



## Working Towards an Informed Decision for Our Community



The Municipality of South Bruce is home to one of two final sites that the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is considering to securely store Canada's used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository (DGR).

### Why is a deep geological repository needed?

- In Ontario, nuclear power supplies about half of our electricity every single day. The resulting used nuclear fuel, in the form of solid rods, is currently stored securely above-ground at seven sites across Canada. About half of the used fuel is located at the Bruce Power site.
- CANDU reactors have been operating in Canada for 60 years, and the push for zero emissions is increasing demand for clean electricity. Nuclear will continue to be a major source of power generation to provide reliable energy without carbon emissions that cause climate change.
- Regardless of where the site is located, it is in the community's interest to find a long-term solution to safely store the used fuel.

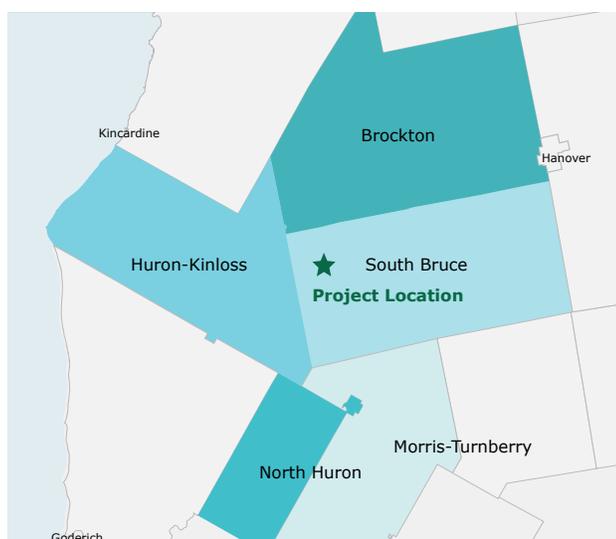
### Securing our future

The federal government tasked the NWMO with finding a safe, permanent solution for Canada's used nuclear fuel. Globally, storing the waste in a reinforced facility deep underground is considered the safest long-term option.

The proposed facility would be about 660-metres underground, with a Centre of Expertise and other facilities above ground.

### How and when will the NWMO select a site?

- The NWMO expects to select a site to build a DGR by the end of 2024. The selected site must be deemed safe for people and the environment.
- The NWMO has said the Project will only proceed in an area with informed and willing hosts, including the municipality, First Nation and Métis communities and others in the area.



### How will South Bruce decide if it is willing to host the Project?

- After extensive community consultation in 2021, South Bruce Council endorsed holding a referendum during the 2022 – 2026 term of Council.
- The newly elected South Bruce Council reaffirmed this decision to measure community willingness to host the Project via referendum.

## How can people in South Bruce make an informed decision?

### Attend CLC Meetings

- Over the past decade, a Council-appointed Community Liaison Committee (CLC) has aimed to increase community awareness through regular public meetings with guest experts to address questions and concerns. These meetings will continue through 2023.

### Reflect on priorities and guiding principles

- From 2019 to 2020, South Bruce staff engaged the community to develop guiding principles that outline the community's expectations and aspirations for the project. Many of the 36 guiding principles are noted in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with the NWMO last spring.

### Learn how the Project could affect the community

- Over the last two years, NWMO and/or municipally hired consultants conducted dozens of studies which independent consultants peer reviewed. The studies explore the potential social and economic effects of the project on the community.
- Summaries of the studies were shared with the public via householder mailings and CLC presentations. Full studies are available on the municipal website and at South Bruce libraries.

### Review the Hosting Agreement

- Based on the guiding principles and insights from studies so far, the Municipality is negotiating a hosting agreement with the NWMO.
- The hosting agreement will lay out what the community expects if it is willing to host the Project and the community benefits the NWMO would deliver. The hosting agreement will help the municipality make an informed decision based on clear understanding of the NWMO's commitments and obligations.
- The agreement would not come into effect unless the Municipality was willing and selected to go to the next step of the process.

## What happens after the referendum?

If the referendum shows a binding majority of voters are willing to host the Project then the Municipality will move to the next stage of the site selection process. Once the NWMO selects a host community, there will be an extensive federal review and licensing process.

**Stay connected:** Reach out to the **South Bruce Nuclear Exploration Team** any time with questions, comments, concerns, or if you would like more information.

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