

June 9, 2014

George Da Pont
Deputy Minister
Health Canada
70 Colombine Driveway
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

**Subject: Participation of Health Canada in Additional Public Hearing Days
for the Deep Geologic Repository Project**

Dear Mr. Da Pont:

The Joint Review Panel for the Deep Geologic Repository for Low and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste project (DGR) has scheduled additional public hearing days to address the subjects of information requests issued by the Panel since November 2013. The hearing will commence on September 9, 2014 and will continue over approximately two weeks at the Royal Canadian Legion in Kincardine, Ontario. Please see the attached [Public Notice](#) for further details.

The subjects to be addressed at the additional public hearing days are as follows:

1. Methodology used to determine the significance of adverse environmental effects
2. Updates to the geoscientific verification plan
3. Expansion plans for the DGR project
4. Relative risk analysis of alternative means of carrying out the project
5. Implications of revisions to the reference waste inventory
6. Applicability of recent incidents at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) to the safety case for the DGR project.

The Panel does not require Health Canada to actively participate in the hearing; however, it does expect representatives to be available on specific days to answer any questions that the Panel may have related to human health issues. Note that the Panel will issue a hearing schedule to detail the hearing session subjects, times and the order of presenters a minimum of 2 weeks in advance of the start of the hearing; at that time, the specific day or days when Health Canada representatives may be called upon will be provided to you.

A copy of the amended [public hearing procedures](#) is enclosed for your reference. Should you have any questions regarding the project, the review, or the public hearing phase, do not hesitate to contact one of the Panel Co-Managers, Kelly McGee at (613) 947-3710 or Debra Myles at (613) 957-0626. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Stella Swanson
Chair, Deep Geologic Repository Joint Review Panel

c.c.: James F. Archibald, Joint Review Panel Member
Gunter Muecke, Joint Review Panel Member

Kiran Anwar, Regional EA Coordinator - Environmental Health Program, Health
Canada