CNL Transition to GoCo – The Regulator’s Perspective

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The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

- Established May 2000, under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act
- Replaced the AECB, established in 1946, under the Atomic Energy Control Act

Canada’s independent nuclear regulator
70 years of experience
Regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect the health, safety and security of Canadians and the environment and implement Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Disseminates objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public.

We will never compromise safety.
Clear Legislation and Regulations

Nuclear Safety and Control Act (2000) mandate

- Modern framework for regulation of nuclear sector
- Separates regulation from promotion (Atomic Energy of Canada Limited)
- Covers health, safety, security and the environment, and international obligations
- Federal jurisdiction over all nuclear facilities and activities
Independence

- At arm’s length from government
  - decisions not subject to political influence or review
- Independence, not isolation, from government
  - quasi-judicial administrative tribunal
- Reports to Parliament through Minister of Natural Resources
- Subject to directives on broad policy matters under section 19 of the Nuclear Safety and Control Act

Transparent, science-based decision making
The CNSC Regulates All Nuclear-Related Facilities and Activities in Canada

- Uranium mines and mills
- Uranium fuel fabricators and processing
- Nuclear power plants
- Waste management facilities
- Nuclear substance processing
- Industrial and medical applications
- Nuclear research and educational
- Import and export controls

...From cradle to grave
Licensees’ Responsibilities for Waste and Decommissioning

- Waste owners are responsible for the funding, organisation and operation of their waste management facilities and final disposal.

- Licensees are responsible for justifying the option selected to decommission their facilities – accelerated or deferred.
Regulatory Oversight of Waste Management in Canada

Licensed Facilities in Canada

**Spent Fuel**
- Nuclear Waste Management Organisation (NWMO)
- APM project under Nuclear Fuel Waste Act
- No licence application to date

**Intermediate-Level Radioactive Waste**
- **Ongoing**
  - Ontario Power Generation (OPG)
  - Hydro-Québec (HQ)
  - New Brunswick Power (NB Power)
  - Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL)
  - Nordion
- **Legacy**
  - AECL
  - CNL

**Low-Level Radioactive Waste**
- **Ongoing**
  - OPG
  - HQ
  - CNL
  - NB Power
  - Cameco
- **Legacy**
  - AECL
- **Historic**
  - Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Office (LLRWMO)

**Uranium Mine and Mill Tailings**
- **Operating**
  - Cameco
  - AREVA
- **Inactive**
  - Provinces
  - Former operators

**CNSC**
- Independent Regulator
Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) Sites

- Research establishments
- Waste management facilities
- Prototype reactors
- Historic waste remediation projects
- CNSC regulates
- CNL is privately owned and is the licensee
- AECL is the owner of the assets and oversees performance under the contract
- CNEA is the contractor
Establishment of the GoCo

- Early involvement of the regulator during the procurement of the GoCo while being at arms length
- Regulator must understand the contract and agreements between the licensee, Government and private enterprise
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities of contractor, licensee and Government
- Financial guarantees and liabilities
- Regulatory certainty – open lines of communication with bidders
GoCo Licensee Independence

- Contract and agreements cannot interfere with licensee obligations
- Licensee must have full autonomy to carry out its obligations and responsibilities
- Licensee must have independence to be the controlling mind of the day-to-day operations
Regulatory Oversight during GoCo Implementation

- Significant change in the licensee, for example: personnel, processes, acceleration of projects
- Regulatory focus on licensee’s approach to change management
- Maintenance of regulatory commitments
- Regulator preparedness to respond to accelerated projects
Implications for the CNSC

- Increased number of projects
- Increased number of licensing actions
- Environmental assessments
- Changes to regulatory compliance oversight of operations and activities
- CNSC preparedness to respond in a timely manner – structure and resources
Thank you...

...questions?

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