

August 13, 2020

Hon. Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources  
House of Commons, Ottawa  
by email

**Re: Offer to organize a public consultation in New Brunswick on national radioactive waste policy**

Dear Minister O'Regan,

My research project RAVEN at the University of New Brunswick was one of the 100 public interest groups signing a letter to you (May 15) asking for public consultations to develop a national radioactive waste policy. Your response (July 10) stated your intention to launch the engagement process.

The RAVEN project is pleased to make the offer to organize a public consultation in New Brunswick. A RAVEN project goal is raising awareness of environmental issues. Given that radioactive waste is an important environmental issue in the province, and that a public consultation is an excellent way to raise awareness, we anticipate significant project benefits. RAVEN is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the New Brunswick Innovation Foundation.

Jenica Atwin, MP for Fredericton, has accepted my invitation to host the consultation. RAVEN will extend the invitation to participate in both official languages, engaging widely with Indigenous nations, rural and urban communities, environmental and industry groups, and other stakeholders in energy development.

We hope to host the event in October. Given that the University is closed to the public, the event will be mostly held online, with an in-person gathering following public health guidelines also possible, and with written and video submissions invited. Following the event, a summary report will be publicly available.

We would appreciate knowing by the end of August if this offer is acceptable to you. We look forward to working together on this important event. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Susan O'Donnell,  
Principal Investigator, RAVEN project

cc: Jenica Atwin, MP for Fredericton  
cc: Hon. Blaine Higgs, Premier of New Brunswick  
cc: Dr. Paul Mazerolle, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of New Brunswick

