

NEWS RELEASE

Town of Saugeen Shores learns more about Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel

Town of Saugeen Shores representatives recently met with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) to learn about Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The 'learn more' opportunity included a detailed briefing by NWMO staff and a tour of the Western Waste Management Facility at the Bruce Nuclear Site, where used nuclear fuel is currently safely stored on an interim basis.

In June 2007, the Government of Canada selected Adaptive Phased Management as Canada's plan for safeguarding the public and environment over the very long time in which used nuclear fuel must be managed. The plan requires that Canada's used nuclear fuel be safely and securely contained and isolated from people and the environment in a deep geological repository (DGR) in a suitable rock formation. In May 2010, the NWMO published a process for identifying an informed and willing community to host the project. There are currently five communities in Ontario and three in Saskatchewan that have expressed an interest in learning more about the project and the process for selecting a host community.

"Saugeen Shores' decision to learn about Adaptive Phased Management is unrelated to, and distinct from OPG's proposed DGR for low and intermediate level waste (L&ILW), in Kincardine", said Mayor Mike Smith. The L&ILW DGR Project's regulatory approvals process will continue to unfold as planned and will focus on the L&ILW streams generated by OPG- owned or -operated reactors. The APM process is completely separate and will accommodate all of Canada's used nuclear fuel."

The NWMO anticipates that it will take between seven and ten years to decide on a preferred site for its deep geological repository and associated facilities. Ultimately, there will have to be a compelling demonstration of willingness expressed by the citizens of any interested community, after a long period of site assessment, before it is selected to host the project.

For more information about the NWMO, and the site selection process, please visit: www.nwmo.ca/sitingprocess



The Saugeen Shores Delegation included:

Back Row: NWMO Used Fuel Repository Geoscience Manager Mahrez Ben Belfadhel, CAO Larry Allison, Vice Deputy Mayor Doug Gowanlock, Fire Chief Phil Eagleson

Front Row: Treasurer Lori Sweiger, NWMO Strategic Communication Director Jamie Robinson, Councillor Diane Huber, Councillor Taun Frosst, Councillor Thead Seaman