

# Implementing Adaptive Phased Management



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Canadian Nuclear  
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Ottawa, Ontario

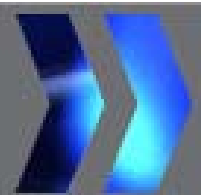
**nwmo**

NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES

# Focus of Presentation

- » **The Context**
- » **The Plan: Adaptive Phased Management**
- » **Report on Progress**
- » **Priorities for Implementation**



## Long-term management of used fuel:

- » **1978:** Canadian Nuclear Fuel Waste Management Program
  
- » **1998:** Environmental Assessment review panel finds social acceptability for geological disposal *not* sufficiently demonstrated
  
- » **2002:** Federal Government introduces *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*.
  - » Nuclear energy corporations to establish NWMO
  - » NWMO to:
    - » conduct 3-year study of options
    - » address social, ethical, technical, financial considerations
    - » consult general public and Aboriginal people

# Where we are now

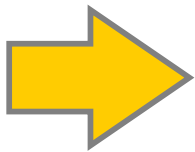
- » **2002-2005:** Completed Study of Options
  - » Extensive engagement of 18,000+ Canadians and Aboriginal people - every province and territory
  - » Collaboratively developed a proposal with Canadians
  
- » **2005:** NWMO submitted proposal to Minister of Natural Resources Canada
  - » Adaptive Phased Management (APM)
  
- » **June 2007:** Government of Canada selected APM
  
- » **Present:** NWMO assumes implementation mandate

# The Search for Common Ground



**Common ground emerged concerning:**

- » **Values, ethical principles, objectives** key to choosing a management approach, and decision-making
- » **Desire to consider a new approach --** that builds on strengths of other options
- » **Principles and expectations for implementation**



***Common ground established  
the path forward***

# Societal Requirements

- » Safety & Security
- » Fairness
- » Balancing needs for current and future generations
  - » Begin now
  - » Provide genuine choice for future generations
  - » Sustain citizen engagement
  - » Adapt to new learning

# Adaptive Phased Management

## A Technical Method

- » **Centralized containment and isolation of used nuclear fuel in deep geological repository**
- » **Continuous monitoring**
- » **Potential for retrievability**
- » **Optional step of shallow underground storage**

## A Management System

- » **Flexibility in pace and manner of implementation**
- » **Phased and adaptive decision-making**
- » **Responsive to advances in technology, research, Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge, societal values**
- » **Open, inclusive, fair siting process - seek informed, willing host community**
- » **Sustained engagement of people & communities**

# Strategic Objectives: 2008-2012 (Draft)



1. Continue to build **long-term relationships** -- involve interested individuals and organizations in setting future direction.
2. Advance **research**.
3. Address **financial surety and long-term program funding**.
4. Continually **review, adjust and validate plans**.
5. Continue to develop **governance structure**.
6. Build an **implementing organization**.
7. Collaboratively design a **process for site selection**.

# Expectations for NWMO



Directions for Five-Year Plan:

- » **Engagement, collaborative decision-making**
- » **Information requirements to be addressed**
- » **Impact of shifting energy landscape**
- » **Interest in design of siting process**
- » **Staying the course with openness, transparency**

Five-year Implementation Plan to be released in April, in draft, for public review and comment. We welcome your input.