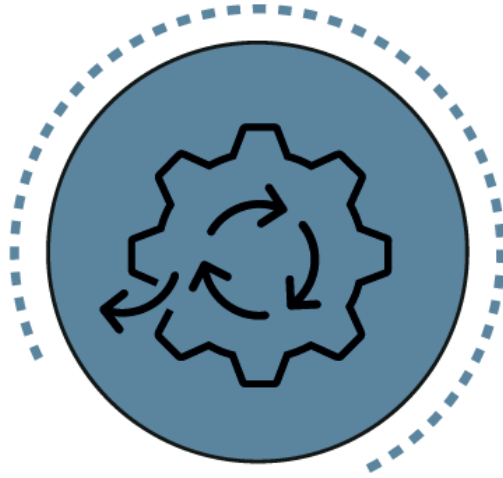


# Webinar Series on **Stakeholder Involvement** related to **Nuclear Power**

# #11

## Communicating about **Nuclear Waste**

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities





# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Use CHAT for questions at any time

This will be an interactive webinar.

We'll have a live audience Q&A session at the end of the presentation.

BUT you can **type your questions at any time** into the CHAT panel.



# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



- #1 Basics of Stakeholder Involvement
- #2 Public Surveys
- #3 Public Information Centres
- #4 Social Media
- #5 Messaging, Storytelling, Plain Language
- #6 Media Relations
- #7 Crisis, Risk & Emergency Communication
- #8 Design & Tools for Engagement
- #9 Stakeholder Involvement in New Nuclear Power
- #10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

[www.iaea.org/si-webinars](http://www.iaea.org/si-webinars)



# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Today's Speakers



Lise Morton,  
Nuclear Waste Management  
Organization, Canada



Penny Lucas,  
Township of Ignace,  
Canada



Seth Kirshenber,  
Energy Communities Alliance,  
USA



Dagmar Dehmer,  
BGE – the federal company for  
radioactive waste disposal,  
Germany



# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Let's interact



Where do you work?

- Government
- Regulator
- Operator
- NEPIO: Nuclear Energy Programme Implementing Organization
- Technical Support Organization
- NGO
- Academia
- Research Institution
- International Organization
- Media
- Private Sector-non-nuclear
- Nuclear Advocate/Independent Advocate
- Other
- I prefer not to say



# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Today's Speakers

### Lise Morton

Vice-President of Site Selection for the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) in Canada. She is accountable for working with local Indigenous communities and municipalities as NWMO approaches its site selection milestone for Canada's proposed used nuclear fuel repository. Lise Morton is an accomplished leader with 32 years of experience in operations, maintenance and engineering roles.

Prior to joining the NWMO, she was the Vice-President, Nuclear Waste Management for Ontario Power Generation. In that role, she was responsible for three nuclear waste management facilities and a radioactive materials transportation program. She has led teams in managing complex issues involving multi-faceted interfaces with regulators, governmental agencies, Indigenous groups, and internal and external stakeholders.

Lise Morton has broad international experience having participated in World Association of Nuclear Operators member support missions, and several International Atomic Energy Agency joint conventions and technical consultancies.





# »» Local Engagement Insights

The Canadian Experience

Presented by:  
Lise Morton, VP Site Selection  
June 1, 2022

**nwmo**

NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES



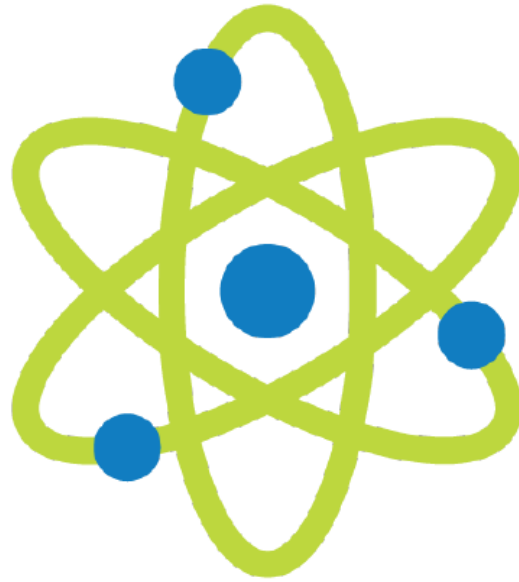
## » Land acknowledgement



# Implementing a safe, long-term plan



Created in 2002

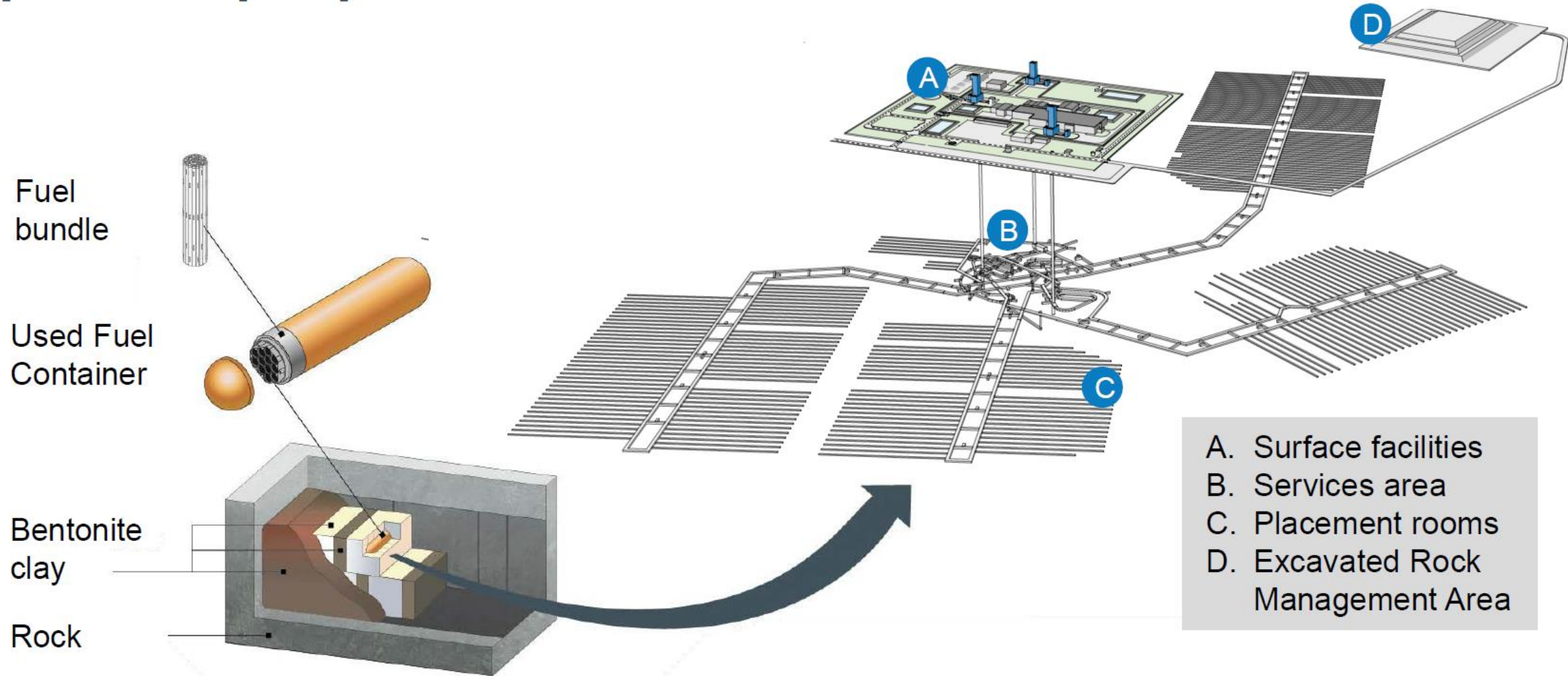


Non-profit organization  
funded by waste owners



Through dialogue with  
Canadians and Indigenous  
peoples, Canada's plan emerged

# How a deep geological repository protects people and the environment



SASKATCHEWAN

1

2

3

ONTARIO

4

5

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17

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20

22

21

Communities that expressed interest in the site selection process

● **Assessments underway in the area**

- 5. Ignace
- 21. South Bruce

● **Communities not identified for further study**

- 1. English River First Nation
- 2. Pinehouse
- 3. Creighton
- 4. Ear Falls
- 6. Red Rock
- 7. Nipigon
- 8. Schreiber
- 9. Manitouwadge
- 10. Hornepayne
- 11. White River
- 12. Wawa
- 13. Blind River
- 14. Elliot Lake
- 15. The North Shore
- 16. Spanish
- 17. Saugeen Shores
- 18. Arran-Elderslie
- 19. Huron-Kinloss
- 20. Brockton
- 22. Central Huron



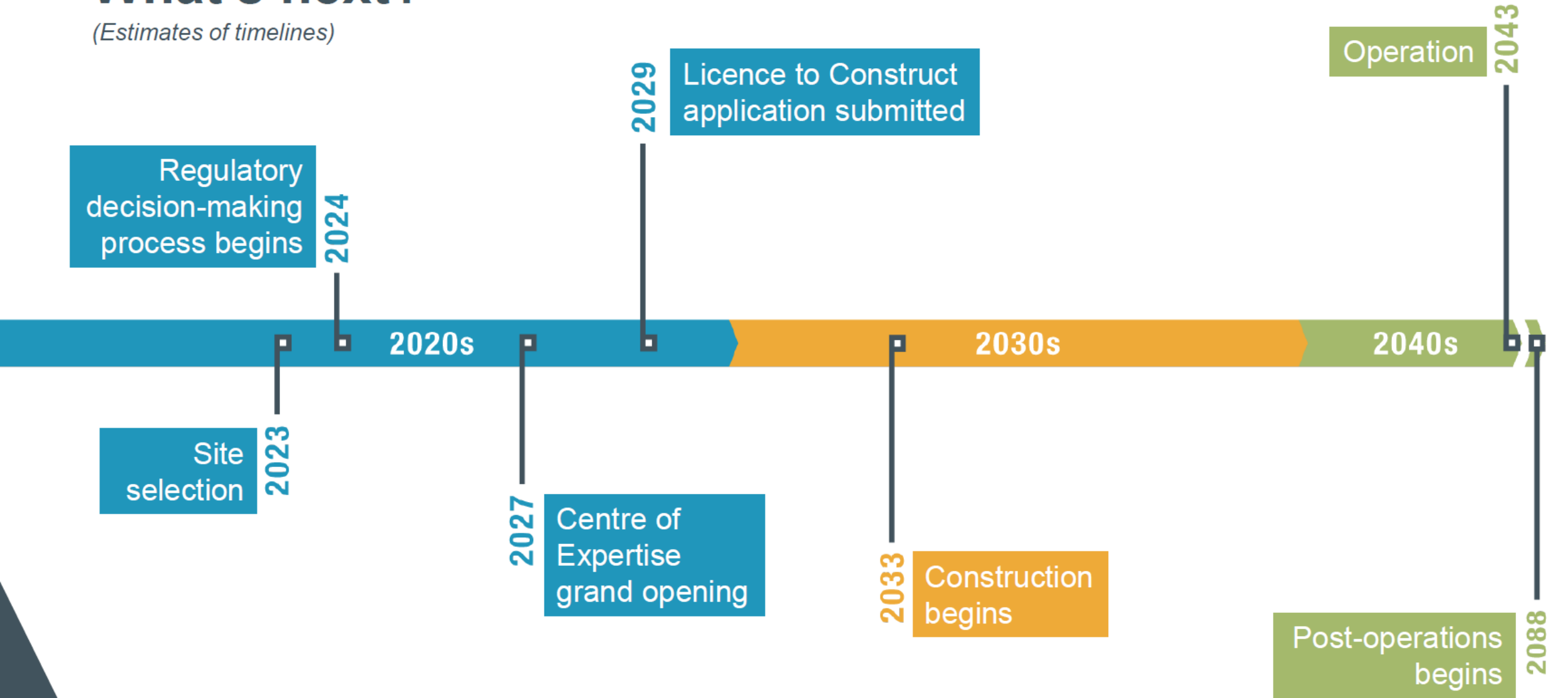
**Wabigoon Lake  
Ojibway Nation-  
Ignace area**



**Saugeen Ojibway  
Nation-South Bruce  
area**

# What's next?

*(Estimates of timelines)*



# Community Well Being



# Key considerations for local communities

1. How is my community making its willingness decision? (And how do I personally participate in that decision?)
2. Have my questions been answered?  
Have my concerns been addressed?  
What are the risks?
3. What is in it for our community?  
What are the benefits?



# Examples of local engagement questions



*Local interests are very different from national interests*

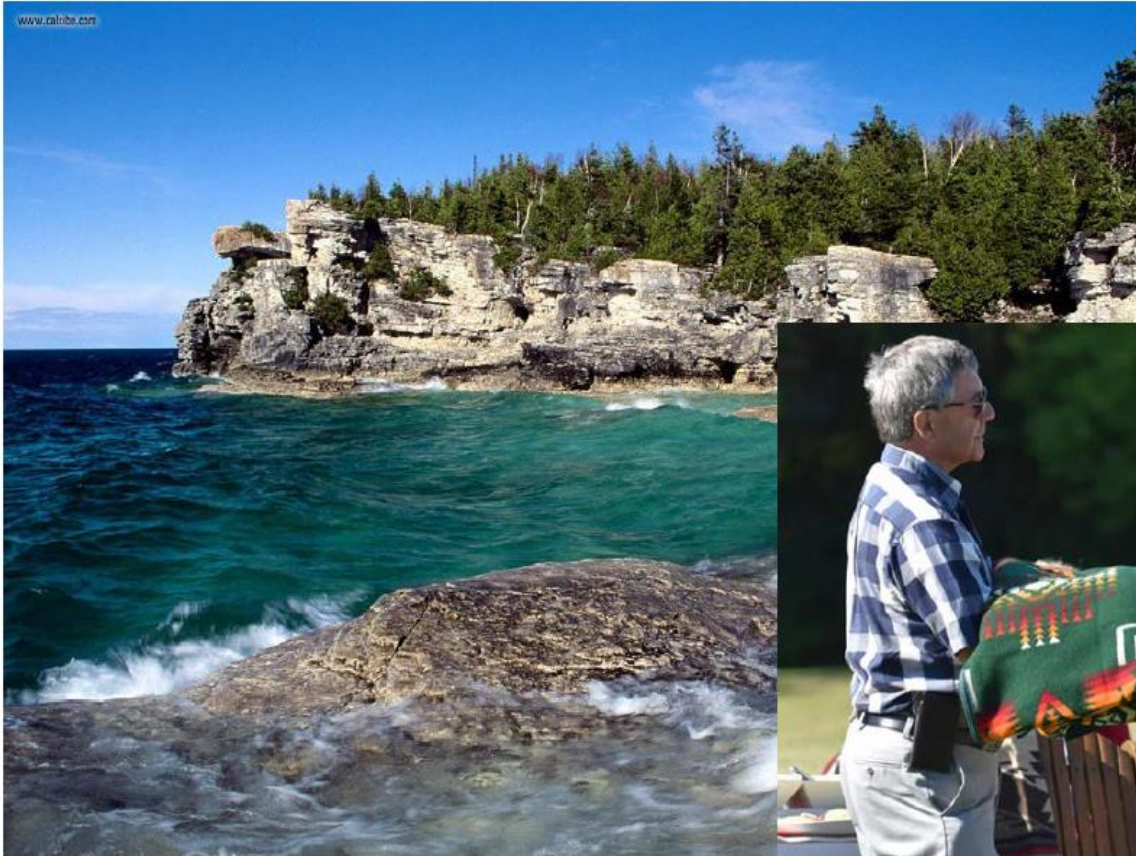


# Examples of local engagement questions and concerns



Different questions and concerns for different groups

# Engagement with Indigenous communities



- Different considerations in Indigenous communities

# Being in the community



# Find. Like. Link

   @nwmocanada

 /company/nwmocanada

 [www.nwmo.ca](http://www.nwmo.ca)

**nwmo**

NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES



# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Today's Speakers

### Penny Lucas



Penny Lucas grew up and raised her family in Northwestern Ontario. When she started looking for a place to retire in 2011, she came to explore and fell in love with Ignace, eventually choosing it as her hometown. Penny has always been an active member of her community wherever she lived; volunteering, participating in research and serving on a number of boards and committees.

“Penny gives gratitude every day for the life she is fortunate enough to live”.

# IGNACE'S GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL SITING EXPERIENCE



# THE HISTORY

## Nuclear Site Rejected — For Now

A team of geological surveyors has rejected a site near Ignace, along with five other nearby sites, for nuclear waste disposal. The study revealed that some sites were unsuitable while others were not as accessible as first thought.

One thousand new sites in

the northwest and Canadian Shield will be looked at in the spring of this year.

The federal government has ten to fifteen years to find a suitable site. Reeve Glenn Maxwell said of the decision, "I feel right now that it eliminates the problem,

but I had hoped it would have been of economic help when the mines eventually shut down. It would have been an alternative for people who worked at the mines."

The site, wherever it is built, is to be ready for use by the year 2000.

1979

The Canadian Nuclear Fuel Waste Management Program was launched in 1978.

Ignace entered the current site selection process in 2010, and today NWMO continues working with Ignace as the potential host community for the APM Project.

## Township Enters Site Selection Process for Used Nuclear Fuel Repository

At its Regular Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Township Ignace on August 25th, 2010, Council unanimously passed a resolution to formally enter into the Site Selection Process of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO). The objective of the NWMO's Site Selection Process is to identify an informed and willing community to host a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel.

The NWMO estimates that the nine-step site selection process will take between seven and 10 years. During the process, the NWMO will undertake geological studies of bedrock to determine if it is suitable for the repository. At the same time, the NWMO will undertake socio-economic and other studies to assess the

impacts of the proposed repository on the community. Finally, and most importantly, the NWMO must receive a clear indication that the community is willing to host the repository. Without that, the community will not be selected.

By entering into this process, the Township of Ignace has not committed to having the repository located in the community. At any point Ignace can withdraw from the process. As the process develops, we will all learn more about the prospects of having this repository located in Ignace. Township Council encourages its residents to take the opportunity to learn more about this project and become involved in the decision-making process.

2010

**At the regular meeting of Council on August 25, 2010  
a resolution was passed stating:**

That, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Ignace does hereby approve entering into the Site Selection Process of the NWMO's Adaptive Phase Management System Project, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

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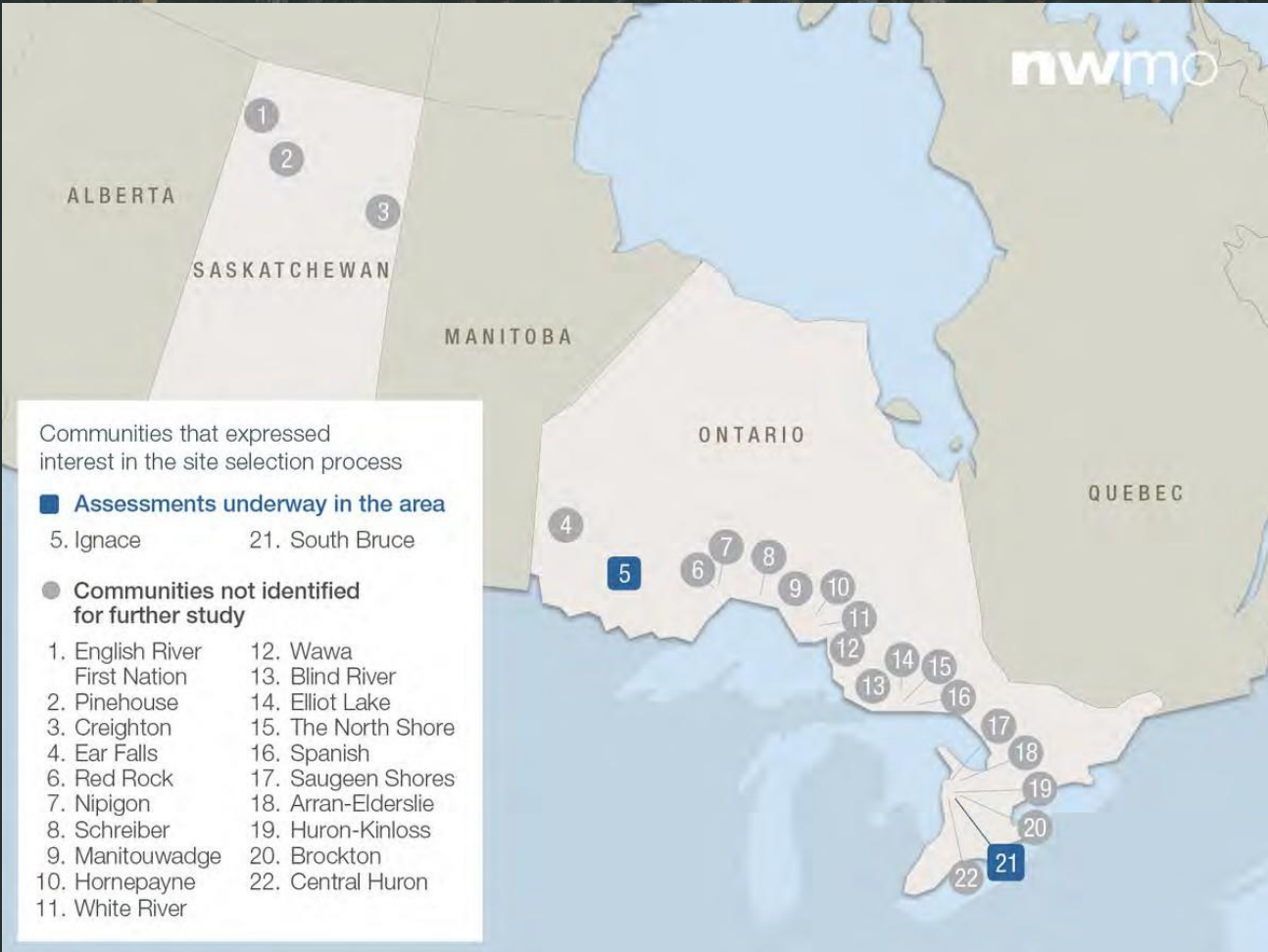
**Ignace Council created the  
Ignace Community Nuclear Liaison Committee  
and they have met once every month since 2010**

---

**At the regular meeting of Council on November 24,  
2011 a resolution was passed  
stating:**

That, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Ignace does hereby appoint Penny Lucas to the Ignace Community Liaison Committee dealing with the NWMO's Site Selection Process.





**2007**

**CANADA SELECTS ADAPTIVE PHASED MANAGEMENT (APM)**

As Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

**2010**

**IGNACE ENTERS SITE SELECTION PROCESS**

for used nuclear fuel repository

**2011**

**IGNACE COUNCIL ENTERS AGREEMENT WITH NWMO**

to enter into Preliminary Assessment of Potential Feasibility - Feasibility Studies, Step 3 of the Site Selection Process

**2022**

**IGNACE AND SOUTH BRUCE REMAIN IN THE SITE SELECTION PROCESS**

and are the final 2 sites being considered out of the original 22 communities who expressed interest.



# Finland and Northwest Ontario

## Population

<b>FINLAND</b>	5.53 million
<b>NWO</b>	approx. 250,000 people

## Size

<b>FINLAND</b>	338,440 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>NWO</b>	526,417 km <sup>2</sup>



# CONTINUING TO LEARN



## LEARN MORE CENTRE

The Ignace Learn More Centre was first opened in 2016, and since then, it has been an important site for ongoing engagement with the northwest region on Canada's plan to safely store used nuclear fuel.



## TOWNSHIP OF IGNACE SATELLITE OFFICE

The Township of Ignace Satellite Office is located in Dryden, ON and opened in October, 2021 to facilitate engagement and bring information to people in the area surrounding Ignace



## ICNLC OFFICE

The Ignace Community Nuclear Liaison Committee Office is set to open in March 2022 beside the Ignace municipal office and will be a key location for community discussion and sharing information.

ONE OF THE SIX BOREHOLE SITES IN THE REVELL BATHOLITH

Uncertainty & Education

# Where are

# we

# COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ARE PLANNING THE COMMUNITY FOR NOW? A YES OR A NO



Borehole 6 in the Revell Batholith,  
Community Borehole Tour, 2021



Current Ignace Mayor and Council, 2022



Ignace community members attending  
a Nuclear 101 session, 2019

## WILLINGNESS - WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

## COMMUNITY FATIGUE

# Let's Talk Willingness

## Let's talk: Community conversations on partnership – Planning for a community decision on the APM Project

After many years of learning about the Adaptive Phased Management (APM) Project, Ignace has come to the point when we need to make a decision. It is a decision that will be of interest to all of us and all Canadians. Canadians are interested not only in the decision we make, but also how we made the decision.

We are asking for your help today to develop the plan that our community will use to make our decision in late 2022.

### 1. Planning to make a community decision

Once the community and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) have completed more detailed technical and social studies in late 2022 and discussions about a partnership agreement with the NWMO have advanced, we will need to decide if Ignace is supportive of this project. We are developing a plan and activities for how we will make that future decision, and we need your input. We have laid out a possible plan that builds on our community's work to date to explore the project to help get the discussion started.

### 2. What is the project?

In 2007, the Government of Canada determined that APM would be Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The NWMO has been federally mandated to implement the project. APM involves placing our country's used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository using a multiple-barrier system. The project consists of surface facilities, as well as the repository, which must be located in a suitable rock formation. Part of Canada's plan is incorporating learning, including Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge, to guide a process of phased decision-making. APM is designed to be flexible and responsive to new learning, societal priorities and evolving public policy. Moving to a deep geological repository is recognized internationally as the best approach for the long-term management of used fuel. A national Centre of Expertise will also play an important part of this large national infrastructure project.

### 3. Why is Ignace interested in this project?

After a Canada-wide site selection process, two communities remain interested in the project: Ignace and South Bruce. The leadership of Ignace expressed the two following considerations when the community initially entered the site selection process. The Ignace leadership wanted to: i) ensure that future generations are protected from the hazards associated with used nuclear fuel by helping to implement sound practices of waste management such as environmental stewardship, safety, accountability and social responsibility; and ii) advance the long-term well-being of the community through the APM Project, including promoting socio-economic growth, environmental sustainability, and well-being of the community and its surrounding area and Indigenous neighbours. Safety is paramount for both our community partners and the NWMO. The project is a national infrastructure project and subject to a high level of independent regulatory review, assessment and ongoing oversight.

### 4. What has been Ignace's involvement to date?

Ignace is continuing to learn about and explore the project, and has not decided whether it is supportive of implementing it in the area. Ultimately, the project requires a site that can safely and securely contain and isolate used nuclear fuel for the long time period needed. As important, it requires a supportive partnership involving the municipality, First Nation and Métis communities, and others in the area to implement the project together. A single, preferred site for the project is expected to be selected by the NWMO in 2023. Preliminary studies suggest the project can be implemented safely in the Ignace area, and the project aligns with the priorities and objectives identified by the community and described in Ignace's Strategic Plan.





# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Today's Speakers

### Seth Kirshenberg

For 25 years, Seth Kirshenberg has been the Executive Director of the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA), the national non-profit organization of elected municipal officials adjacent to primarily defence and science based nuclear facilities in the United States.

Seth Kirshenberg oversees the daily activities of the organization and ensures that Congress, the Administration, DOE/NNSA, industry and others understand and address local issues and integrate them into policy decision-making.







# ENERGY COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE

COMMUNICATING ABOUT NUCLEAR WASTE: CLARIFYING WASTE  
OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

IAEA 2022



## BACKGROUND

 **ECA PROVIDES ITS MEMBERS  
WITH INFORMATION & ANALYSIS**



### Share Information

ECA organizes regular forums and meetings, the ECA Bulletin, special reports, and urgent news updates.



### Analysis of Trends

ECA analyzes DOE/NNSA policies and actions and develops comprehensive reports for local communities.



### Power in Numbers

By working together, local governments and communities ensure they participate in decision-making.



# BACKGROUND

## OUR POLICIES

ECA's members are focused on all issues affecting local communities within the DOE and NNSA complex. Our policies are grouped into multiple categories that we believe must be addressed for continued success of DOE and NNSA programs, including economic and safety priorities related to federal missions in respective communities. These policies help to facilitate discussion with DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, state tribes, and local governments within the DOE complex to develop solutions to our concerns:



**Local Governments  
as Intergovernmental  
Partners**



**Economic Impacts on  
Communities / PILT**



**Environmental  
Cleanup and Nuclear  
Waste Management**



**National Defense**



**Nuclear Energy**



**Local concerns.  
National Impact.**

Energy Communities Alliance | Local concerns. National impact.





# NUCLEAR WASTE - LESSONS LEARNED FOR SUCCESS

**Company/Federal Government/Regulator must engage the community (and vice versa).** (Announcements are not engagement)

**Build a working relationship and provide regular meetings**

Definitions matter – everyone needs to be on the same page

Know and understand the other parties' (regulated, regulator, regional/local government, stakeholders) goals.

**Following the minimum law is not enough**

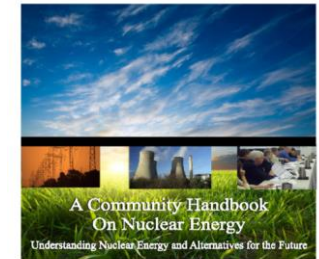
Communities need experts (sometimes federal agencies need to provide the resources)

Define acceptable risk

Failure to make decisions leads to failures

Be Organized

**Repeat, Repeat, Repeat**





## WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

- Learn from the past successes
- Each community is very different
- All municipalities want to be treated as a partner – for the long-term
  - Maintaining partnerships and providing opportunities for meaningful engagement between federal decision makers and local elected officials are vital to ensuring a unity of purpose that advances mission priorities.
  - Work with the community to develop their goals for the site around safety, economic development, regulatory oversight, improved education (at all levels k-12, university, workers), improved infrastructure, role in decision-making.
- Engage with the people that do not want the site
- Science/Engineering are not the only aspect of risk
- Don't forget about the regulator's role.
- See Previous Slide and make sure that everyone that works on the project understands the leadership's goals and methods for achieving the goals – all it takes is one comment to set the project back.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- All decision-making processes should involve consultation with local elected officials on a pre-decisional basis when any impact on the local community is possible.

Owner and regulators should continue to have meaningful engagement with local governments when developing programmatic proposals and environmental impact statements in order to educate interested parties and avoid mistrust and controversy.

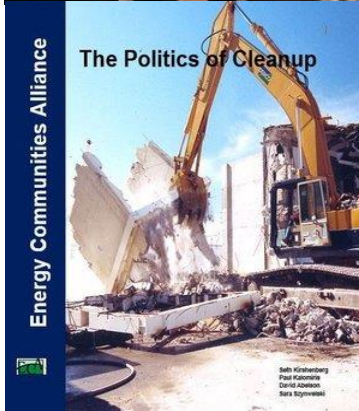
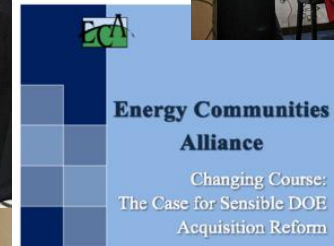
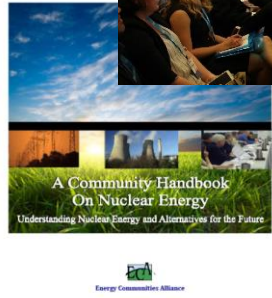
Owner and the local governments should work to resolve disagreements, explaining concerns and opportunities fully to attempt to develop solutions.

Owner should proactively seek local government input when renegotiating regulatory agreements as local communities and their citizens are most impacted by a decision's lasting economic, environmental, and public health effects

Engage communities in planning for both short- and long-term site goals.

Owner should explain contracting decisions when new contracts are awarded or existing contracts renewed. Owner should recognize that acquisition strategies may have an unintended impact on the local community that can, in turn, impact the mission.

Recognize that a strong host community will support Owner's recruitment, training and retention of the workforce for long-term missions.







# Energy Communities Alliance

Local concerns. National impact.



# NATIONAL CLEANUP WORKSHOP 2021



## Energy Communities Alliance

### Changing Course: The Case for Sensible DOE Acquisition Reform

June 2015

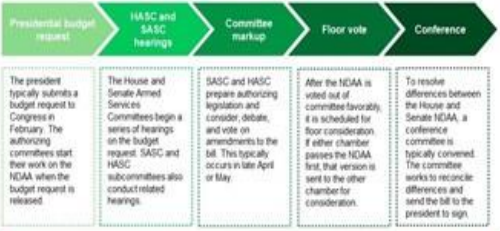
Additional design are included in later years including limited additional, reforming and investment. Higher in years than other Department of Energy acquisition are successful and achieve the Department's legislative mandate over the long term.

### Department of Energy Budget & Appropriations High

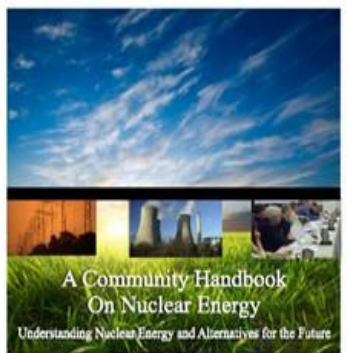
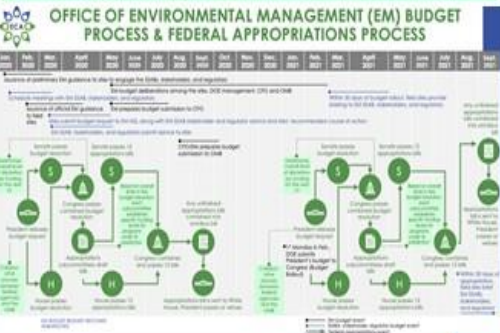
(amounts in thousands of dollars)

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Requested	FY 2022 House Approved
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY</b>	<b>36,882,825</b>	<b>46,189,438</b>	<b>48,138,508</b>
<b>Environmental Management</b>	<b>7,589,296</b>	<b>8,811,879</b>	<b>7,737,283</b>
Defense Environmental Cleanup	6,428,000	6,841,670	6,882,000
Hanford/Richland	606,100	606,887	606,887
Office of River Protection	1,645,000	1,540,842	1,645,000
Waste National Laboratory	433,500	368,583	433,500
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	1,794	1,806	1,806
Separation Process Research Unit	15,000	15,000	15,000
Nevada NNSA Sites	60,737	60,737	75,737
Sandia National Laboratory	4,860	4,578	4,578
Los Alamos National Laboratory	206,000	276,119	275,119
Los Alamos Excess Facilities DAC	0	58,361	17,000
Oak Ridge Reservation	475,363	424,244	475,363
Savannah River Site	1,531,659	1,581,775	1,587,641
Central/Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	413,260	430,424	430,424
Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup	322,200	308,860	333,863
West Valley Demonstration Project	88,113	88,120	88,120
Gaseous Diffusion Plants	118,554	116,203	116,203
Small Sites	110,993	126,337	124,340
Uranium Enrichment Decommissioning & Decommissioning Fund	841,000	831,340	831,340
Oak Ridge	134,701	105,000	105,000
Packard	240,000	198,996	198,996
Purification	430,332	467,348	467,348
<b>Lagacy Management</b>	<b>163,898</b>	<b>428,736</b>	<b>178,736</b>
<b>National Nuclear Security Administration</b>	<b>18,732,208</b>	<b>18,743,800</b>	<b>28,185,800</b>
Weapons Activities	15,345,000	15,454,205	15,454,205
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	2,280,000	1,304,000	2,340,000
Naval Reactors	1,084,000	1,385,705	1,386,705
<b>Nuclear Energy</b>	<b>1,387,800</b>	<b>1,386,900</b>	<b>1,875,800</b>
Science	7,205,800	7,440,000	7,330,000
<b>Nuclear Waste Disposal</b>	<b>27,808</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>27,808</b>

These figures are compiled from different sources: the Office of Management and Budget, Congressional Appropriations Committee, DOE budget justification, and various press releases. There are some discrepancies in these figures due to rounding.



Work programs under the NCAA report at the end of the fiscal year. Congress works to pass a new NCAA before October 1 of the new fiscal year.



**A Community Handbook On Nuclear Energy**  
Understanding Nuclear Energy and Alternatives for the Future



Energy Communities Alliance



**Waste Disposition:  
A New Approach to DOE's Waste Management  
Must Be Pursued**



**Energy Communities Alliance**  
Local concerns. National impact.

**Making Informed Decisions on DOE's Proposed High Level Waste Definition**

A Guide for Communities and Recommendations for DOE

**Energy Communities Alliance**  
Local concerns. National impact.

**Administration Transition Paper:  
A Roadmap for Successful Local Government and Community Engagement**

December 2016

Energy Communities Alliance  
www.enenergy.org



# QUESTIONS

[www.energyca.org](http://www.energyca.org)

[sethk@energyca.org](mailto:sethk@energyca.org)

**IAEA 2022**



# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Today's Speakers

### Dagmar Dehmer

Dagmar Dehmer has been Head of Communications of the Federal Company for Radioactive Waste Disposal (BGE) since October 2017. She leads a team of about 30 people to communicate six major projects of BGE. Before that she worked as a newspaper journalist in Berlin and Freiburg, writing on topics such as sustainability, the environment, nuclear power and Africa.





BUNDESGESELLSCHAFT  
FÜR ENDLAGERUNG

# COMMUNICATING ABOUT NUCLEAR WASTE: CLARIFYING WASTE OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Webinar IAEA

DAGMAR DEHMER

Online, 1st of June 2022

# COMMUNICATING ABOUT NUCLEAR WASTE

Webinar IAEA



01

WHERE DO WE COME FROM IN GERMANY?

02

HOW ARE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED IN THE SITING PROCESS?

03

HOW DOES BGE ENGAGE WITH HOST COMMUNITIES?

04

HOW DOES BGE COMMUNICATE ABOUT IT'S WORK?

HOW DOES BGE COMMUNICATE ABOUT NUCLEAR WASTE?

# WHERE DO WE COME FROM IN GERMANY?



**40 YEARS OF  
PROTEST  
AGAINST THE  
USE OF  
NUCLEAR  
ENERGY**



**PROTESTS –  
PLUS OTHER  
FACTORS –  
PREVENT SITES  
FOR NUCLEAR  
FACILITIES**

Fotos: Gorleben, June 1980, Michael Meyerborg/laif; Peine, Anti-Konrad-Treck, October 2019; Wackersdorf, 1986, Archiv soziale Bewegungen; Asse, 2020.



# HOW ARE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED IN THE SITING PROCESS?

# 02

# REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SITING PROCESS



Quelle: BGE

- **Principles for the siting process**
  - ❖ Science based, transparent and participative
  - ❖ Scrutinizing oneself (selbsthinterfragend) and learning organizations
  
- **The site**
  - ❖ Site has to be in Germany
  - ❖ The repository shall be in a deep geological formation
  - ❖ Best possible safety for at least one million years
  
- **The repository**
  - ❖ Retrievability while in use
  - ❖ Possibility for recovery for 500 years after closure of the repository mine



# THE SITING PROCESS IN GERMANY

**Siting decision**  
the aim is to get there  
in 2031



Step by step **focus** on promising areas

## Site Selection Act (StandAG)

§ 13 StandAG

§ 14 StandAG

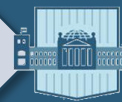
§ 16 StandAG

§ 18 und § 19 StandAG

### Phase I



### Phase II



### Phase III



**Step 1:**  
Identification  
of sub areas

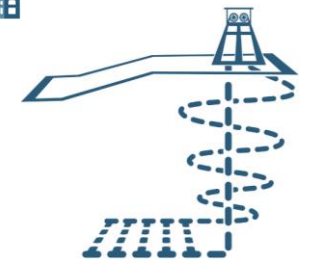
**Step 2:**  
Identification  
site areas  
for surface  
exploration

- Surface exploration
- Suggestion of  
site areas for sub surface  
exploration

- Subsurface exploration  
of at least two site areas
- Site comparison
- Suggestion for the site  
for a repository

#### Toolbox:

criteria and requirements für the siting out of the StandAG



Earliest 2050  
around 40 years

# PARTICIPATION IN THE SITING PROCESS

**Federal Office for the safety of nuclear waste management (BASE)  
is responsible for the participation process**

Phase I

Phase II and Phase III



**Regional Conferences**  
(in every site area BGE suggests, till it is out of the process)

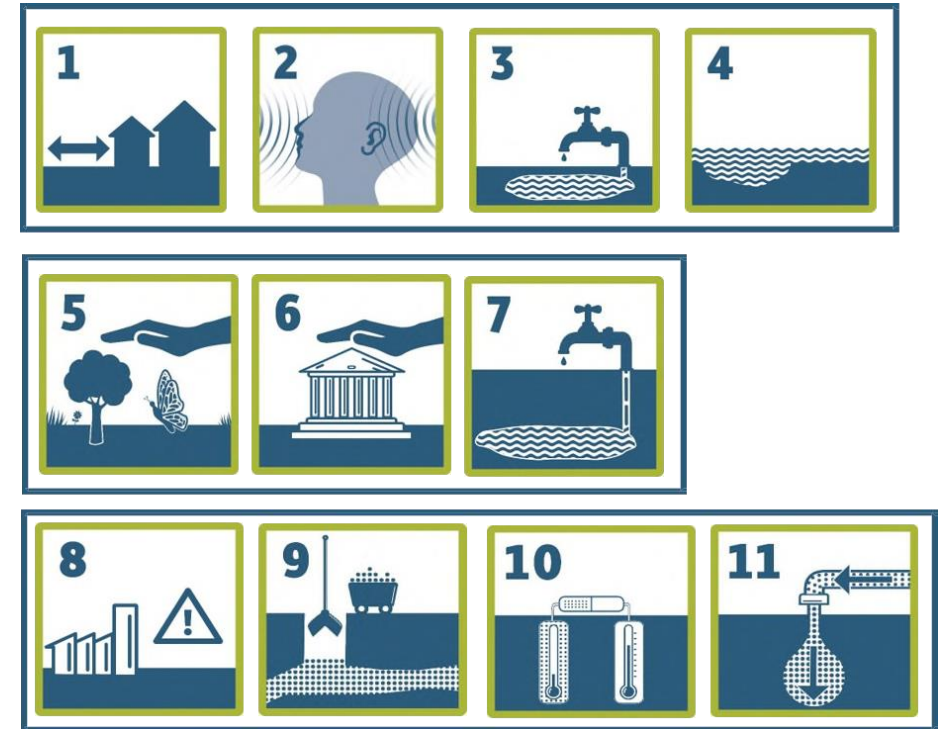
**Symposium of the regions**  
(all site areas plus areas with interim storage)

Symposium of the sub regions

Forum repository search

# HOW CAN COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATE?

- Counties and municipalities are integral part of all participation elements. They are specially invited
- They have the right to comment the process
- They get own budgets to organize the local debate and to buy expertise during regional conferences
- They are approving authority for single steps of the siting process like permits for drillings or 3-D seismic analysis
- The normal planning rules are not applied for the siting process



THE STAND AG TAKES AWAY THE NORMAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE REGIONAL AUTHORITIES – THE CENTRAL LAW OVERTAKES SOME OF THEM

# PARTICIPATION-COMPLEXITY-PARADOX

- BGE plans to make public even small outcomes during the representative preliminary assessments
- Event concepts need to focus on the different regions
- BGE uses several media channels: a printed magazine Einblicke, two homepages, a youtube-channel with recorded livestreams and videos, newsletter, brochures and flyers, social media

## Risks:

The siting process is hard to grasp for the public. Everything stays fluid till parliament has made it's decisions. Information for the public - and even more participation - is very costly in time and money





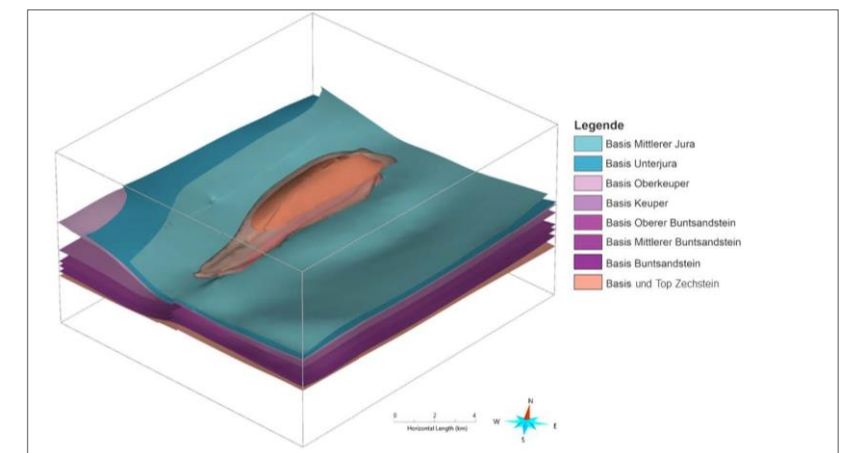
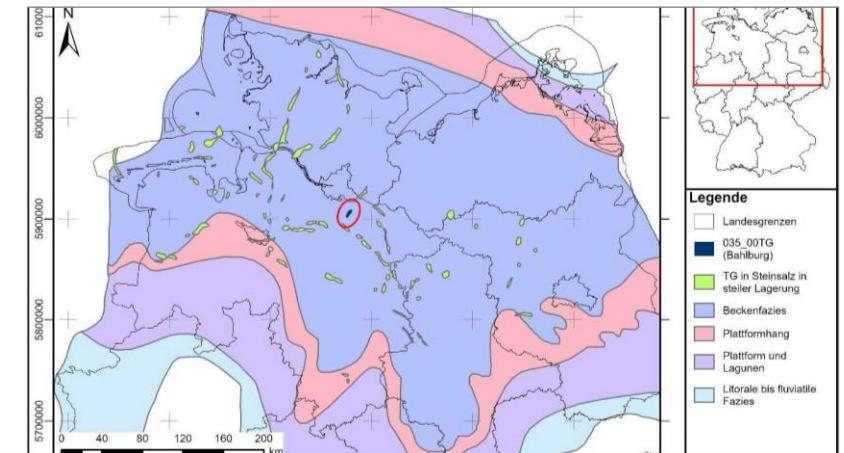
# HOW DOES BGE ENGAGE WITH HOST COMMUNITIES?

# 04

# ONE EXAMPLE – THE SALT DOME BAHLBURG

## Region for method development

- The siting team started to test methods for the representative preliminary safety assessments in four sub areas – one was sub area 035\_00 – the salt dome Bahlburg
- As soon as the information had gotten into the region – even before BGE had made it's final decision – a citizens' initiative was founded, the district administrator demanded publicly information, the local parliamentarian called our CEO to give him a lecture...
- BGE began the dialogue with the county, the environment minister of Lower Saxony, the citizens' initiative – the public event about the methods happened there – with all parties present in the event



# THE PROJECTS OF BGE



Removal of radioactive waste out of the Asse Mine II – and closure afterwards



Finishing of the Konrad repository for around 300.000 m<sup>2</sup> low and intermediate waste



Closure of the Morsleben repository



Siting process for a repository for high level radioactive waste



Product control – only approved waste packages may be stored in a repository



Closure of the Gorleben mine

# EARLY PARTICIPATION FOR THE REMOVAL PROJECT ASSE

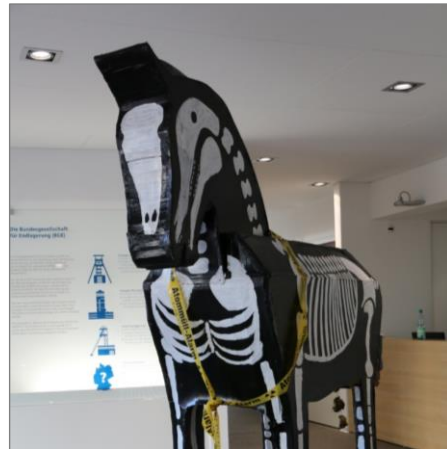




# LOCAL INFORMATIONS CENTERS AND LOCAL INFORMATION



EXHIBITIONS  
EVENTS  
REGULAR  
OPENING  
HOURS



REGIONAL  
MAGAZINES  
VISITS  
OFFERS FOR  
SCHOOLS



# HOW DOES BGE COMMUNICATE ABOUT NUCLEAR WASTE?

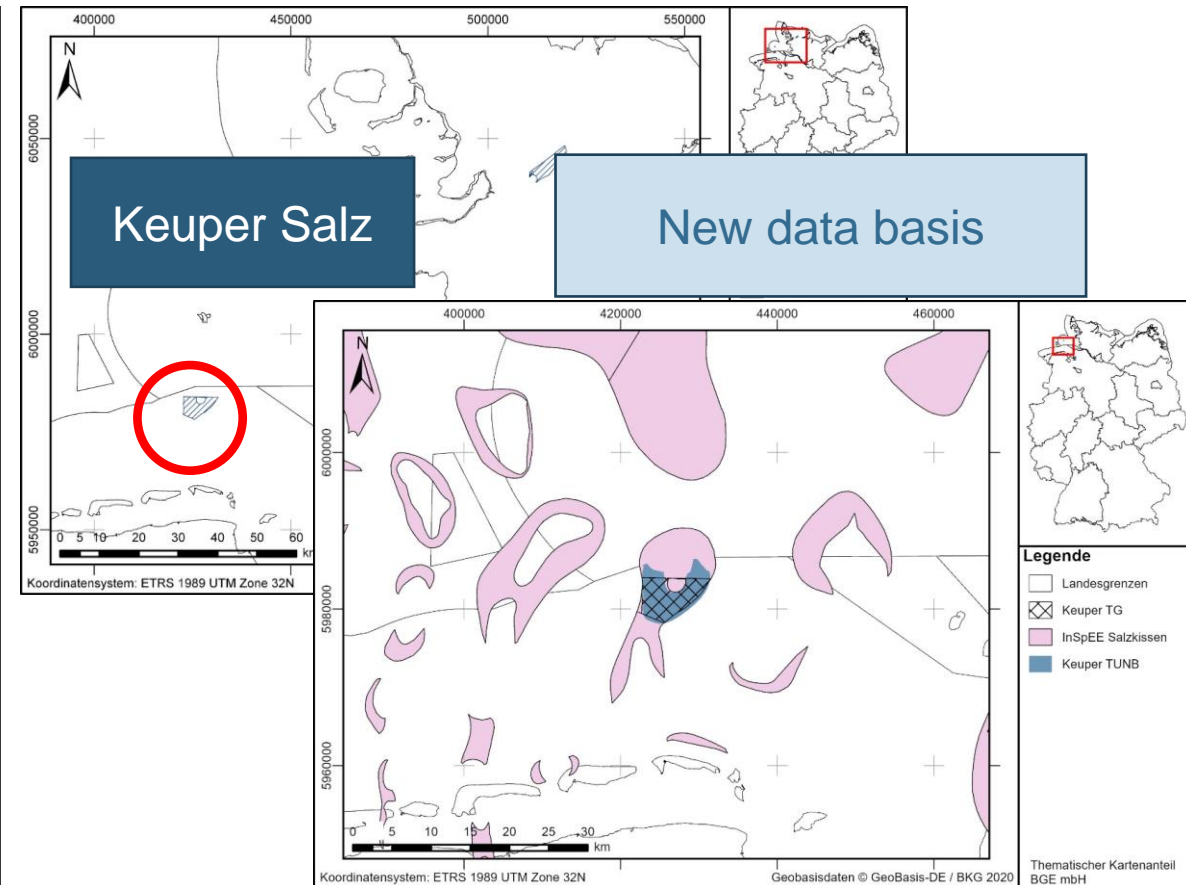
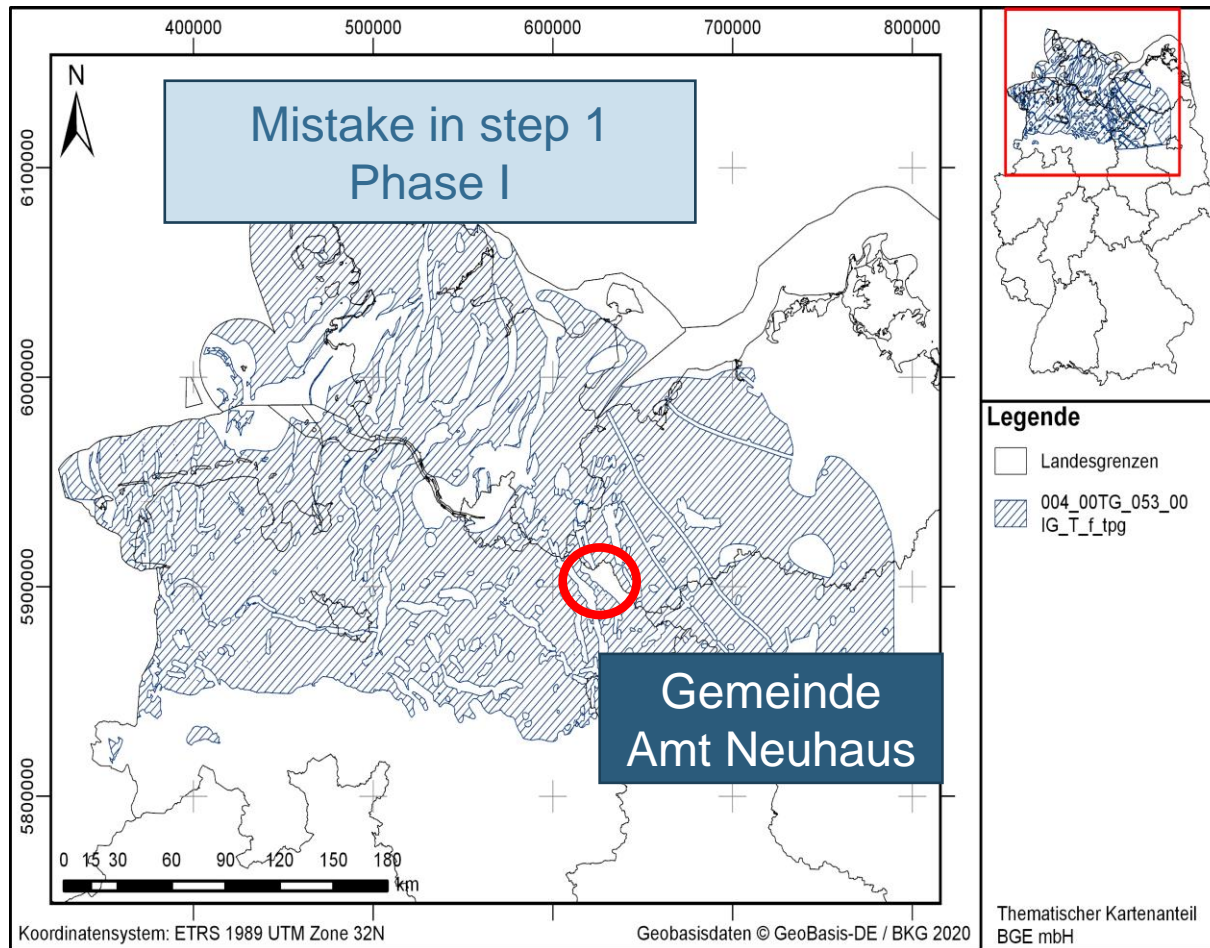
# 05

# HOW DOES BGE COMMUNICATE?

## The principles of the BGE communication guidelines

- BGE informs on a **high scientific and technical level** in a transparent, comprehensive, understandable and continuous manner
- BGE **informs in dialogue**, listens, takes criticism into account and learns continuously. The communication attitude is appreciative. BGE makes it's decisions in a responsible manner – and stands to it's decisions
- BGE knows that it's topics are **emotional** and reacts with empathy
- BGE is in continuous **dialogue with it's stakeholders** (permission administrations, the owner, supervisory body, politics, organizations, citizens organizations, citizens in the project regions and consultants
- BGE communicates **internally along the same guidelines** as externally and knows that both are strongly connected

# HOW DOES BGE COMMUNICATE MISTAKES OR A BROADER BASIS OF KNOWLEDGE



## THE EXAMPLE – AMT NEUHAUS

- The village Amt Neuhaus (01.10.1993) – in the region of Lüneburg (lower saxonia)
- Till June 29th 1993 the small villages that would become Amt Neuhaus were part of the region Hagenow (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern)
- Size: 237,2 km<sup>2</sup>
- The data basis in step 1 phase I has been a 3-D-modell: GTA3D. The data used to build this model has been explored by the hydro-carbon-industry in the 1970ies and 1980ies
- The mistake touches 3 sub areas



BGE REPORTED THE MISTAKE IN A PUBLIC CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER 2021 AND WILL CORRECT THE MISTAKE DURING THE NEXT STEP IN PHASE I

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- BGE has two websites: [www.bge.de](http://www.bge.de) the [English version](#) is not as comprehensive as the German version. [www.einblicke.de](http://www.einblicke.de) – no english version available yet
- Some documents are translated into English: [sub areas interim report](#)
- [International research projects](#)
- The [Methodology papers](#) are only available in German for now

The information platform in responsibility of the Federal Office for the Safety of Nuclear Waste Management (BASE) has [some English information](#) too

The [National Citizens' Oversight Committee](#) follows the siting process as an independent body. Miranda Schreurs is one of the two leaders of this committee



## BUNDESGESELLSCHAFT FÜR ENDLAGERUNG

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# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



## Q&A



Lise Morton,  
Nuclear Waste Management  
Organization, Canada



Penny Lucas,  
Township of Ignace,  
Canada



Seth Kirshenber,  
Energy Communities Alliance,  
USA



Dagmar Dehmer,  
BGE – the federal company for  
radioactive waste disposal,  
Germany





# #11 Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities



# Thank you!

[Technical Meeting for Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities](#)

31 October to 4 November 2022 in Vienna, Austria

[www.iaea.org/si-webinars](http://www.iaea.org/si-webinars)



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