

NWMO's Dispositioning of the NWMO Advisory Council's 2014 Advice

(Final – February, 2015)

Recommendations	Action taken
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SITE SELECTION PROCESS	
<p><i>At the February 3, 2014 meeting:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In discussing the status of the site selection process, Council members made a number of suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council supported the potential for use of contractors from the local communities; • Council emphasized the importance of NWMO ensuring contractor selection will provide high quality and consistency of approach across areas; • A Council member reinforced the importance of continuing to seek input from Aboriginal communities in Phase 2 to ensure that field work does not impact on culturally sensitive areas; • Several Council members suggested that there appeared to be good opportunities to involve summer students from Canadian universities in the upcoming field work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWMO noted that it will use local contractors wherever possible, recognizing that some of the work is very specialized and the need to ensure consistency in assessment. • An approach to local and Aboriginal procurement was developed and shared with Council. • NWMO confirmed this was an integral part of the continuing siting process. Beginning in 2014 NWMO initiated engagement of field work plans. Discussion with First Nation and Metis communities are an important part of this ongoing dialogue. To date the focus has been on discussing aerial surveys and early field work plans to observe geological features. • Community workshops with local Aboriginal groups, NWMO and contractors were held to kick off the walking the land activities and discuss ATK and protocols. These workshops will be part of NWMO's ongoing work. • Engagement of summer students and local guides will be considered for the detailed geological mapping phase planned to start in 2015. A geology summer student was hired in Ignace who did some work on planning of mapping.

Recommendations	Action taken
TRANSPORTATION	
<p>At the May 27, 2014 Advisory Council meeting,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council members suggested that, as the project comes closer to fruition, transportation will become a larger component of the public dialogue, requiring advance consideration as to who will need to be consulted as NWMO gradually narrows down potential sites; <p>At the September 15, 2014 Advisory Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Council member agreed with fostering a more general understanding on transportation but cautioned that the focus may quickly shift to specific routes. Another member encouraged NWMO to ensure that all transportation methods were included in its work. • A Council member suggested more clearly profiling transportation in the project documents to reflect its importance as a strategic NWMO objective. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation is recognized as a key component of the APM plan. A multi-year plan of engagement and technical work is being prepared as part of Phase 2 assessments. Per Council's request, management provided an update on its work on transportation of used fuel to a DGR as an agenda item at the September 2014 meeting. • A new item has been added to the NWMO APM planning documents addressing transportation.
BUSINESS PLANNING	
<p>(also see advice provided on siting and engagement)</p> <p>At the February 3, 2014 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In discussion with management, Council asked if NWMO had considered uncertainties for field work timelines from risks around timing of permits and approvals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWMO's Phase 2 Project Plan will recognize that precise timelines cannot be projected for permits and government approvals to support field work. Work is underway with provincial governments to understand the potential nature of permits required and the associated processes.

COUNCIL OF ELDERS / ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT

At the May 27, 2014 Advisory Council meeting, the Honourable Bob Rae attended the meeting to share his experiences in Aboriginal engagement.

At the May 27, 2014 Advisory Council meeting the following recommendations emerged for NWMO's implementation of APM:

- Building support to move forward on a project takes time.
 - First Nation issues are evolving legally and politically: the required level of attention today is unprecedented and will continue to evolve. Law and public policy are in constant evolution. There will not be a clear or predictable process for NWMO's project;
 - It will be important for NWMO to assess the required level of engagement, consultation and accommodation, and understand who must be involved in process. Interpreting the meaning of consultation and defining what a traditional territory of a particular first nation can also be complex;
 - First Nations will expect meaningful involvement and opportunities for the project to bring lasting social and economic opportunities for the well being of the community. NWMO will be expected to speak to how the project will improve overall health of the communities through the life of the project. There may be ways NWMO can start building that wellness in earlier stages;
 - NWMO must be willing to spend significant time in each siting area as there is no substitute for face to face discussion with senior officials;
 - There needs to be a team from NWMO in each siting area. NWMO needs to be there, stay for while and be prepared to talk for a long time, respecting the culture and listening to the people;
 - NWMO must treat communities well throughout the process in terms of economic and financial benefits. This includes communities affected by the project in the siting study areas.
- NWMO siting process is designed to provide communities with time to learn about and consider the APM project. There are no prescribed timelines for community learning and confidence building.
 - These uncertainties are acknowledged by NWMO. Timelines and process may need to be adapted.
 - Working with communities and governments, NWMO is seeking to understand the breadth and scope of engagement and consultation required.
 - To support discussion of potential benefits of the project, NWMO is presently updating the APM Project Description and economic modeling of employment and wealth creation
 - Opportunities to extend near term benefits are being considered as part of Phase 2, such as through local procurement.
 - Senior management from head office continues to meet monthly in siting communities.
 - The team supporting each siting area is being expanded . NWMO is augmenting its contracted staff complements to provide greater support in the field. Hiring is in process to recruit locally staff who can maintain a day/day dialogue in communities. The Aboriginal Relations group has been expanded through further hires in 2014.
 - NWMO has committed to enhance community well-being through the project. To date, communities are recognized for their contributions at the end of Phase 1.

<p>At the November 25, 2014 meeting: Council members expressed support for recognizing the contributions of Aboriginal communities and organizations. Members discussed the details of the draft proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarification was sought on the intended scope of the program; • Members offered substantial advice and comments for refining the program parameters and for enhancing the program description to provide greater clarity on the program intent; and • Council members emphasized that NWMO should be clear in distinguishing this new initiative from the earlier program released for initiating communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program description was refined to incorporate the advice and clarifications proposed by Council.
<p>EVOLVING EXTERNAL LANDSCAPE / COMMUNICATIONS</p>	
<p>At the February 3, 2014 Advisory Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Council member requested that management bring forward NWMO’s transparency policy at an upcoming meeting for review with Council. <p>At the September 15, 2014 Advisory Council Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In discussing communications and outreach, a Council member suggested increased outreach to the nuclear industry. • Council members emphasized the importance of NWMO maintaining its emphasis on principles and values. It is important that the NWMO continue to be a listening and open-minded organization, rather than a strong proponent of a plan. <p>At the November 25, 2014 Advisory Council Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members felt it important for NWMO to track the nature of the dialogue and concerns being raised in the context of the OPG project and to consider timing and approach to keeping the U.S briefed on the APM project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Transparency Policy was reviewed at the November 2014 Council meeting and feedback was provided. • Expanded outreach to the nuclear industry will be incorporated into the annual communications plan. • NWMO will continue to track the dialogue and inter-jurisdictional interests related to the OPG project as NWMO plans for broadening outreach for the APM program.

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY	
<p><i>At the February 3, 2014 Advisory Council meeting:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Council member suggested that NWMO should look at the siting process from the perspective of moving the environmental agenda forward in a positive way and whether the process could result in greater protection of land or other local interests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The APM Project Description is presently being updated, to support community-based discussions on how implementation of the project might further local interests. As part of this broader discussion, sustainability and protection of people and the environment can be discussed with the communities.
GOVERNANCE	
<p><i>At the November 25, 2014 Advisory Council meeting:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the Council's request, management brought forward NWMO's Transparency Policy for review and discussion. Council members had an extensive discussion about NWMO's transparency policy, providing some suggestions for clarifying the Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's suggested clarifications were incorporated in the document, which is being updated for public issuance.