Implementing Canada’s Plan for Used Nuclear Fuel: Site Selection Update

Presented by: Mahrez Ben Belfadhel
Vice President, Site Selection

Presented at: Bruce County Council
Presented on: May 16, 2019
• Formed in 2002 as required by *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*
• Mandate to collaboratively develop and implement long-term management of Canada’s spent fuel
• Approach must be **socially acceptable**, technically sound, environmentally responsible and economically feasible
• Fair and inclusive site selection process to seek an informed and willing host
• Continuous learning and adaptability
Deep Geological Repository

LEGEND
A. Surface Facilities
B. Central Services Area
C. Placement Rooms
Centre of Expertise
Site Selection

- Narrowing Process
- 2023 Select Site

Regulatory Approval

- 2024 Centre of Expertise
- 2028 EA/Licence Application

Design and Construction

- 2033 Design and Construction Start
- 2043 Operations Begin
- 2032 Construction Licence Granted
- 2024 Detailed Site Characterization Starts
Communities That Expressed Interest in the Site Selection Process

**Assessments Underway in the Area**
- 5. Ignace
- 9. Manitouwadge
- 10. Hornepayne
- 19. Huron-Kinloss
- 21. South Bruce

**Communities Not Identified for Further Study**
- 1. English River First Nation
- 2. Pinehouse
- 3. Creighton
- 4. Ear Falls
- 6. Red Rock
- 7. Nipigon
- 8. Schreiber
- 11. White River
- 12. Wawa
- 13. Blind River
- 14. Elliot Lake
- 15. The North Shore
- 16. Spanish
- 17. Saugeen Shores
- 18. Arran-Elderslie
- 20. Brockton
- 22. Central Huron
Criteria for Selecting a Preferred Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Confidence a deep geological repository can be developed with strong safety case at that location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Confidence a safe, secure and socially acceptable transportation plan can be developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>Confidence a strong partnership can be developed – with interested community, First Nation and Métis communities in the area, and surrounding communities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exploring the Potential for Partnerships—Key Components

Strong Aligned Partnerships

- Community Willingness
- Community Well-being
- Draft Partnership Agreement
Roadmap to Partnership (2018-2023)

- **Aligned Partnerships**: Through a schedule developed and agreed upon with partners
- **Investments**: Identify and deliver investments that drive capability and economic prosperity for partners
- **Identify Required Partnerships**: Identify required partnerships with whom, at what level, in what combination, and when
- **Develop Vision for the Project**: Develop the project vision that will meet the NWMO and community’s interests, and potential partners as well
- **Values and Principles to Guide Partnership Discussions**: Agree on common values and principles to guide partnership discussions
Community Well-Being

Communities will want to consider the project from all dimensions of long-term sustainability.
Economic Development

Average jobs per year by phase near siting area in Ontario (depends on the location of the repository)
Progress to Date

• Ongoing discussions with communities to explore the potential for partnerships
• Common values and principles developed for all siting areas
• Issued a reconciliation statement
• Ongoing engagement
• Planning/conducting borehole drilling and baseline environmental monitoring
Huron-Kinloss & South Bruce

- Entered site selection process in 2012
- Ongoing learning and engagement with municipalities and local Indigenous communities
- Active Community Liaison Committees to facilitate learning since 2013
- Planning Working Groups recently established to explore the potential for partnerships
- No commitment to host the project
Principles guiding partnership discussions include:

- Safety first and foremost
- Environment protection
- Clear communication, concise, accurate, understandable
- Open, honest, informed decision-making
- Trust and respect
- Inclusive and collaborative discussions
- Community well-being and broad benefit now and future
- Regional involvement and benefit
Next Steps In Assessing a Potential Site

- Site investigations, including deep borehole drilling in 2020
- Data will be used to further assess safety of a potential repository site
NWMO Commitment

The project will only proceed with the involvement of municipal and Indigenous communities in the area, and surrounding communities, working in partnership to implement it.
Highlights

• National infrastructure project
• Sound legislative framework
• Funding for the project in place
• Commitment to partnership
• Forward-thinking community leaders
• Involvement of people to identify a safe and socially acceptable repository site
Questions?
Thanks. We invite you to learn more. Find. Like. Link.

www.nwmo.ca

@nwmocanada

linkedin.com/company/nwmocanada