

Overview of Studies

Fall 2021

The Municipality of South Bruce is one of the final two potential locations that the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is considering for a project that includes a deep geological repository (DGR) to store Canada's used nuclear fuel, surface facilities and a Centre of Expertise.

To evaluate the project, there are more than 40 studies and peer reviews underway that speak to the 36 guiding principles developed with community input.

The principles focus on:



**Safety for
people and the
environment**



**Ensuring the
project brings
meaningful
benefits to the
community**



**Ensuring the
community
has a voice in
decision-making**

The studies are in addition to the borehole drilling and geoscience field work studies by the NWMO, which will determine if the rock deep below the surface is safe and suitable for a deep geologic repository.

There are two types of studies:

Municipally led studies:

South Bruce has hired consultants to conduct a range of studies to determine the potential impact of the project in our Municipality.

NWMO-led studies, with peer reviews by South Bruce:

NWMO-led studies tend to have a broader scope, looking at the potential impact of the project regionally.

These studies will be peer reviewed, meaning the Municipality has retained independent experts to confirm that the methodology and findings are valid.

About the Project

Nuclear power is used in several provinces. In Ontario, it supplies about half of our electricity.

The used nuclear fuel from power plants is currently stored securely above-ground at seven sites across Canada. About half is located at the Bruce Power site.

The NWMO is tasked with finding a safe, permanent solution. 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.

Summaries of the studies will be shared with the community, including by mail, and on the [Studies and Reports](#) page of the municipal website, as they are completed over the next two years.

The following chart summarizes the types of questions that the studies are seeking to answer, organized by key themes of the guiding principles.

- Municipally led studies
- NWMO-led studies, with with peer reviews by South Bruce consultants



Safety for people and the environment

To understand the potential effects on our environment and health, we need to know where we are today. Some of the work will review:

- What is the current quality of our lakes and rivers?
- What is the current quality of our soil and vegetation?
- What is the current nature of our groundwater?
- What is the current type and quantity of local wildlife, including birds, aquatic life and species at risk?
- What is our community's health like today?
- What potential supports are needed for those in the community who depend on social programs, such as housing, child care, or income assistance?
- What emergency services would we need?



Meaningful benefits to the community

- What kind of workforce do we have and what would we need in the future?
- How could the project affect our tourism industry?
- What is the potential economic impact for our youth?
- How could the project affect municipal finances?
- How could the project affect our recreational resources and needs?
- What are the spin-off benefits in terms of local economic development?
- How could our housing market change? What about property values?
- What is the potential effect on specific sectors, like agricultural and aggregates?
- What infrastructure would be needed?
- What educational programs would be needed to support the local workforce?
- How could our social services be affected?
- What's the potential impact on regional economic development?



Community has a voice

- How do people want to measure their willingness to host the project?
- Does the community want to continue with the NWMO process to determine if the project is safe, feasible and beneficial?

2021

Municipal Economic Development Update

Municipal Strategic Plan

Willingness Process Consultation and Study

Work on many studies has begun and will be completed over the next couple of years. The final reports will be published on the [Studies and Reports](#) page of the municipal website and updates will be distributed by mail.

● Municipally led studies

● NWMO-led studies, with peer reviews by South Bruce consultants

2022

Local Hiring Effects Study and Strategy

Tourism Industry Effects and Strategy

Local Economic Development Study and Strategy

Economic Development Program – Youth

Agricultural Business Impact Study

Effects on Recreational Resources

Recreation Master Plan

Infrastructure Baseline and Feasibility Study

Local Traffic Effects Study

Road Conditions Effects Study

Aggregate Resources Study

Vulnerable Populations Baseline & Effects Study

Local/Regional Education Study

Social Programs Study

Housing Needs and Demand Analysis Study

Emergency Services Study

Land Use Study

Regional Economic Development Study

Labour Baseline Study

Baseline Socio-Economic Conditions – Methodology & Report

Effects on Community Safety

Community Health Programs and Health Infrastructure Study

Well-Being Study

Property Value Monitoring Program

Workplace Development Study

2023

Fiscal Impact and Public Finance

Community Report Back – Environmental Program

Local Hydrology and Water Quality – Baseline

Local Geology including Groundwater and Soils – Baseline and Effects

Local Atmospheric Conditions – Baseline

Local Terrestrial Species – Baseline

Local Aquatic Species – Baseline

Local Avian Species – Baseline

Species at Risk – Baseline

Ambient Radioactivity – Baseline

Effects on Surface Water Study

Ecological Effects Studies

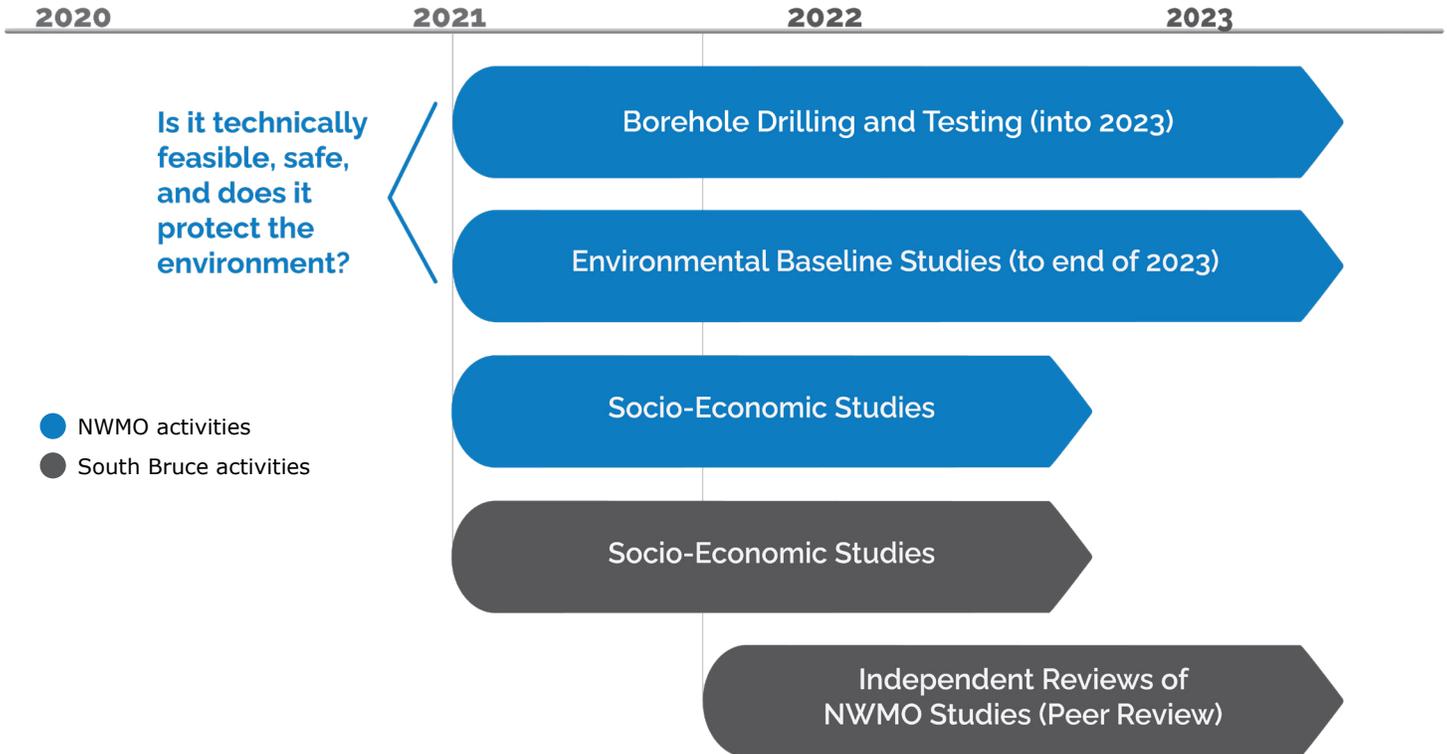
Environmental Effects Study

NWMO Borehole Drilling and Geoscience Field Work

Timeline of Studies

NWMO narrows the site selection to South Bruce and Ignace.

NWMO identifies preferred site



Reach out anytime with your questions, comments, concerns, or if you are seeking more information. We would be happy to hear from you!

South Bruce Nuclear Exploration Team:
Dave Rushton, Project Manager
drushton@southbruce.ca
Morgan Hickling, CLC Project Coordinator
sbclc@southbruce.ca
Steve Travale, Communications/
Public Relations Officer
stravale@southbruce.ca

Stay Connected!
Follow us online:

@municipalityofsouthbruce
 @municipalityofsouthbruce
 @MunSouthBruce



Visit our website:
www.southbruce.ca

Visit our community engagement tool:
www.southbruceswitchboard.ca

Sign up to get project updates direct to your inbox:
forms.southbruce.ca/Stay-Connected

Municipality of South Bruce
PO Box 540 | 21 Gordon St. E
Teeswater, Ontario N0G 2S0
Phone: 519-392-6623
Fax: 519-392-6266