# For Official Use Only



Australian Government

#### Meeting Minutes and Actions Table

Meeting title	ANSTO-ARPANSA Liaison Forum (AALF) Meeting				
Date	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	Time	10.00am	Venue	ANSTO Building 1 Boardroom
Chair	Adi Paterson			Minutes	Vanessa Sharp
	ANSTO				
Attendees	Adi Paterson Chief Executive Officer				
	Hefin Griffiths	in Griffiths Head of Nuclear Services & Chief Nuclear Officer			
	Daniel Pond Acting Regulatory		tory Affairs Mana	ory Affairs Manager	
	Vanessa Sharp	o Regulatory Affairs Manager			
	ARPANSA				
	Carl-Magnus Larsso	on C	Chief Executive Officer		
	Jim Scott	C	Chief Regulatory Officer		
	Robert Godfrey	D	Director, Facility Safety		
Apologies	N/A	N	N/A		
By Invitation					
(presenters & delegated substitutes)	Rachel Ahyong	S	Safety and Reliability Assurance Manager- ANSTO		

MEETING MINUTES				
Agenda Item	Minute			
Safety Focus	The CEO of ANSTO welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Emergency procedures were reviewed and communicated to all attendees. ANSTO stated its commitment to optimisation and a holistic approach to safety.			
1.1 Future Priorities	ARPANSA and ANSTO discussed emerging industry developments including the 5G network and the current enquiry into Nuclear Power. ANSTO and ARPANSA will provide submissions to the enquiry upon request.			
1.2 International developments in radiation protection and nuclear safety	ARPANSA informed ANSTO of the upcoming hosting of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Symposium of the International Commission on Radiological Protection and encouraged attendance. ARPANSA and ANSTO will be attending the General Conference at the IAEA this year. ANSTO and ARPANSA discussed the future direction of the IAEA following the recent sad passing of DG Amano. ANSTO and ARPANSA commended the interest of international organisations in Australia's Nuclear community.			
1.3 ARPANSA Internal Safety Culture Assessment	ARPANSA discussed the results of the recent third party Internal Safety Culture Assessment of the ARPANSA Regulatory Services Branch and the associated Action Plan and implementation timeline. ANSTO acknowledged the value of the survey.			
2.1 Future priorities for governance of radiation protection and nuclear safety	ANSTO stated its commitment to continually improving methods of protecting staff from high activity point sources. ANSTO have initiated a series of internal Nuclear/Radiological Safety Status reviews for each controlled facility and those holding licenced sources. The reviews will support good practice in the organisation and encourage transparency and commonality in site practices and methodologies.			

AT-5834

Page 1 of 3

### For Official Use Only

# For Official Use Only

2.2 Resourcing and	Resourcing and accountability requirements were discussed and understood by ANSTO and ARPANSA.
accountability	
2.3 Safety and reliability Assurance Process	ANSTO presented the proposed streamlined Safety Assurance process that embeds ownership of safety risks in the operational areas and requires collaboration with safety subject matter experts. The process is a transition from an approval model to an assurance model with the outcome to provide greater visibility of risk and clearer and separate treatment of consequences independent of likelihood. ARPANSA indicated that they look forward to reviewing the formal submission.
2.4 ANM Operations (including status update on ANM incident and safety culture survey)	ANSTO discussed its current mechanisms and modalities for internal surveys conducted by in-house registered professionals. The discussions included the scientific underpinnings and ANSTOs collaborative partnership with the University of Wollongong, in the case of some staff surveys and validation of survey instruments. The data is considered, credible and valuable to ANSTO.
	ARPANSA would like to collaborate with ANSTO and an objective third party to administer a survey of the ANSTO Health, ANM and related facilities that aims to independently evaluate Safety Culture. ANSTO agreed on the approach. ANSTO agreed to appoint an independent the service provider to administer the questionnaire to provide objective basis for the survey.
	ANSTO and ARPANSA aim to have a mutual agreement on the criteria and benchmarks. Discussions around anonymity, and boundaries to eliminate incorrect interpretations of the survey that could be to the detriment of its credibility, were held.
	ANSTO discussed the recent safety event at ANM, the current safety culture and actions being taken. In light of the recent safety events, ARPANSA have implemented modified licence conditions for the ANM facility. ANSTO informed ARPANSA of the current external review of ANSTO finances and governance undertaken by David Tune and its progress.
3.1 NRWMF Update	ANSTO is continuing to consider effective strategies for the management of its radioactive waste with third parties. Discussions centred on ongoing decisions in relation to independence, ownership and overall responsibility. Community engagement activities are continuing.
3.2 ANSTO site licence discussion	ANSTO and ARPANSA agreed it is beneficial to work towards a single integrated source licencing framework (and other areas such as security, safety and transport arrangements). Commitment by both parties will provide opportunities for learning and harmonisation, and a common baseline. Discussions around geographical considerations and documented practices including finalising nomenclature, for example, reference to an 'Organisation Licence' rather than a 'Site Licence' and licencing constraints in consideration of multiple processes in a single facility.
4.1 Inspection approaches and lessons learned	A number of inspections at ANSTO have been undertaken by ARPANSA with a common theme arising of the importance of sharing lessons learnt across ANSTO. The licensing discussion at 3.1 is relevant to this discussion.
4.2 Regulatory expectations	Regulatory expectations were understood by ANSTO and ARPANSA.
4.3 Update on implementation of actions following ANSTO Health Independent Review	ANSTO and ARPANSA agree various meetings have been held outside of these meetings to discuss the process of the ANSTO Health Independent Review action plan. The plan is nearing finalisation and will be submitted to ARPANSA for approval in August. Work on completing the actions has already commenced with progress being monitored by a separate review group in ANSTO.

# For Official Use Only

5.1 ANSTO Governance Update 5.1.1 ANSTO Branding	ANSTO have taken an emerging approach to transition their new branding toolkit. ARPANSA will be updated when the transition has been completed. It was agreed that ARPANSA changes to licence names (with the old brand) can therefore be completed on a gradual basis.
5.1.2 Improvements at ANSTO Camperdown	ANSTO Camperdown now holds a licence with the TGA and can now commence clinical trials. ANSTO Camperdown has a sound, integrated management process that is consistent with ANSTO Lucas Heights.
5.2 Major Projects Update 5.2.1 Nandin Blue	ANSTO discussed the current project with the NSW government (Nandin Blue) to attract Nuclear Medicine companies to Australia. There has been considerable interest and investment in the project in consideration of ANSTO's Nuclear Medicine capabilities.
5.3 Upcoming licence applications and amendment requests update	ANSTO discussed the recent approval and operation of the B20b extension and the current hold on the ELWIS transfer tank project between Building 54 and ANM. The SUF verification project is continuing. A Cold Chemistry review discussion has been initiated by the ANSTO CEO with the TGA seeking assistance in reducing exposure to staff at ANSTO to point sources.
6. General Business	ANSTO and ARPANSA agree to continue the meetings in the spirit of engagement and continuing positive interactions and open communication.