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CNSC Announces Decision on Screening Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Long-Term Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Project in Port Hope, Ontario

07-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2007

Following a hearing held on January 24, 2007 in Ottawa, Ontario, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) announced today its conclusion that the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Office's (LLRMWO) proposed project to construct and operate a long-term low-level radioactive waste management facility, is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, taking into account mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Assessment Screening Report.

Natural Resources Canada is the lead Responsible Authority for the purposes of this environmental assessment. The CNSC and Fisheries and Oceans Canada are also Responsible Authorities. More information is available on the [Natural Resources Canada](#) Web site.

The Commission's decision was based on its consideration of a screening environmental assessment of the project that was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). Further, with respect to the CEAA, the Commission decided not to refer the project to the federal Minister of the Environment for referral to a review panel or mediator.

During the public hearing on the environmental assessment screening, the Commission considered the Environmental Assessment Screening Report and written submissions and oral presentations from the LLRWMO and CNSC staff.

The Commission therefore can proceed, under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, with its consideration of a licence application from the LLRWMO for the proposed project.

A [Record of Proceedings, including Reasons for Decision](#) and transcripts of the hearing are available on the CNSC Web site at www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca, or by contacting the CNSC.

The CNSC regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment and to respect Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

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