



Staff Report

Report Title: NWMO Site Selection July Status Update

Prepared By: Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator

Department: CAO

Date: Jul. 5, 2021

Report Number: CAO-2021-07-22

File Number: 100-NWMO

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report Number CAO-2021-07-22, prepared by Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator.

Background:

In January 2020, the NWMO announced they had secured the sufficient amount of land in Municipality of South Bruce to continue studies for the DGR. This announcement meant that the Township of Huron-Kinloss was removed from the site-selection process and no longer considered a host community for the project. Two communities remain in the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) site selection process to find a suitable location to store Canada's used nuclear fuel – the Township of Ignace and the Municipality of South Bruce.

Discussion:

NWMO Surface Water Sampling Locations

The NWMO is continuing with its environmental baseline monitoring program in South Bruce. Surface water sampling is included in this environmental monitoring and the NWMO will be collecting water samples from private properties in Huron-Kinloss as well as Lake Huron.

We shared the Township's [2019 Pine River Annual Water Report](#) and the [2020 Baseline Surface Water Quality Report](#). with Joanne Jayck, Section Manager for Environmental Assessment with NWMO, they will review these reports and any data the municipality has through our surface water sampling program.

Independent Survey Results

An independent community survey in South Bruce, conducted by CCI Research, show high levels of community awareness about the NWMO's project and the need to develop a deep geological repository for Canada's used nuclear fuel.

The survey was sent to all 2,099 South Bruce households and had 908 respondents. Of those who responded, 96 per cent said they are aware of the NWMO and 84 per cent understand there is a community willingness component for the project to move forward.

Full survey results can be found at www.nwmo.ca/southbrucesurvey

A similar survey was mailed out to 850 households in Ignace, Ontario. Ignace and South Bruce are the two remaining siting communities—from an initial group of 22 that expressed interest—moving toward site selection in 2023.

South Bruce Community Liaison Committee Member

South Bruce Council appointed Justin McKague to fill the vacant position on the [Community Liaison Committee \(CLC\)](#).

South Bruce CLC Meeting

The next South Bruce CLC meeting is scheduled for [Thursday, July 8, 2021](#).

Joe Gaboury, Director of Indigenous Engagements at the NWMO, and April Root-Thompson, Community Engagement Manager at the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) Environment Office will be delegations.

They will be speaking and answering questions about the SON approach, the work that is going on at the Community level, as well as the work being done with the NWMO in regards to the Project. The SON Environment Office is also working with Community members as a stand-alone project through video productions, and direct member engagements.

Financial Impacts:

None at this time.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

The information provided in this report is consistent with and in keeping with the Municipality's Vision & Mission. The recommendations contribute to the goals in achieving a prosperous community and an accessible community. Projects in this report assist staff in achieving the following projects in the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan Action Plan: P2.4 Continue to learn about the NWMO DGR Project.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer