

NWMO Citizen Panels Report, Phase III: Panel Four

NWMO SR-2008-14

July 2008

Navigator Ltd.

nwmo

NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION
DES DÉCHETS
NUCLÉAIRES



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Nuclear Waste Management Organization

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) was established in 2002 by Ontario Power Generation Inc., Hydro-Québec and New Brunswick Power Corporation in accordance with the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (NFWA)* to assume responsibility for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel.

NWMO's first mandate was to study options for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. On June 14, 2007, the Government of Canada selected the NWMO's recommendation for Adaptive Phased Management (APM). The NWMO now has the mandate to implement the Government's decision.

Technically, Adaptive Phased Management (APM) has as its end-point the isolation and containment of used nuclear fuel in a deep repository constructed in a suitable rock formation. Collaboration, continuous learning and adaptability will underpin our implementation of the plan which will unfold over many decades, subject to extensive oversight and regulatory approvals.

NWMO Social Research

The objective of the social research program is to assist the NWMO, and interested citizens and organizations, in exploring and understanding the social issues and concerns associated with the implementation of Adaptive Phased Management. The program is also intended to support the adoption of appropriate processes and techniques to engage potentially affected citizens in decision-making.

The social research program is intended to be a support to NWMO's ongoing dialogue and collaboration activities, including work to engage potentially affected citizens in near term visioning of the implementation process going forward, long term visioning and the development of decision-making processes to be used into the future. The program includes work to learn from the experience of others through examination of case studies and conversation with those involved in similar processes both in Canada and abroad. NWMO's social research is expected to engage a wide variety of specialists and explore a variety of perspectives on key issues of concern. The nature and conduct of this work is expected to change over time, as best practices evolve and as interested citizens and organizations identify the issues of most interest and concern throughout the implementation of Adaptive Phased Management.

Disclaimer:

This report does not necessarily reflect the views or position of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, its directors, officers, employees and agents (the "NWMO") and unless otherwise specifically stated, is made available to the public by the NWMO for information only. The contents of this report reflect the views of the author(s) who are solely responsible for the text and its conclusions as well as the accuracy of any data used in its creation. The NWMO does not make any warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information disclosed, or represent that the use of any information would not infringe privately owned rights. Any reference to a specific commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or preference by NWMO.



NAVIGATOR

NWMO Citizen Panel Report Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN CITIZEN PANEL
REPORT
JULY 2008

WHAT ARE CITIZEN PANELS?

Building on previous qualitative research studies, the NWMO contracted Navigator to initiate Citizen Panels in 8 cities across Canada. The goal of the Citizen Panel project was to further explore the feelings, attitudes and perceptions of Canadians toward the long-term storage of Canada's used nuclear fuel.

The Citizen Panel project is markedly different from the qualitative research projects that have preceded it. The intent of the Citizen Panel format used in this project is to allow for the discussion to be formed and driven by the views of the individual Panelists. These Panelists have had a brief introduction to the NWMO and are aware of rudimentary facts surrounding Canada's used nuclear fuel such that an informed discussion can occur.

Phase Three of the Citizen Panel project occurred in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on April 30, 2008.

WHAT IS NAVIGATOR?

Navigator is a research-based public affairs firm that works with companies, organizations and governments involved in the public policy field.

Navigator has grown to become a diverse firm with consultants from a variety of backgrounds who have excelled in the fields of journalism, public opinion research, politics, marketing and law.

Our strategic approach can be summed up as: *"Research. Strategy. Results."*

PANEL REPORT OUTLINE

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2. Dialogue: Draft Implementation Plan

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- b. Strategic Objectives
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 - iv. Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process
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 - I. Financial Surety
 - II. Governance Structure
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3. Questions & Discussion, Technical Representative

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- i. Navigator Personnel
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1. NWMO CITIZEN PANEL BACKGROUND

a. Citizen Panel

The Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Phase Three Citizen Panel was held on April 30, 2008 at a neutral third party facility in Saskatoon.

The Panel was held over three hours from 6PM – 9PM with 12 Panelists in attendance. Jaime Watt, a Navigator research professional, acted as Discussion Leader.

A general outline of discussion objectives, as well as a discussion document intended to guide the work of the Panel were prepared in advance of the Citizen Panel. Reproductions of the document shown to the Panel can be found at the end of this report as appendices.













b. Panelist Profile

In order to ensure that Panelists speak openly and freely over the course of this research, the individual identities of Panelists will remain protected and not revealed to the NWMO at any point of the project. Contact with Panelists is managed exclusively by a dedicated Panel Manager and each Panelist has been given an identifier code to ensure anonymity in all accessible Panel documents. All personal information and contact reports are stored separately and controlled by the Panel Manager.

While verbatim comments are used through this report, the identification will be only by Panel or by unique Panelist identifier code, but never by name.

Panelists have agreed to offer additional information, including their gender and one additional fact about their lives to make the Panel reporting richer for the reader.

Below are the profiles of the Saskatoon Panelists by Panelist identifier code:

	City: Saskatoon Age: 55-64 Gender: Female Occupation: Self-employed, theatre designer		City: Saskatoon Age: 65+ Gender: Female Occupation: Retired architect
Panelist: SA-1A		Panelist: SA-3A	
	City: Saskatoon Age: 35-44 Gender: Male Occupation: Employed, engineer		City: Saskatoon Age: 55-64 Gender: Male Occupation: Employed, electrician
Panelist: SA-4A		Panelist: SA-5A	
	City: Saskatoon Age: 35-44 Gender: Male Occupation: Employed, information technician		City: Saskatoon Age: 45-54 Gender: Female Occupation: Employed, research scientist
Panelist: SA-6A		Panelist: SA-7A	
	City: Saskatoon Age: 25-34 Gender: Female Occupation: Student		City: Saskatoon Age: 25-34 Gender: Female Occupation: Employed, territory manager
Panelist: SA-13A		Panelist: SA-9A	
	City: Saskatoon Age: 25-34 Gender: Female Occupation: Self-employed, dance facilitator		City: Saskatoon Age: N/A Gender: Female Occupation: N/A
Panelist: SA-10A		Panelist: SA-16A	
	City: Saskatoon Age: 25-34 Gender: Female Occupation: Employed, teacher		City: Saskatoon Age: 18-24 Gender: Female Occupation: Employed, massage therapy
Panelist: SA-12A		Panelist: SA-14A	

c. Panel Methodology

These Citizen Panels have been designed, as much as possible, as collaborative discussions facilitated by a Discussion Leader. They are separate and apart from focus groups in that they empower individual Panelists to raise questions and introduce new topics. The role of the Discussion Leader, in this format, is merely to introduce new topics of discussion and lead the Panel through a number of discussion exercises.

As well, additional measures were incorporated into this Citizen Panel format to empower individual Panelists. Each Panelist was made aware of their independence and responsibilities to both contribute to, and lead, the Panel discussion. A transcriber, traditionally taking contemporaneous notes behind one-way glass or in another room, was, in this case, placed inside the discussion room. Panelists were empowered to direct him or her to take special note of elements of the Panel discussion they felt were important, or ask him or her to recap any part of the discussion upon request. A commitment was made by the Discussion Leader that the notes taken would be sent to Panelists for review, possible revision and approval, to give Panelists faith that they are in control of the proceedings and ensure their contribution is reflected accurately.

Potential Panelists were originally selected through random digit dialling among a general population sample in the wide area in which each Panel was held. Individuals called underwent a standard research screening survey in which they indicated that they were interested and able to participate in a discussion about a general public policy issue with no advance notice of the specific topic. Individuals were screened to include community-engaged opinion leaders in at least one of these topics: community, environment, and/or public/social issues. Those that passed the screening process were asked to participate in a traditional focus group on the perceived trust and credibility of the NWMO, which allowed an introduction to the topic of used nuclear fuel and topics such as Adaptive Phased Management. The discussions were neutral in tone and did not presuppose any outcome on issues such as nuclear power generation and siting for used nuclear fuel.

At the end of this research study, participants were asked if they would be willing to continue in discussions on the topic of used nuclear fuel. Those that expressed interest were placed on a “short list” of potential Panelists for the four-phased Citizen Panel project. Research professionals at Navigator subsequently used this pool to select Panelists that would ensure a diversity of age, gender and experience in the Panels. Only participants who demonstrated both a willingness and ability to contribute to group discussion and complete exercises were included in the pool. The content of each participant’s contribution in the focus groups was not reviewed by Navigator professionals. Rather, the only qualifiers were that individuals could speak clearly and were able to grasp concepts introduced to them at a basic level.

A target Panel population of 18 was determined for each location in the interest of ensuring the long-term viability of each Panel over the course of four discussions.

Phase One Citizen Panels occurred in late Fall 2007. Panel discussions began with an in-depth review of the NWMO's *Moving Forward Together* brochure. Individually, Panelists were asked to mark the document with red and green pens, green indicating they felt positively about a certain point and red indicating that they felt negatively. Furthermore, Panelists were asked to circle the items they felt the most strongly about, both positively and negatively, with the "Sharpie" marker. Panelists were then asked to write down what they thought about the brochure, what they would say about the brochure and how the brochure made them feel. This metaphorical or projective exercise was an attempt to get a more nuanced view of the brochure and to have Panelists share some of their internal reservations they may have been holding back from the Panel. Following the "Think, feel, say" exercise, Panelists reviewed the NWMO's strategic objectives and were asked to rate how important each strategic objective was to them, as well as how appropriate the particular objective was to them. Lastly, Panelists were provided with an excerpt of the draft NWMO's draft approach to transparency. The exercise was introduced with a reminder to Panelists about the frequency with which they raised the issue of transparency as an important pursuit and focus for the NWMO in the previous research phase of the study. Panelists were asked to discuss whether or not the NWMO's proposed approach to transparency met with their general expectations. At the conclusion of the Panels, Panelists were provided with post-session work (homework) to complete following the Citizen Panel. The work consisted of a simple seven question survey to be completed after a brief review of the NWMO website. Those without any access or ability to use the internet were exempted from the exercise.

Although successful in terms of the richness of data collected in all 8 Panel locations, it was clear upon completion of the Panels that it would be necessary to hold Supplementary Citizen Panels in four locations (Toronto, Montreal, Regina and Sault Ste. Marie) due to smaller than expected Panel populations, as well as a difficulty experienced by some Panelists to honour their commitment to attend, as was confirmed on the day of the Panel.

Supplementary Citizen Panels occurred in early January 2008 and consisted of 6 new recruits, selected by random digit dialling, to replicate the experience by which all other Panelists had been selected. New recruits were sent a reading package in advance and then had a one hour "lobby" session immediately prior to the Supplementary Citizen Panel. This session replicated a condensed version of the Preparatory Phase research and allowed for any questions Panelists might have had about the NWMO. Following the "lobby" session, the Supplementary Citizen Panel continued, adding Panelists who had confirmed but, for a myriad of reasons, could not participate in the Phase One Citizen Panels.

Following the completion of the Supplementary Citizen Panels, those that demonstrated a willingness and ability to continue were added to the pool for Phase Two Citizen Panels.

Phase Two Panels occurred in mid-to-late January 2008. The Panel discussion began with the Discussion Leader asking Panelists if they had thought any more about the NWMO since the last Panel, or if they had just gone back to their daily routines and not given the organization much additional thought. The Discussion Leader then distributed a

document for discussion, the Executive Summary of the NWMO's study *Choosing a Way Forward: The Future Management of Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel*. The document was given both individual consideration, as well as collective consideration. Individually, Panelists were asked to mark the documents with red and green pens, green indicating they felt a certain point was helpful to their understanding and red indicating that they did not find the point helpful. The intent of the individual document review was to serve as a launching point for further collective consideration and discussion of the more complex strategic objectives of the NWMO. The Panel discussion concluded with Panelists reviewing the answers provided by the NWMO to the questions Panelists had posted in the Parking Lot in Phase One.

Again, Panels were successful in the richness of the data gathered. Furthermore, Panelists have begun to demonstrate a higher degree of ownership in the process with impressive attendance, commitment to the discussion and, in some cases, engaging in extra work, such as assembling their thoughts on paper and seeking out additional information.

Phase Three Panels occurred in late April and early May 2008. Unlike previous Panels, Phase Three Panels were divided into two parts: a discussion portion and a question and answer portion with a technical representative from the NWMO.

The discussion portion of the Panel began with a general discussion on Panelists' thoughts, if any, on the NWMO since the last Panel session and then turned to the Draft Implementation Plan that had been distributed to Panelists upon their arrival. Similar to Phase Two, the document was not reviewed by Panelists but, rather, used to inform Panel discussion on the NWMO's strategic objectives. Although Panelists were given an opportunity to comment on all objectives, as well as the document as a whole, they were asked to concentrate specifically on four of the seven NWMO strategic objectives: Building Relationships; Building Knowledge: Technical and Social Research; Review, Adjust and Validate Plans; and Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process. These objectives were rated by Panelists in Phase One as highly appropriate and important for the NWMO. For each strategic objective, Panelists were given a summary that outlined items the NWMO plans to implement over the next five years (2008-2012) and asked for their feedback; specifically whether they felt the NWMO was moving in the right direction with these plans and whether they felt that anything important had been overlooked.

Due to a timing issue in Montreal, Montreal Panelists were only able to concentrate on three of the seven strategic objectives during the Panel discussion: Building Relationships; Building Knowledge: Technical and Social Research; and Review, Adjust and Validate Plans. As a result, all Montreal Panelists present for the Phase Three Panel discussion were contacted by the Francophone Panel Manager to schedule an in depth interview to discuss the remaining objectives not covered in the Panel: Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process; as well as Financial Surety, Governance Structure and Building an Implementing Organization. Panelists scheduled for the individual in-depth interviews were provided with a copy of the Implementation Plan in advance of the discussion and, as was the case in the Panel discussion, were given a chance to provide their feedback on the objectives outlined above.

Once the discussion on the Draft Implementation Plan was complete, in seven of the eight Panel discussions, a technical representative from the NWMO was invited into the Panel discussion for a question and answer session. This was not the case in Saint John, New Brunswick, where the technical representative from the NWMO was brought into the Panel prior to the discussion of the Draft Implementation Plan. All eight Panel discussions concluded with a wrap-up discussion, including feedback on the question and answer portion of the discussion.

This Panel Report is, to the best of Navigator's abilities, a faithful rendering of the discussion held in Saskatoon and stands alone as a record of the Citizen Panel discussion on April 30, 2008. A larger Aggregate Report on this wave of Panel discussions, including the Panels in Kingston, Toronto, Sault Ste. Marie, Scarborough, Saint John, Montreal, and Regina has also been submitted to the NWMO.

2. DIALOGUE: DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

a. Overview

During this Phase of Citizen Panels, the NWMO's Draft Implementation Plan was reviewed by Saskatoon Panelists in advance of a general discussion beginning. While a significant amount of Panel discussion was directly related to the four strategic objectives identified by Panelists in Phase One Panels as most important and appropriate for the NWMO, there was time dedicated for a more general discussion of the Draft Implementation Plan among Panelists.

The Draft Implementation Plan was well-received by Saskatoon Panelists, most of whom felt both the Plan and the NWMO were headed in the right direction.

A number of Panelists demonstrated a great deal more confidence in the organization than has been expressed in the past. Although some Panelists continue to struggle with various elements of APM, such as its timeline and site selection, a number of Saskatoon Panelists expressed far more faith in the organization than has been seen before, as well as trust in the process. In the words of one Panelist,

I thought it was pretty thorough. It discusses transportation, which was reassuring to read. I trust that this is well done and scientifically accurate.

Another felt similarly, expressing the following,

I have a lot of faith it will be done right.

However, despite the growing trust and confidence in the NWMO some Panelists have begun to demonstrate, there remains some degree of scepticism among a few Panelists, often seen indirectly through comments and questions such as this one asked by this Saskatoon Panelist,

I like how there will be an independent review group. But, who is elected to the group? Is it the NWMO that selects them? I am just worried it won't be that independent since the cheque signer could create it.

It is clear that this Panelist is pleased with the NWMO's intention to have an independent review, but questions how truly "independent" this group will be.

The breadth and scope of the NWMO's planning process was something a number of Panelists in Saskatoon continued to struggle with. While some understood and appreciated the NWMO's intent to report regularly and consult with Canadians and Aboriginal Peoples, there was some concern that the process was merely driving an already significant timeline.

One Panelist, in particular, asked the following,

It seems like a lot of report writing. Is that a bit overkill?

There was some frustration among a couple of Saskatoon Panelists over the extensive consultative process the NWMO has committed to maintaining as it moves forward. In the words of one Panelist,

These documents always seem to have to do with...public meetings and discussions. They should just start moving on it quicker [rather] than sitting around and talking the same topic over and over. Why does it take so long?

Another Saskatoon Panelist expressed some concern that, in the time the NWMO has projected it will take to move forward, circumstances might change or unforeseen problems arise,

It's a good plan, but why will it take ...years to happen? It seems like it could become a crisis while the process plays out over such a long period. Will there be enough space for all the waste we will have in 30 years? We need to take the jump and see results.

There were a number of Panelists, however, that were far more accepting of the projected timeline, as well as how comprehensive the NWMO's plan to move forward appeared to be. In the words of one Saskatoon Panelist,

I found it reassuring. It is rather redundant, but I see that as a double checking system.

Another Panelist felt the same way, so long as the NWMO continued to produce results,

It's good they are covering all their bases, as long as they are still spending enough time in producing results.

A number of Saskatoon Panelists expressed a great deal of interest in the notion of reprocessing used fuel and questioned if reprocessing was a priority for the NWMO. This was a recurring theme in all Panel discussions, largely attributable to the emphasis on recycling and reprocessing in daily life, as well as the technological advances that have made it possible to reprocess other forms of waste. One Saskatoon Panelist asked the following,

Are they looking for ways to get more use out of the waste? Can they use any more of it? They don't even mention ways to recycle the waste so it becomes further depleted.

b. Strategic Objectives

In the Phase One Citizen Panels, seven strategic objectives were shared with Panelists. Panelists were asked to examine each objective and then give an indication of their relative importance and appropriateness. Although all strategic objectives seemed largely in line with the majority of Panelists' expectations, there were consistently stronger views on four of the seven strategic objectives: Building Relationships; Building Knowledge – Technical and Social Research; Review, Adjust and Validate Plans; and Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process. As such, these four objectives were selected as the primary objects of discussion in Phase Three for reasons of time availability.

For each strategic objective, Panelists were given a colour-coded worksheet outlining items the NWMO plans to implement over the next five years (2008-2012). A more comprehensive overview of each objective in the Draft Implementation Plan document was flagged with the same colour of the worksheet for quick reference should Panelists have wanted or required more information. After reviewing each of the four objectives, Panelists were asked for their feedback; specifically whether they felt the NWMO was moving in the right direction with these plans and whether they felt that anything important had been overlooked.

After reviewing and discussing the four objectives mentioned above, Panelists were provided with an opportunity to provide feedback on the remaining three objectives: Financial Surety, Governance Structure and Building an Implementing Organization. Panelists were asked by the Discussion Leader if any of the remaining objectives now struck them as more important, given the increase in their knowledge on the subject matter since Phase One.

Below, please find contemporaneous notes of the Panel discussion on the strategic objectives.

c. Panel Notes

a. Disclaimer

The attached are contemporaneous notes of the Panel discussion on the Draft Implementation Plan and strategic objectives. The notes were taken by a transcriber positioned in the room with the Panelists. The transcriber was taking direction from the Citizen Panel on specific points of interest. The following is not an official transcript, but a best effort to capture the sense of discussion with some granularity.

The transcriber for this Panel was Stephen Leonard, a Navigator research professional.

Draft Implementation Plan Discussion

Discussion Leader: When you got here today, we passed out a Draft Implementation Plan. Another name for this would be a business plan, work plan, activity plan. What it lays out is the NWMO's thinking about how it can move ahead with its work. The NWMO is transforming itself from being a study organization to an implementing organization. To plan their work over the next couple of years, they put together this plan. In it, they have 7 strategic objectives. Tonight I'd like to focus on 4 of those 7. We're going to look at them one at a time.

Building Relationships

Discussion Leader: When we last met this was made clear to me to be important to you. Now that you see what their plans are, do these seem on the right track? Is it what you would have expected?

SA-14A: I think so.

SA-4A: I thought the establishment of relationships with other countries was lacking.

SA-3A: I am curious why they separate Canadians and aboriginals.

SA-13A: I am aboriginal and I consider myself Canadian.

Discussion Leader: Not all Aboriginal Peoples see themselves that way, so it is made to be conducive to that as well.

SA-3A: What would the establishment of corporate citizenship be?

SA-5A: That's when you invite corporations to partake because it will conflict with their interest at some point. This gets them involved should it arise.

Discussion Leader: Anyone else think anything is left out? A waste of effort?

SA-10A: I am still trying to get my brain back into the topic right now.

SA-13A: What was wrong with their old website?

SA-3A: It is an information site, I thought it was pretty good.

SA-6A: It is a good plan, but why will it take 4 years to happen? It seems like it could become a crisis while the process plays out over such a long period. Will there be enough space for all the waste we will have in 30 years? We need to take the jump and see results.

SA-9A: It seems they want to placate everyone before they start. There is very little on this that you can argue to.

Discussion Leader: Why is that a bad thing?

SA-1A: It isn't, but it just looks like everything is absolutely covered. It doesn't explain why the time frame is so long.

SA-9A: It is good that they are covering all their bases, as long as they are still spending enough time in producing results.

SA-5A: Aren't they looking for a place to start right now? Sure they have to start with a plan that will probably change, but it looks good for now.

SA-12A: I think the direction towards information in the media is important.

SA-7A: Are they talking to people before they select the site? What are they talking about right now? Are they communicating for input or education? In reference to all the points, sometimes it feels like we are here to help the NWMO create a pamphlet.

Discussion Leader: What does everyone recall about the site selection process?

SA-7A: I was just wondering what their objective is.

SA-5A: I think both. They want people to have a say in what the decision may be.

Building Knowledge: Technical and Social Research

Discussion Leader: We have discussed research and the steps the NWMO should take to build their foundation of technical and social knowledge. I am wondering to what extent this makes sense. Does it sound reasonable?

SA-4A: I thought it was pretty thorough. It discusses transportation, which was reassuring to read. I trust that this is well done and scientifically accurate.

SA-3A: I don't remember hearing about uranium dioxide being a problem.

SA-13A: I think it seems straightforward and I like that they are in talks with other countries. I think the telephone surveys are a waste of time. I hate those surveys. It isn't the best way to get accurate information. Same with the website survey.

SA-10A: I have a lot of faith it will be done right. I like how the information is so accessible on the website. The phone option is a waste of money.

SA-5A: Are they looking for ways to get more use out of this waste? Can they use anymore of it? They don't even mention ways to recycle the waste so it becomes further depleted.

SA-14A: I like how there will be an independent review group. But who is elected to the group? Is it the NWMO that selects them? I am just worried it won't be that independent since the cheque signer could create it.

Discussion Leader: That is the process we use in government. They are independent but have a legal role to act without compromising their ethics.

SA-7A: There is a group of scientists that discusses biotechnology. They said that it is monitoring itself which can be easily corrupted. Will this group be academics or industries?

SA-9A: It is hard to get research outside of industry. It is hard to get a top notch professional that is not already in the industry.

Review, Adjust and Validate Plans

Discussion Leader: The third objective I wanted to talk about is the adaptive phased management one. The NWMO is committed to review and adjust their plans in course with societal values and technology. That is the adaptive part of APM. What do you think of this?

SA-16A: It seems they are covering so much.

SA-3A: The second sentence, what is a nuclear new build?

SA-4A: New plants?

Discussion Leader: Exactly. They call the plants a fleet and some provinces are talking about adding new reactors which will produce more waste. The jargon is called New Build.

SA-12A: It seems like a lot of report writing. Is that a bit of overkill?

SA-1A: I understand the readjustment part. You would want that with new emerging technologies.

Discussion Leader: People expressed their concern over the idea between getting started on the process versus the possibility of future knowledge. They are trying to react to both aspects at the same time, both on the horizon and right away. The discipline of the exercise is the point.

SA-7A: The flow of information needs to work better.

SA-9A: Because it was our year end at my work, we had an annual report. No one cares about the report, but the process of writing the report is the important part. It is a very important process. No one may ever read them all but I understand the doing of the reports is essential.

SA-4A: The guidance of ethicists was very impressive, the interdisciplinary help is very important too.

SA-10A: I found it quite reassuring. It is rather redundant but I see that as a double checking system.

SA-5A: In my business the starting process is the difficult part. You never get all the answers the first time but as you get used to it, it becomes habit.

SA-7A: I think the degree of evaluation that brings in the creation of the waste is missing. Is the creation and dumping linked at all?

Discussion Leader: They have different mandates. The NWMO says that even if all the reactors were shut down today we would still have this quantity of waste to take care of. They support the debate, but their job is to deal with the current problem.

SA-6A: This Christmas I was in Florida and they have reactors all over the place. What do they do with their waste?

Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process

Discussion Leader: The last objective for now is the collaborative design and siting process one. Does it make sense or not? Good/bad plan?

SA-13A: Makes sense. The first point is what we are doing right now.

SA-7A: The public hearings sound good.

SA-6A: These documents always seem to have to do with the public meetings and discussions. They should just start moving on it quicker than sitting around talking the same topic over and over. Why does it take so long?

SA-12A: The ultimate decision will be made on scientific findings.

Discussion Leader: The NWMO has said they will only put the waste in a technically suitable area, in a willing host community.

SA-12A: It will eventually be narrowed down to certain places though.

SA-13A: I think the long time frame is to make space for wining and dining a community.

SA-5A: The time is to work out the kinks in the process. They want to find the flaws in the system before it is fully emplaced.

3. QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION, TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE

a. Explanation

Technical representatives from the NWMO were present for a question and answer session at the request of the Panelists themselves. Panelists were twice given the option to have a technical representative present at the Panel discussion but preferred to wait until Phase Three as, until this point, felt that they still had more they needed to learn and discuss so that they were able to ask informed and insightful questions.

The technical representatives had approximately 90 minutes with the Panel to offer technical insight, institutional knowledge and a corporate perspective that, to date, only been present in written materials. Panelists were able to present their questions on a “first come first serve” basis with the Discussion Leader keeping a speaker’s list to ensure all were able to address the technical representative.

Technical representatives were not permitted to view the Panel before, nor after, the question and answer session. The Panel was informed of this so that they felt comfortable being frank before and after the appearance of the technical representative and did not feel required to censor themselves fearing observations.

As was the case in all Panel discussions with the NWMO technical representative, the majority of questions posted by Saskatoon Panelists fit clearly into five themes: safety, site selection, timeline, international comparison and transportation. For a full analysis of each theme, please refer to the Aggregate Report.

Below, please find questions posed by Saskatoon Panelists to the technical representative from the NWMO.

b. Questions & Discussions

- SA-3A: What are uranium dissolution rates?
- SA-7A: It says we have 6 hockey rinks, but 6 million rods. How do those match up?
- SA-14A: Are there any other countries that have a better idea of what to do in terms of a repository?
- SA-7A: What do countries do that do not have suitable rock?
- SA-3A: There would also be a lot of concrete involved in this too right?
- SA-1A: When they mine the uranium, what kind of rock do they look at? Why don't they put it back where they got it?
- SA-7A: Is the United States going to try and ship us their waste?
- SA-12A: How much nuclear is there in the world right now?
- SA-12A: Could you talk about the safety of radioactivity? How dangerous is it? Does it hurt/kill quickly? How scared should we be?
- SA-12A: It is being handled now, stored in water, right?
- SA-4A: Over its lifespan, does the waste have to be moved between different storage containers?
- SA-13A: What happens to the water that is used to store the waste?
- SA-4A: Does the concrete absorb any radioactivity?
- SA-5A: Is there no usage for the 98% uranium that is left over?
- SA-5A: Why can't we use the lasting radioactivity for some purpose? Can you use like 2% more?
- SA-7A: Is the medical waste going to the same facility? They have their gloves and gowns as well to dispose of.

- SA-6A: My father lives in Florida, and I saw a bunch of nuclear reactors. That's the main power source in Florida so where do they dump their waste?
- SA-4A: What are some big issues that you and your team work on and will work on in the future?
- SA-7A: I feel confident of the burial, but my big concern is the shipping and above ground storage.
- SA-6A: For shipping will they have a secure convoy? What if a terrorist made an attack on it?
- SA-14A: Have there been any accidents at the storage facilities?
- SA-16A: Are other countries developing these facilities?
- SA-1A: How many people live in these regions? Not like Saskatchewan in Canada with a small population.
- SA-1A: How are you going to put the waste in northern Canada?
- SA-13A: If there are 12 hockey rinks of used fuel, how far could that spread? What would the fall out be for it in a worst case scenario?
- SA-10A: I am curious why these communities in other countries would want this waste near them?
- SA-12A: Are there monetary incentives?
- SA-13A: Are they planning on giving monetary incentives to communities in Canada?
- SA-1A: Is there some kind of international governing watch dog?
- SA-5A: Has anyone been working in conjunction with the Russians?
- SA-9A: This makes me feel so much better about all the talking that has been going on. I feel like there has been a lot more work done than I expected, we have only really seen the social side of it all.
- SA-6A: So when you pick a site, is it the NWMO that will give the incentives to the community, or will it be the government?

- SA-6A: What kind of financial back up do you have? Is it private or government funded?
- SA-6A: Why is this process so long? Why can't they get a bigger shovel and dig sooner?
- SA-3A: Is there a website to see what the process is like in other countries?
- SA-16A: I have a question about Chernobyl. How have they contained this radioactivity from going out into the world?
- SA-4A: Who makes up your team?
- SA-4A: What have been the roadblocks to your research?
- SA-16A: We are a small group here. The public is mostly ill informed, so when this does take place what is going to happen? How will they react?

APPENDICES

- i. Navigator Personnel
- ii. Discussion Leader's Guide
- iii. Excerpts from Draft Implementation Plan

I. PERSONNEL

JAMES STEWART WATT, SENIOR DISCUSSION LEADER

Jaime Watt is Chair of Navigator, a Toronto-based research consulting firm that specializes in public opinion research, strategy and public policy development.

Prior to relocating to Toronto, he was, for ten years, Chair of Thomas Watt Advertising, a leading regional advertising agency and communications consulting firm based in London, Ontario.

A specialist in complex communications issues, Jaime has served clients in the corporate, professional services, not-for-profit and government sectors and has worked in every province in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Central America, Korea and Kosovo.

He currently serves as Chair of Casey House, Canada's pioneer AIDS hospice, as well as Casey House Foundation and is a Vice President of the Albany Club. He is a director of the Dominion Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center's Canada Institute, TD Canada Trust's Private Giving Foundation, The Canadian Club of Toronto and The Clean Water Foundation. As well, he is a member of the President's Advisory Council for the Canadian Red Cross and is a member of the Executive Committee of Canadians for Equal Marriage. He was a founding Trustee and Co-chair of the Canadian Human Rights Trust and the Canadian Human Rights Campaign.

CHAD A. ROGERS, SUPPORTING DISCUSSION LEADER

Chad Rogers is a Consultant at Navigator providing strategic planning and public opinion research advice to government, corporate and not-for-profit clients.

He has recently returned to Canada after working abroad with the Washington, DC based National Democratic Institute as director of their programs in Kosovo and Armenia respectively. Chad oversaw multi-million dollar democracy and governance assistance programs directed at political parties, parliaments and civil society organizations in newly democratic nations. He conducted high-level training with the political leadership of Armenia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova and Serbia.

Having previously worked on Parliament Hill as both a legislative and communications assistant to Members of Parliament and Senators, he has an in-depth knowledge of Canada's Parliament and its committees, caucuses and procedures.

He is a board member of the Kosova Democratic Institute and is a member in good standing of the Public Affairs Association of Canada (PAAC) and the Market Research & Intelligence Association (MRIA). Chad has trained at the RIVA Qualitative Research Training Institute.

COURTNEY GLEN, PROJECT MANAGER

Courtney Glen is a Consultant at Navigator assisting in public opinion research, strategic planning and public policy advice for government, corporate and not-for-profit clients.

Courtney most recently worked at the Fraser Institute as a junior policy analyst in health and pharmaceutical policy. In her time at the Institute, Courtney co-authored a major pharmaceutical policy paper and contributed to their monthly policy journal, *The Fraser Forum*.

Prior to that, Courtney worked as a researcher for the Scottish Labour Party in Edinburgh, Scotland, conducting an audit of the Parliament's Cross Party Group on International Development.

Courtney has a Masters in International and European Politics from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland and a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Political Science from the University of Guelph.

JOSEPH LAVOIE, PANEL MANAGER (FRANCOPHONE)

Prior to joining Navigator, Joseph Lavoie worked at Citigroup Global Transaction Services where he improved communications within the Transfer Agency Systems department. Joseph achieved this objective via Web 2.0 technologies, which he previously leveraged in developing Santa's Journal, a successful viral marketing campaign that introduced Santa Claus to the world of blogging and podcasting.

Joseph has been active in numerous provincial and federal election campaigns; has provided political commentary for various websites and television/radio programs; and has served as the recruitment director for the Ontario Progressive Conservative Youth Association. In March 2007, Joseph was selected *Canada's Next Great Prime Minister* by Canadians as part of a scholarship program sponsored by Magna International, the Dominion Institute, and the Canada-US Fulbright Program. He currently serves on the Public Affairs/Marketing Team for the Toronto Symphony Volunteer Committee.

STEPHEN LEONARD, PANEL MANAGER (ANGLOPHONE)

Prior to joining Navigator, Stephen attended the University of Guelph where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in History. Throughout his undergraduate career, Stephen was an active member of the Canadian Forces Army Reserve in Toronto, which he left in June due to medical reasons as a Corporal.

Stephen is head Panel Manager and plays a vital role in the management and organization of the Citizen Panel project.

II. DISCUSSION LEADERS GUIDE

PHASE THREE CITIZEN PANELS

DISCUSSION LEADER'S GUIDE

ADVANCE OF DISCUSSION

1. LOBBY EXERCISE

- **Review of Draft Implementation Plan**
 - Panelists are provided with the NWMO's Draft Implementation Plan to review in advance of the Panel discussion.
 - Panelists will be asked to “scan” or read the document quickly, indicating they are not expected to have digested it in detail for the discussion

PANEL DISCUSSION

1. OPENING OF PANEL SESSION (0:00 – 0:05)

- Welcome back
- Reminder: Confidentiality of session
- Explanation of NWMO disclosure of proceedings
- Re-introduction of Transcriber
- Re-introduction of Parking lot
- Re-introduction of Panel Managers

2. OVERVIEW OF AGENDA FOR SESSION (0:05 – 0:10)

- Document Review
 - Tonight we will review the Draft Implementation Plan
- Representative from NWMO
 - Guidance for questions

- Speakers list, allowed a limited number of questions, time permitting.
- Briefing details
 - Has read your Parking Lot questions and a summary of your discussions to date
 - Has not viewed a complete session

3. RE-INTRODUCTIONS (0:10 – 0:15)

4. GENERAL DISCUSSION (0:15 – 0:20)

- I am wondering if you thought more about the NWMO after our last session
- Has anyone read, seen or heard anything about NWMO in the media since our last discussion?

5. DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (0:20 – 1:35)

- When you arrived, you were given a copy of the NWMO's Draft Implementation Plan to review.
- This Implementation Plan lays out NWMO's thinking about how it will move ahead with its work. In your opinion, overall, do you think NWMO is moving in the right direction?
- In the Draft Implementation Plan, the NWMO provides a detailed overview of all 7 of their strategic objectives. I would like to concentrate on 4 objectives that Panels have previously rated as important and appropriate for the NWMO:
 - Building Relationships
 - Building Knowledge
 - Review, Adjust and Validate Plans
 - Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process

[For each of the above 4 Strategic Objectives]

[Give Panelists a few minutes to review each objective]

- Discuss the objective after review.
 - Do you think that plans are moving in the right direction?

- When you reviewed the Draft Implementation Plan earlier, you will have seen that there were 7 strategic objectives in total. I'd like you to refer to the remaining 3 objectives in the Draft Implementation Plan:
 - Financial Surety
 - Governance Structure
 - Building an Implementing Organization

[Give Panelists a few minutes to review the remaining 3 objectives in the Plan – all marked with same pink colour tags]

- Do any of the other strategic objectives now strike you as more important?
- Do you have any other comments about the Draft Implementation Plan?
- You are free to take the Draft Implementation Plan with you after this evening's session.

6. NWMO REPRESENTATIVE Q & A (1:35 – 2:50)

- We have a lot of work to do here this evening, and have allocated just over an hour for these questions. If we do not finish in that time we will defer to our parking lot or we will look at bringing the NWMO representative back either in person or by teleconference.

[SHORT BIO INTRODUCTION OF PERSONNEL]

- The individual will not be watching you before or after this session, and they will not see a tape.
- Do you have any questions?
- Guidelines for questions

7. WRAP-UP (2:55 – 3:00)

III. EXCERPTS FROM THE DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN USED AS INDIVIDUAL WORK SHEETS

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

The NWMO will continue to build long-term relationships with interested Canadians and Aboriginal people and involve them in setting future direction.

In 2008 we will:

- Undertake a communication audit to support the design of our communication strategy;
- Rebuild the NWMO web site to enhance accessibility;
- Develop and implement a strategy to more effectively engage youth in the implementation of APM;
- Work with national, provincial and regional Aboriginal organizations to establish protocols to support Aboriginal involvement in engagement; and
- Establish a corporate citizenship program.

In the period 2008-2012 we will:

- Continue to identify speaking engagements, community-based presentations and media opportunities to develop awareness about NWMO activities;
- Develop communications materials about NWMO, APM, the project and other issues as required;
- Use many tools, including multi-party dialogues, citizen panels, topical workshops and web-based surveys, to invite input from Canadians and Aboriginal people in regional
- and community-based associations, interest groups, researchers, industry, governments and the general public;
- Broaden NWMO's relationships in the four nuclear provinces to include municipal, regional and provincial associations; Seek advice on engagement of Aboriginal people from the Elders' Forum and Niigani, the working group established by the NWMO Elders' Forum;
- Seek meetings with editorial boards and other media;
- Continue to provide regular updates to provincial and federal government ministers, departments and agencies;
- Maintain protocols with interested organizations, including Aboriginal Peoples; and
- Develop strategies to address knowledge-building as the needs are identified.

Building Knowledge - Technical and Social Research

The NWMO will advance research to broaden its foundation of technical and social knowledge, bringing to bear the most advanced Canadian and international expertise to support implementation of Adaptive Phased Management.

Technical Research

During 2008-2012 we will:

- For the purpose of assessing potential candidate sites, develop the capability to conduct geoscientific aspects of site feasibility assessments, including sub-surface investigations and evaluations, in both crystalline and sedimentary settings;
- Maintain safety assessment system models and data suitable for supporting site feasibility studies;
- Continue to monitor developments in Canada and internationally related to regulatory aspects of used fuel management facilities;
- Prepare an annual report documenting alternative technologies for long-term management of used fuel including reprocessing, partitioning and transmutation; and
- Continue to participate in cooperation agreements with national radioactive waste management organizations around the world, specifically, SKB (Sweden), Posiva (Finland), Nagra (Switzerland) and ANDRA (France). These agreements provide the framework for sharing research information and participating in joint research and development programs in underground facilities such as the Äspö Hard Rock Laboratory in Sweden.

By the end of 2008 we will:

- In the area of geosciences, develop generic geo-scientific siting criteria; and
- In engineering, complete evaluation of container placement methods for the conceptual design of a deep geological repository in crystalline or sedimentary rock; and
- Appoint members to an Independent Technical Review Group and convene the inaugural meeting.
- By June 2009 we will develop the capability to review transportation options to a used fuel long-term management facility for various locations in the four nuclear provinces.

By the end of 2010 we will:

- Develop an improved model for uranium dioxide (UO₂) dissolution rates under deep geological repository conditions;
- Evaluate conceptual designs for optional centralized underground storage of used fuel; and

By 2011 we will support safety assessment and licensing, through completion of two illustrative safety cases, one for a deep geological repository in crystalline rock and one in sedimentary rock.

By December 2011 we will maintain a program to provide assurance of integrity of used fuel while in storage, including completing evaluation of delayed hydride cracking of used CANDU fuel bundles under dry storage conditions.

Social Research

In the period 2008-2012 we will:

- Commission background papers to support the collaborative design of the siting process, drawing on experiences in Canada and abroad;
- Convene capacity-building workshops on selected implementation issues;
- Convene Citizen Panels in each of the four nuclear provinces;
- Convene workshops on Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge;
- Complete telephone surveys for input on siting design and other implementation issues;
- Conduct deliberative surveys on the web site;
- Collaborate with interested academics in Canada and internationally to bring the best knowledge and practices of social and community-based process to NWMO's work; and
- Apply the ethical and social framework developed for the study phase to guide Implementation and report regularly on activities against this framework.

Review, Adjust and Validate Plans

The NWMO will continually review, adjust and validate plans against factors such as advances in technical learning, evolving societal expectations and values, and changes in energy and environmental policies.

In order to facilitate the process of dialogue and adaptation in response to the changes in projected fuel quantities and types, we will:

- Publish on an annual basis information on current and future potential inventories of used fuel volumes and types;
- Seek input from Canadians on how NWMO's plans should be amended to accommodate current and projected inventories; and
- Adapt and develop plans on how to go forward against the framework of the Strategic Objectives and with the guidance of our many advisors including ethicists. Specifically, we will consider the implications of used fuel from nuclear new build in our engagement program, in our technical and social research programs, in our financing formula, on the size and structure of the organization and governance, and on the design of a process for site selection.

We are committed to reporting on developments in technology, societal expectations and energy and environmental policy on an ongoing basis through many communication routes, including:

- Posting research papers and the results of engagement activities on the NWMO web site;
- NWMO Triennial Report to Minister of Natural Resources and public;
- NWMO Annual Report to Minister of Natural Resources and the public; and
- Annual update to the NWMO five-year implementation plan.

Collaborative Design and Initiation of a Siting Process

The NWMO will proceed with the collaborative design of a siting process, supported by a public engagement program, and subsequent initiation of a siting process.

In 2008 we will:

- Prepare a discussion document to initiate and facilitate conversations with Canadians on the design of the process for selecting a site. The document will, among other things, present an initial framework of objectives and principles and key issues that people will likely wish to consider; and
- Prepare information materials, such as fact sheets, to support a public dialogue on the design of a process for site selection.

In 2008-2012, subject to confirmation of readiness to proceed with each step, we will:

- Engage interested individuals and organizations in a dialogue on the design of a process for selecting a site to invite diverse perspectives;
- Draft a siting process proposal, including preliminary criteria, based on input from the previous round of dialogue;
- Test and validate the draft siting process proposal using a public engagement process;
- Develop supporting information and an education and awareness program; and
- Initiate the process for selecting a site subject to validation of the siting process proposal and readiness of the supporting engagement and information program.

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