



## **Summary of the meeting held on 17 October 2008** **ARPANSA – Kareela Golf Course Meeting Room**

### **OPENING OF MEETING AND CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

All Members were present with the exception of Mr Ian Drinnan and Mr Jim Hondros who had tendered their apologies.

Members requested that several amendments be made to the minutes of the previous meeting. Subject to those amendments being made, the minutes were confirmed out-of-session following the meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee discussed the correspondence relating to future directions of the NSC and agreed that there could be a significant role for NSC if Australia moved towards an expanded nuclear fuel cycle.

Members also noted that ARPANSA was regulating an abandoned uranium mine in the Northern Territory, administered by Parks Australia North, and that could be a major issue for NSC to consider if ARPANSA were to receive any further applications for licence in relation to the next stages of the remediation of the site.

### **WORKSHOP ON THE REGULATORY REVIEW OF SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

The theme of this meeting was a workshop focussing on the regulatory review of safety management systems. Such a workshop was seen as an ideal opportunity for the ARPANSA Regulation and Policy Branch staff and the NSC Members to exchange information and experiences in this area. Many industries benefit from having rigorous assessment of their safety management systems.

Speakers addressed the Committee on their experiences with dealing with and requiring implementation of safety management systems relating to:

- electricity supply (Victoria)
- civil aviation safety
- licensee plans and arrangements
- the OPAL Reactor
- non-reactor nuclear regulation by ARPANSA

### **Discussion**

Members interacted with the speakers and discussed various aspects relating to safety management systems. The Committee thanked all participants in the workshop and agreed that it had been a valuable experience.

## **REPORTS**

### **General Report from the CEO**

Ms Evans updated the Committee on the CEO's and ARPANSA's activities since the previous meeting including:

- Attendance at the IAEA General Conference held in Vienna at the end of September 2008. Items of interest to the Committee included:
  - The passing of a safety resolution sponsored by Australia;
  - A uranium mining sub-meeting with presentations from the South Australian regulator and BHP Billiton;
  - The development of a database in an attempt to track illicit trafficking of radioisotopes;
  - An attempt to create a coalition of countries with research reactors.
- An upcoming meeting on the Code of Conduct for Research Reactors that Dr Loy was expected to chair.
- An IRRS follow up/review meeting to be held in Spain in early November.

### **Report on Council – Meeting of 8 August 2008**

Members noted the tabled [Web summary](#) from the previous Council meeting.

### **Report on RHC – Meeting of 16-17 July 2008**

Members noted the tabled [Web summary](#) from the previous RHC meeting.

### **Draft Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Triennium of the Nuclear Safety Committee**

Members asked the Secretariat to continue drafting the triennium report and forward it to the Committee for final approval following the meeting. Once finished, the final agreed triennium would be placed on the ARPANSA website and would, in turn, provide background advice to the public and incoming Committee Members as to what NSC had done in the past.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Committee was updated on the updated International Nuclear Event Scale (INES) reporting scheme that would, in future, include radiological barriers and control incidents, and be expanded to cover defence-in-depth problems.

The IAEA also maintained a dedicated database for transport incidents and a similar database to cover medical incidents was expected to be available shortly.

## **CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETING**

Members noted that this was the last meeting of the third triennium of the Nuclear Safety Committee and thanked Dr Shields for chairing the meetings over the last two trienniums (six years). The Committee also thanked the Secretariat for their continued support.

The next meeting would be held in 2009.