

March, 2008

The Honourable Gary Lunn, P.C., M.P.
Minister, Natural Resources Canada
580 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E4

Dear Minister Lunn:

On behalf of the Advisory Council to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) I am pleased to once again write you to highlight some of our activities and deliberations for the last fiscal year.

In 2007, the Advisory Council continued its practice of providing ongoing review and comment on the NWMO's work and plans.

Much of the Advisory Council's focus over the last year was on the NWMO's planning for implementation activities. We provided advice on the draft strategic objectives the organization has proposed to guide its early work. In so doing, we underscored the importance of NWMO maintaining a commitment to transparency and openness in its operations. We regularly advised on the development of NWMO's engagement programs, and reviewed directions for the technical and social research programs.

The Advisory Council lauds the significant and important progress being made in the area of Aboriginal engagement. We strongly support the formation of Niigani, the Aboriginal working group, and are encouraged by its wish to work collaboratively with the NWMO to incorporate both western and Aboriginal world views in the long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

We recognize that successful implementation will require the involvement of youth in the NWMO's broader engagement activities. The Advisory Council supports the proposed development of a youth engagement strategy in 2008 and encourages the exploration of unique communication opportunities to make dialogue more open and accessible to young people.

We are also keenly anticipating the planned creation of a standing Technical Review Group in 2008. Regular independent peer review of the NWMO's technical program will be essential to building public confidence in the organization and Adaptive Phased Management.

The Advisory Council's original nine members served throughout 2007. At the invitation of the Board Chairman we offered our views on the Advisory Council's mandate and membership for the next phase of the NWMO's mandate as it begins implementing Adaptive Phased Management. Following the

Board's assessment of the expertise and competencies required of Council during early implementation, some new members were appointed to expand the breadth of experience on Council, and the original members were offered re-appointments. Seven Council members accepted re-appointment. Gordon Cressy and Helen Cooper, having completed their terms, left the Council at the end of the year. On behalf of the Advisory Council I want to thank them for their leadership and commitment to our activities. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Marlyn Cook, Rudyard Griffiths and Dougal McCreath to our number.

The Advisory Council commends the Government of Canada for its decision in 2007 to select the Adaptive Phased Management approach for long-term used nuclear fuel management. We are fully committed to fulfilling all of our obligations under the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act* as the plan is implemented.

Sincerely, on behalf of the members of the Advisory Council,



The Honourable David Crombie
Advisory Council Chairman

c.c.	David Cameron	Helen Cooper	Gordon Cressy
	Frederick Gilbert	Eva Ligeti	Derek Lister
	Donald Obonsawin	Daniel Rozon	Marlyn Cook
	Rudyard Griffiths	Dougal McCreath	