



Staff Report

Report Title: NWMO Site Selection October Status Update

Prepared By: Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator

Department: CAO

Date: Oct. 4, 2021

Report Number: CAO-2021-10-27

File Number: NWMO-100

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report Number CAO-2021-10-27, 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:

On September 13th, 2021, the Chief Administrative Officer attended a meeting which included representatives from the NWMO, Municipality of South Bruce, the Municipality of Brockton and Township of North Huron to discuss the Regional Studies being conducted by NWMO. These are the studies and a brief overview.

The Local Traffic Study & a Road Conditions Study – examining potential effects of having additional people and traffic, including required improvements to roads and other infrastructure. The Regional Economic Development – Identifying local and regional economic development opportunities for existing businesses. The Workforce Development Labour Baseline – describing how many

workers and what skills will be required at key points of the project. The Social Programs Study - to assess the effects of the Project on the community programs offered by Bruce County. Housing Needs Study – Whether sufficient short-term or long-term housing will be available, and what increased demand may mean for housing prices.

All three municipalities were invited and have agreed to participate in the studies. The studies will be conducted over the next 6 months and will consist of 4 to 5 meeting which Huron-Kinloss staff will attend. We will continue to provide updates to Council.

Willingness Study Results – South Bruce CLC October Meeting

GHD Limited will share its draft Community Engagement Report on the Willingness Study to the South Bruce CLC which will be held [Virtually](#) on the October 7, 2021 at 7pm.

GHD Limited undertook the Willingness Study on behalf of the Municipality of South Bruce to seek broad input from residents and ratepayers in South Bruce on how the community's willingness to host the NWMO Adaptive Phase Management Project should be determined. The [Draft Community Engagement Report – Willingness Study](#) is now available.

South Bruce CLC Meeting – November 2021

The South Bruce Nuclear Exploration Team is planning the November CLC meeting, which will be held virtually on November 4, 2021 at 7pm. The CLC Committee will hear from municipal representatives from communities with nuclear power plants in the Province of Ontario.

NWMO Transportation Survey Results

The NWMO Transportation Survey shows that the NWMO transportation planning priorities align closely with what Canadians and Indigenous peoples consider important. The NWMO launched this survey in 2020, looking for input from Canadians on their [draft transportation planning framework](#).

The transportation program is set to begin in the 2040s, once the deep geological repository is operational. In addition to highlighting a shared vision for transportation planning, the survey identified key topics where respondents shared concerns and questions regarding this portion of Canada's plan. They included:

- Emergency and security management;
- Accident scenarios; and
- Infrastructure conditions.

A summary of the results from engagement on the draft transportation planning framework can be read in the [What We Heard report](#). Public input received on the

draft transportation planning framework will be incorporated into a revised framework that will be released later this year.

Working Group Terms of Reference

Although lands in Huron-Kinloss are not being considered for the potential repository site, the NWMO acknowledges that Huron-Kinloss directly abuts South Bruce and will be impacted by the DGR if South Bruce becomes the chosen community.

Huron-Kinloss is committed to carrying out its due diligence on the DGR project to determine how its municipality, residents, farms, tourists and businesses will be best protected and served in determining whether Huron-Kinloss can support the DGR as neighbouring community. Huron-Kinloss developed a Partnership Working Group to work closely with the NWMO through this process.

The [Terms of Reference](#) is now available on the Township's website.

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