

Adaptive Phased Management Timelines

Source: Implementing Adaptive Phased Management 2021 to 2021 (Nuclear Waste Management Association, March 2021)

Developing Canada's plan	2002	The NWMO is created.
	2005	The NWMO completes three-year study with interested individuals, including specialists, Indigenous peoples and the Canadian public.
	2007	Government of Canada selects Adaptive Phased Management (APM) and mandates the NWMO to begin implementation.
Developing the siting process	2008 to 2009	Work takes place with citizens to design a process for selecting a central, preferred site for the deep geological repository and Centre of Expertise.
Identifying a site using the siting process	2010	The siting process is initiated, with a program to provide information, answer questions and build awareness.
	2010 to 2015	Twenty-two communities initially express interest. In collaboration with interested communities, the NWMO conducts initial screenings, followed by preliminary assessment desktop studies and community engagement. Areas with less potential to meet project requirements are eliminated from further consideration.
	2015 to 2023	The NWMO expands assessment to include field investigations. Areas with less potential are eliminated from further consideration as the narrowing down process continues.
	2023	A single, preferred site is identified. The transportation planning framework is finalized.
Towards construction	2024	Detailed site characterization begins. The project description is submitted, triggering the federal impact assessment. The Licence to Prepare Site application is submitted to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
	2026	Impact assessment studies are submitted as part of the regulatory process.
	2027	The grand opening of the Centre of Expertise is held.
	2028	The impact assessment is approved (estimate). The Licence to Prepare Site is granted (estimate).
	2029	The Licence to Construct application is submitted to the CNSC.
	2032	The Licence to Construct is granted (estimate).
	2033	Design and construction begin.
Beginning operations	2040 to 2045	Operations of the deep geological repository begin. Transportation of used nuclear fuel to the repository begins.