



Nuclear Power in Society Conference

The NWMO Advisory Council Role and Views

David Cameron
Member, NWMO Advisory Council

October 25/26, 2009



Presentation

- » Role of the Advisory Council under the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act
- » Membership of Council
- » Operation of Council
- » Key Elements of Report to Government on NWMO's Recommendation of Adaptive Phased Management (APM)
- » Council's views on NWMO outreach and incorporation of results into NWMO Plans



Role of the NWMO Advisory Council under the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*

The NWMO Advisory Council:

- is required to examine and comment on NWMO study of management approaches for used nuclear fuel.
 - Council provided its comments on NWMO's work in the Final Study in 2005;
- has an ongoing responsibility to examine and to provide written comments in the NWMO triennial reports to be submitted to the Minister of Natural resources Canada.
- Will provide independent statements to be included in the first triennial report to be published in March 2011 on previous 3 years' work, statements will be included on:
 - the results of NWMO public consultations
 - analysis of any significant socio-economic effects of the organization's activities
 - the NWMO's five-year strategic plans and budget forecasts



Membership of NWMO Advisory Council

The NWMO Advisory Council consists of 9 members with a range of social, scientific and technical expertise:

- **The Honourable David Crombie**, Chair President of David Crombie and Associates, the Chair of Toronto Lands Corporation, and past Mayor of Toronto
- **David R. Cameron** Chair of and a Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto
- **Dr. Marlyn Cook** Chief of Staff with Weeneebayko General Hospital in Moose Factory, Ontario, Dr. Cook is Cree and a member of the Grand Rapids First Nation in Northern Manitoba
- **Fred Gilbert** President of Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario
- **Rudyard Griffiths** - founder of the Dominion Institute, sits on a variety of not-for-profit boards and is a columnist with The Toronto Star and a regular political commentator for CityTV
- **Eva Ligeti** Executive Director of the Clean Air Partnership, teaches Environmental Law in the graduate program in Environmental Science at the University of Toronto
- **Derek Lister** Professor Emeritus in the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of New Brunswick
- **Dougal McCreath** Director of the School of Engineering and a Professor of Civil and Mining Engineering at Laurentian University in Sudbury
- **Donald Obonsawin** President of Directions, a government relations company, held senior positions with the federal departments of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Health and Welfare Canada



Operation of NWMO Advisory Council

- Over and above its legislated responsibilities, the Council provides ongoing advice and guidance to NWMO on:
 - the organization's in-year work plans;
 - NWMO's Business Plans and Implementation Plans;
 - Engagement and Communications planning;
 - the changing external landscape (political, social and economic) and its impact on NWMO;
 - Aboriginal relations and engagement;
- Council holds 4 meetings a year and has direct access to NWMO Board meetings to ensure a comprehensive exchange of information
- Council members also attend NWMO engagement activities



Key Elements of Advisory Council's Report to Government on APM Recommendation (2005)

The Advisory Council reported that NWMO:

- operated with integrity and transparency to manage a complex study process over the 3 years;
- conducted an extensive and sophisticated engagement program, which was effectively conducted within the limits of NWMO's mandate;
- within the stipulated statutory limits to which it was subject, conducted a process that was comprehensive, transparent, and clearly exhibits fairness, balance and integrity;
- The Advisory Council supported the recommendation of Adaptive Phased Management (APM) and believe it should be implemented with the appropriate leadership, resources and time to undertake the process as described in NWMO's Final Study Report.



Examples of Specific Advisory Council Recommendations

- **Governance:** Expand NWMO Board of Directors to include a broader range of interests;
- **Adaptive Phased Management (APM):**
 - Continue high standards of engagement with broad cross-section of Canadians;
 - Increased emphasis on reaching out to young people.
- **Aboriginal Engagement:**
 - Hire Aboriginal staff and set up Aboriginal Advisory Committee with diverse membership;
 - Improve communications with tools and technical materials appropriate to Aboriginal peoples;
 - Involve traditional knowledge holders in the broader processes of selected management approach; and
 - Be mindful of evolving guidelines for consultations with Aboriginal peoples.
- **Advisory Council:** review composition of Advisory Council to ensure it provides appropriate expertise as NWMO moves into implementation
- **Other:**
 - NWMO should increase its staff to provide more in-house expertise on the technical and scientific matters;
 - NWMO should undertake more research in Sedimentary rock;
 - Any significant change in the quantity or type of used fuel to be managed should trigger a review of the work undertaken by NWMO.