were also provided. It was reported that there was no significant change in the overall risk profile from the last period.

The Council had an in camera discussion on some of the key risks facing NWMO.

5. Site Selection Process: Status Update

Staff reviewed the Siting Project Execution Plan with Council members. A detailed update was provided on the geoscience work underway, Aboriginal and Municipal engagement and government relations in the siting process. It was reported that work is focused on preparation for near-term objectives of drilling initial boreholes in 2017 and 2018 with those being key milestones on the path to realizing the assumed 2023 date for selection of a preferred site. Key achievements for 2016 were summarized.

Advisory Council members discussed what approvals will be required for borehole drilling on municipal lands. Staff reported that Municipal approval will be required along with agreement of the community. Council members also asked about engagement with Aboriginal peoples. Advisory Council members requested copies of internal audit documents referenced in the siting update (*). Mr. Wilson reported that since the documents are internal documents, a summary could be provided.

Council members also requested a copy of the report from the Standing Committee on Natural Resources on the Future of Nuclear Energy in Canada. (*)

7. Report from the APM Geoscientific Review Group (GRG)

A presentation was made by Dr. Michael Stephens, a member of NWMO's GRG. An overview of the group's review of NWMO's geoscientific preliminary assessments was provided. Overall the conclusions of the GRG were very favourable with respect to NWMO's approach and supportive of the overall outcomes of the studies.

A Council member asked about dykes (an intrusion that formed in a pre-existing rock body) and why they could be viewed as either negative or positive when examining geology. Dr. Stephens explained that water can travel along the dykes, but dykes can also act as barriers that allow for little water flow in the areas in between.

Noting the importance of documentation, a Council member asked if the GRG's information was available on the NWMO website. Management confirmed the annual report of the GRG is posted on NWMO's website.

A Council member asked about the perception of risk by citizens with the Swedish DGR being situated very close to a body of water. Dr. Stephens said this was not perceived by the public as a major risk for the Swedish repository at Forsmark.

Council members discussed the topic of third party oversight related to the public's perception of self-regulation. While the GRG reviews NWMO's geology decisions, Council members discussed whether there was a need for a review body for the overall program. Ms. Swami noted that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission will oversee the regulatory process and will also involve the public.

7. Summary of Community Funding Programs

Jo-Ann Facella discussed the enhanced community funding programs under development. She reported that the enhanced programs are intended to be a complement to existing funding programs focused on interested communities involved in early studies, neighbouring communities, and most recently, unaffiliated areas. Through the enhanced program, additional funding is provided to support partnership building and is focused on communities involved in planning initial borehole studies and deciding upon locations.

Mr. Watts provided an overview of revisions to the Aboriginal Resources Partnership Program and for two new funding programs called the Indigenous Land Use and Occupancy Studies Resources Program and the Indigenous Knowledge Resources Program.

A Council member asked about whether NWMO would be developing community profiles for Aboriginal communities similar to what was done for municipalities. Mr. Watts reported that there was little interest expressed by Aboriginal communities to undertake this exercise.

A Council member asked if Aboriginal communities required additional protocols around ownership of traditional knowledge. Mr. Watts reported that NWMO does have one agreement with respect to Traditional Knowledge, and that it is addressed in the

Indigenous Knowledge Policy. He also noted there may be some themes in all agreements but generally speaking protocols will be community specific.

9. Building Relationships

Updates were provided to the Council on the external landscape, media analysis and the Council of Elders and Youth. Dean Jacobs reported that he attended the recent Council of Elders meeting on behalf of the Advisory Council and was well received.

10. Transportation Engagement Update

An update was provided on the work underway related to transportation engagement. The Council was updated on the transportation discussion document and how it is being used to develop a draft framework on transportation. It was also reported that public attitude research, focus groups and large citizen dialogues will be held. Initial outreach will be focused in Ontario and it will be considered how best to engage in Quebec and New Brunswick.

A question was asked by a Council member about how NWMO is working with Aboriginal groups on transportation. Mr. Watts noted that since NWMO's transportation is far in the future, this topic is not being rushed with Aboriginal communities.

A Council member requested copies of the "What We Heard" annual reports on transportation. (*)

A Council member asked if there was funding available for emergency management planning for communities in the siting areas. While there is no specific NWMO program for this type of funding, it would not specifically be excluded.

David Crombie mentioned two initiatives related to the great lakes: the International Joint Commission on the great lakes (water quality agreement) and a new initiative by Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor.

10. APM Technical Program Update

Chris Hatton reviewed developments in the NWMO technical program. He discussed the pressure test of the copper coated container, the completion of the first full scale buffer box and container and the first slip skid demonstration. He noted that work continues to prepare the used fuel container design specification for CNSC review.

Mr. Hatton reported that two NWMO researchers were recently recognized: Dr. David Shoemith was named as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and Dr. Barbara Sherwood Lollar was named a Companion to the Order of Canada.

A Council member asked about both Sweden and NWMO's corrosion program. Management committed to sending the Council the independent peer review report: Review of NWMO Copper Corrosion Program. (*)

The Council was also briefed on the technical program related to transportation. It was also noted that two NWMO staff received awards at a recent international transportation conference.

11. **Review of NWMO Support to OPG**

The Council was provided with an update on NWMO's work on the OPG low and intermediate level waste (L&ILW) DGR. Mr. Wilson reported on the progress in responding to the Minister of Environment's request for further information.

Derek Wilson discussed the requests that were made by the Minister and the preparation of the responses by OPG, supported by NWMO. He reported that a response will be sent to the Minister before the end of the year, with an earliest decision by the Minister in the third quarter of 2017.

A Council member reminded management of her request to send out a copy of the slides presented at a recent stakeholder meeting held by OPG in regards to OPG's draft response to the Minister, when available. (*) Council asked questions about the various aspects of the responses to be provided to the Minister's request.

Termination of Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting for the day terminated at 3:45 pm.

Dated the 13th day of February, 2017

David Crombie

Advisory Council Chair