



Staff Report

Report Title: NWMO Site Selection Update September 2022

Prepared By: Lindsay Small

Department: CAO

Date: Sep. 2, 2022

Report Number: CAO-2022-10-25

File Number:

NWMO-100

Attachments:

- 1. Draft for public comment_Integrated Strategy for Radioactive Waste (ISRW).pdf**
- 2. South Bruce Economic Development Project Effects & Strategy Study.pdf**
- 3. CLC Meeting 05AUG2022 Focus_ Economic Development.pdf**
- 4. South Bruce Agriculture Business Impact Study.pdf**
- 5. South Bruce Tourism Industry Effects Study.pdf**
- 6. South Bruce Economic Development Study on Youth.pdf**
- 7. CLC Meeting 19AUG2022 Focus_Youth and Family.pdf**
- 8. NWMO Confidence-in-Safety-South-Bruce.pdf**

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report Number **CAO-2022-10-25**, prepared by Lindsay Small, Project Coordinator.

Background:

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. We are working with the South Bruce Nuclear Exploration Team on current Project Studies related to the NWMO Project and the effects it could have on regional Communities.

Discussion:

In August, the NWMO announced updates to their timeline for site selection, extending the timeframe to the end of 2024. Lise Morton, Vice-President of Site Selection at the NWMO has cited the COVID-19 pandemic as the reason for this decision. *"We experienced a significant loss of time for face-to-face engagement and interaction, especially in communities exploring their potential to host the project"*¹. The shift of timeline for site selection is not expected to impact the overall schedule for the implementation of the DGR.

[Canada's Integrated Strategy for Radioactive Waste](#), a program run by the NWMO, is looking for public comment on its [Draft Integrated Strategy for Radioactive Waste \(ISRW\)](#). The process of submission is open to all Canadians and Indigenous peoples, and can be made as an individual or on behalf of an organization.

The Municipality of South Bruce hosted two Community Liaison Committee meetings in August 2022. The regular CLC meeting took place on August 4th, with the agenda being [Economic Development](#), [Agriculture](#) and [Tourism](#) based on the respective studies by Deloitte. A special CLC meeting on August 18th discussed the potential effects and opportunities of the DGR project on [youth and families](#) in the Municipality of South Bruce. The regular [South Bruce CLC meeting](#) for September took place on September 1st, going more into detail regarding the [Confidence in Safety report](#) that was released earlier in 2022.

On Thursday September 22nd, the NWMO is facilitating tours of their Oakville proof-test facility, home to their design, optimization and demonstration program. A morning or afternoon tour is available, with the bus departing from and returning to Teeswater-Culross Community Centre. There is no cost to participants, and lunch is included. Limited space is available. To reserve tickets, visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/tour-of-nwmos-oakville-proof-test-facility-tickets-407093316067>. If there is enough interest from council, an additional date for tours of the proof-test facility may be possible. Please reach out to Project Coordinator, Lindsay Small for more details.

The Township of Culross, comprised of Teeswater and several Hamlets, will be host to the NWMO led biodiversity studies through to the end of 2022. The study sites are located on Concessions 1, 2, 13 and 15 in Culross, and are within the study area for the NWMO's proposed site for a deep geological repository.

Financial Impacts:

None.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

The information provided in this report is consistent with and in keeping with the Municipality's Vision & Mission. The recommendations in this report contribute to

¹ <https://www.nwmo.ca/en/More-information/News-and-Activities/2022/08/12/12/13/The-NWMO-updates-the-timeline-for-site-selection-to-2024>

the goals in achieving a prosperous community that continues to grow in a sustainable manner. 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:

Lindsay Small, Project Coordinator

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer