

Questions & Answers

Dave Rushton & Allan Webster

February 4th, 2021 CLC Meeting

Who actually (sic) created the work statements for the studies being performed by the NWMO and the same questions for the joint planning activities and then those for South Bruce studies?

As outlined during the meeting, there was a collaborative approach on the statements of work.

Dave Rushton and Allan Webster jointly prepared the statements of work for the joint studies.

For the studies being led by the NWMO, NWMO staff developed the statements of work.

South Bruce staff prepared the statements of work for the studies/peer-reviews being led by South Bruce, in consultation with senior staff.

Principles 30 and 31 have to do with road network and transportation routes, the preparation for the testing sites has taken a toll on the 8th concession already. Whether the project proceeds or not this is an issue that needs to be addressed. What are the expectations in addressing the road infrastructure to support this phase of the project?

As referenced, Principle 30 indicates that “The NWMO will prepare a review of the existing and projected capacity of South Bruce’s road network and will commit to providing appropriate funding for any required upgrades to the road network.” Therefore, our expectation is that any required updates at any stage of the Project will be assessed for incremental damage and will be incurred by the NWMO. We anticipate working with the NWMO on how this will proceed.

One of the studies that will take place to address those principles is the Road Conditions Effects Study. It will be led by the NWMO, and has the objective “to assess the existing municipal, county, and provincial road conditions and recommend any improvements and/or monitoring associated with the NWMO APM Project” as stated in the Statement of Work. The study will consider the increased demand associated with the project on existing roads, and will also recommend proposed improvements to road and road infrastructure.

Where is head office of your studies companies?

As there are several companies and consultants which have been engaged for the studies and peer-reviews, they have various head offices, respectively.

Certain companies/firms have multiple offices and locations across the province, country and in some cases globally. For specific questions as to the location of the offices of the companies/consultants retained by the Municipality of South Bruce, please contact Dave Rushton at drushton@southbruce.ca

Are some of the "needs of the community" if the project comes here based on what existing residents would like to see, and not just based on population booms and what that would require?

For example: if residents now are saying they'd like a new arena with an indoor pool, but population projections don't "support" that as a requirement...would it still be considered as something the community needs

There is a balance to be found. For example, with some of the funding provided by the NWMO that is currently distributed in the community, consideration is given to the needs, aspirations, and wants that the current residents and population desires.

Other potential "needs" may not be viable or sustainable for the community if the siting of the Project did not take place in South Bruce. It is important to consider that some of these needs or wants (for example a new arena) would have to be sustainable by the Municipal tax base, and if there was not the increased population, infrastructure, or significant contributors to the tax base, then some potential community projects would not occur.

We look forward to understanding this more concretely through our infrastructure and community wellbeing area studies.

Several statements made by the NWMO in the past claim the community must be "COMPELLING WILLINGNESS "AND INFORMED COMMUNITY" How will you determine /measure these conditions? Has the NWMO changed their mind relative to compelling willingness versus willingness community.

This year, we will embark on a facilitated process that will provide Council with information on what members of the community would like to see in determining their willingness to host this Project.

More information on the timetable of activities that the independent consultant GHD will carry out on behalf of the Municipality of South Bruce, will be shared publicly in the coming months.

All South Bruce residents and ratepayers will have the opportunity to provide input in an open and respectful manner.

Our expectation is that by the end of this year, GHD will provide a report to Council that will accurately and transparently outline what they heard from the South Bruce community members who participated in the process.

Through an independent process with a facilitator (GHD), the Municipality of South Bruce hopes to better understand and gauge these questions and terms.

NWMO Response: The NWMO has a community-driven site selection process designed to ensure, about all, that any location selected is safe, secure and has informed and willing hosts. Communities are encouraged to identify processes that meet their specific needs and demonstrate clearly to the NWMO whether the project has the support of citizens. The NWMO will support the community in whatever process they decide to determine if the project has the support of citizens.

For the willingness study how did you come up with the fact that the willingness must have several factors to determine the willingness.

To have a clear demonstration of willingness should not be reliant on one exercise or result, but rather should be considered by multiple factors, which we anticipate the community will express during the willingness engagement activities this year.

While some members of the community may believe one factor is the best/their preferred method, it is important to recognize that a broad range of opinions on what willingness should look like may be expressed throughout the course of this exercise. These options will then be presented to Council for their consideration on which measures of willingness will be used.

How can there be any other way to measure willingness than a referendum of all the voters in the municipality?

There is the potential for many ways to measure willingness, including a referendum.

Through the willingness engagement process that will take place this year, the community will get to indicate and discuss *which* ways they consider, or would like willingness measured, whether that is a referendum and/or other measures.

What is Dave Rushton (sic) education qualifications or work history to perform the review of the studies or peer reviews for South Bruce?

Dave Rushton's education has been in accounting, economic development, and municipal leadership. He holds multiple designations, as well as professional work experience in energy and municipal sectors spanning several decades.

However, it is important to clarify that Dave, who is the Project Manager for the Municipality of South Bruce, will be overseeing the consultants that will be performing studies, or peer reviewing them. The Municipality has selected and will be engaging expert consultants to perform the peer-reviews, as outlined in the presentation to the Community Liaison Committee.

When does South Bruce think they will be signing an agreement with the NWMO for the center of excellence undertaking?

The signing of an agreement pertaining to the Centre of Expertise would form part of a hosting agreement which is not anticipated until 2023 when the NWMO intends to have a site identified. Design, development, and the construction of the Centre of Expertise would follow that.

If the council did not run on the question of this project in the last election how can they be now think (sic) that they can make the final decision?

The current plan calls for a decision to be made in 2023. Based on that timeline, three municipal elections will have taken place in between that time, and 2012 when South Bruce first entered the site selection process – including the upcoming Fall of 2022 election. In the interim, there are a couple of years for both Council and the community to continue learning, and provide input on the process.

As outlined above, our expectation is that by the end of 2021, GHD will provide a report to Council that will accurately and transparently outline what they heard from the South Bruce community members who participated in the process pertaining to willingness.