

June 9, 2014

Serge Dupont  
Deputy Minister  
Natural Resources Canada  
500 Booth Street  
21st Floor, Room B5-1  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E4

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

Dear Mr. Dupont:

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 requires Natural Resources Canada to participate in the hearing to address issues and questions related to hearing subject 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; and subject 4 -Relative risk analysis of alternative means of carrying out the project. 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.

In advance of the public hearing, the Panel requires Natural Resources Canada to provide a written review of the Ontario Power Generation response to Information Requests EIS-12-510 (methodology used to determine significance); EIS-12-511

(updates to the geoscientific verification plan); EIS-12-512, EIS-12a-512, and EIS-12b-512 (expansion plans for the DGR project); and, EIS-12-513, and EIS-12b-513 (relative risk analysis of alternative means of carrying out the project) in the context of your department's mandate and role as an expert department.

A copy of the amended [public hearing procedures](#) is enclosed for your reference. Please pay particular attention to the July 7, 2014 deadline for written submissions. 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

Mark Pearson, Director General, External Relations, Natural Resources  
Canada  
Kathleen Cavallaro, Senior Environmental Assessment Officer, Natural  
Resources Canada