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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VISITING SHIPS PANEL (NUCLEAR) HELD AT s 33 - security ON 02 JUNE 2022

Attendees:

s 47F - privacy

NPSTF
HNE COS (Acting Chair)
MAROPS
NPSO
JHC
SONPW
NPSO (Secretary)
AGNSR
ANSTO
ANSTO
ARPANSA
ARPANSA
DAWE
DAWE
DFAT
DSTG
Health
IPDIV

Apologies:

s 47F - privacy

Head Navy Engineering (Chair)

ITEM 1: OPENING

1. s 47F - privacy (HNE COS) declared the meeting open at 1048, who in the absence of the Chair, s 47F - privacy who was unable to attend the meeting, stated that s 47F - privacy would be chairing the meeting.

ITEM 2: WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

2. s 47F - privacy invited every member present to introduce themselves, provide a short summary of what their organisation does, and how they contribute to the Panel. Commencing with s 47F - privacy (Master Attendant), each member as per the attendance list introduced themselves. The secretary tendered apologies from Panel members who were unable to attend the meeting.

ITEM 3: CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTE'S MINUTES

3. s 47F - privacy requested those Panel members present at the previous Visiting Ship Panel (Nuclear) (VSP(N)) meeting to confirm the minutes of the last meeting. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by s 47F - privacy (SONPW) and seconded by s 47F - privacy (ANSTO).

Decision: Minutes accepted.

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ITEM 4: MATTERS ARISING

4/3/Jun 14 – 2018 NPW Seminar – Status of Outcomes

4. The Secretary stated that the Technical Working Group (TWG) continues to progress the open outcomes of the 2018 NPW Seminar, with one outcome (43A/18) closed since the previous VSP(N) meeting. The remaining are expected to be closed out either prior to or during the NPW seminar scheduled for the last quarter of 2022.

Decision: TWG to continue actioning the open recommendations and provide an update to the next meeting.

For Action: TWG.

4/2/Feb 20 – 2022 NPW Seminar

5. The Secretary notified the Panel that the 2022 NPW seminar will be conducted at s 33 - security on 26-28 Oct 2022. The Secretary also noted that all of the relevant attendees have been confirmed; including representatives from NSW and SA, and that formal invitations will be forwarded in the coming weeks. The Secretary passed on his thanks to those members of the Panel who assisted with identifying the relevant POCs across the various jurisdictions.

6. s 47F - privacy (ARPANSA) queried whether the VSP(N) funded travel for those attending; i.e. State jurisdictions, which the Secretary confirmed the VSP(N) does not.

Decision: Item closed.

4/1/Feb 21 – Reference Accident

7. s 47F - privacy (ARPANSA) provided the Panel with an update on the reference accident as per enclosures 1 and 2. Following an opportunity for questions, s 47F - privacy requested any comments on the draft tender documents at enclosures 3 and 4, of which there were none. s 47F - privacy confirmed that ARPANSA will therefore proceed to limited tender for those work packages at enclosures 3 and 4. s 47F - privacy noted ARPANSA are proceeding to limited tender due to the technical nature of the project, which requires those providers with the necessary technical capabilities to participate.

8. s 47F - privacy stated that as per the reference accident MOU, ARPANSA are required to establish a project steering committee, which will have oversight of the project and its deliverables. It was of the opinion of s 47F - privacy and ARPANSA, that the most appropriate body to act as the project steering committee is the VSP(N), and he therefore requested comments from the Panel. s 47F - privacy (ANSTO) was in support, as was s 47F - privacy. With no further comment, nor any objections, s 47F - privacy proposed that the VSP(N) become the reference accident project steering committee.

9. s 47F - privacy recommended that as the project steering committee, the VSP(N) should progress with the standard timeline and frequency of meetings, but will test and adjust as required, including hosting out of session meetings or circulate items out of session when and where necessary.

Decision: The VSP(N) will act as the reference accident steering committee for the length of the project, with project deliverables considered at VSP(N) or out of session meetings.

For Action: ARPANSA.

10. Lastly, for the benefit of those new members on the Panel, § 47F - privacy provided a briefing on the nature of the reference accident; how and by whom it was created and its purpose. Following a query from § 47F - privacy (Health) § 47F - privacy confirmed that the reference accident can be applied to any port during a port [radiation] assessment, which will then be factored into the development of the ports Port Safety Plan (PSP). § 47F - privacy also confirmed that the reference accident, when used to inform the PSP will assist the relevant jurisdiction with the development of medical preparedness and first responder requirements, such as evacuation and sheltering. § 47F - privacy also noted that these functions (medical requirements and preparedness) are the responsibility of the State.

11. § 47F - privacy (DAWE) queried whether ARPANSA, as part of their review of the reference accident, will be adding exposure to water as a release pathway, noting the existing reference accident only considers air as a release pathway. § 47F - privacy confirmed that the review would consider water as a release pathway, but also noted that ARPANSA have plans in place for how the Federal, State and Territory jurisdictions would deal with a release into water, including existing monitoring regimes for each NPW visit. § 47F - privacy (DFAT) noted that release into water is also important to consider from an international law perspective, as there are a number of treaties, such as the § 33 - security which may be triggered following a release in any waterway within the boundaries of the Treaty. § 47F - privacy (ANSTO) noted that the VSP(N) specifically discussed the § 33 - security in a previous meeting, which will be relevant to this discussion.

Decision: Secretary to forward the VSP(N) minutes which formally discussed the § 33 - security to the Panel.

For Action: Secretary/SONPW.

4/3/Oct 21 – Review of OPSMAN 1

12. § 47F - privacy provided an update on the review of OPSMAN 1. § 47F - privacy stated the [draft] OPSMAN 1 edition 11, version 1.3, has been reconstructed into NPW policy (chapters 1 to 2) and NPW procedures (chapters 3 to 6), which has been distributed to the TWG for review. § 47F - privacy confirmed the review remains on track, with final ratification to be confirmed at the 2022 NPW seminar.

Decision: Update to be provided at the next VSP(N) meeting.

For Action: SONPW.

4/1/Feb 22 – NPW Resource Analysis and Costing

13. § 47F - privacy opened a discussion regarding NPW resource analysis and costing. § 47F - privacy noted that the VSP(N) does not have a dedicated line of funding, and that currently activities are funded ‘in house’, with standalone projects such as the reference accident being funded as discrete projects on an ad hoc basis. Following the AUKUS announcement and the § 33 - security § 47F - privacy

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submitted that these funding arrangements are no longer considered viable and it behoves the VSP(N) to adopt a more structured funding arrangement.

14. [s 47F - privacy] stated that if the VSP(N) is to adopt a more structured or 'stable' funding profile, the VSP(N) will need to develop a robust [s 33 - security] that clearly articulates the ongoing funding requirements of supporting visiting NPWs with justification from the relevant agencies and departments. In order to achieve this, [s 47F - privacy] requested that all Panel members [and their agencies/departments] consider the impact of an [s 33 - security]

[] To help inform these discussions, Navy (coordinated by the Chairs office) were to develop a set of NPW visit vignettes (enclosure 5), which will consider a range of potential future scenarios that will impact NPW resourcing.

15. [s 47F - privacy] requested that all VSP(N) members review the enclosed vignettes and provide a summary of the resourcing impacts; including equipment, personnel and movement at the next VSP(N) meeting.

Decision: VSP(N) agencies and departments to develop a resource impact statement based on the NPW visit vignettes (enclosure 5) for consideration at the next VSP(N) meeting.

For Action: All.

16. [s 47F - privacy] queried what the intent for AUKUS is over the next 2-5 years and how that impacts the VSP(N) and their activities; such as funding and resourcing requirements. [s 47F - privacy] (NPSTF) stated that AUKUS is currently investigating a number of scenarios in terms of what AUKUS will look like into the future, however none of which they can discuss with this forum. Conversely, there are a number of personnel embedded within the respective agencies/departments that constitute the VSP(N), who are [s 33 - security] [] when it becomes available, which will better inform those agencies/departments moving forward.

17. Following a comment from [s 47F - privacy] [s 47F - privacy] confirmed that the intent behind any review of existing funding and resource requirements is to consider the medium term or transitional period, which will potentially involve [s 33 - security] []. The longer term, or future state impact associated with AUKUS are firmly within the bailiwick of the NPSTF.

4/7/Feb 22 – Annual Report

18. The Secretary confirmed that the Visits by NPWs to Australian Ports Annual Report was finalised in March and uploaded to the ARPANSA website on 21 Mar 22.

Decision: Item closed.

ITEM 5: BUSINESS ITEM 1: MARITIME OPERATIONS REPORT (STANDING ITEM)

19. [s 47F - privacy] (Maritime Operations (MAROPS)) provided a report on known and possible visits for the short to medium term. At the time of the meeting, MAROPS were not tracking any potential visits within the 42-90 day period. [s 38] []

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

ADF Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Health Policy

20. s 47F - privacy (JHC) provided an update to attendees on work to address ADF CBRN health policy. Health bulletin 02/2019—*Health aspects of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) defence*, was re-issued in May 2022, which continues to endorse NATO AMedP-7 as ADF health policy until ADF specific policy is released. The Defence Health Policy Steering Group (within JHC) has requested the commencement of a review/development and update of the extant Defence Health Manual CBRN policy. ADF CBRN policy will be developed and based upon NATO standards.

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING

21. s 47F - privacy concluded by thanking everyone for their attendance. The next meeting will be held in the s 33 - security s 33 - security. The meeting was closed at 1135.

s 47F - privacy

s 47F - privacy

s 47F - privacy RAN

Acting Chairperson

s 47F - privacy

s 47F - privacy

s 47F - privacy RAN

Secretary

Enclosures:

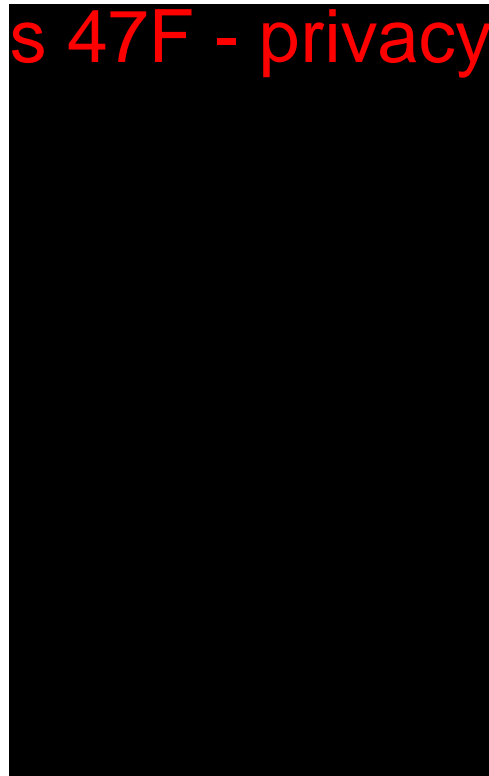
1. ARPANSA Reference Accident Project Update
 2. ARPANSA Reference Accident Project Plan
 3. ARPANSA Request for Quote—Reference Accident Work Package 3.2
 4. ARPANSA Request for Quote—Reference Accident Work Packages 4.2 and 4.3
 5. NPW Visit Vignettes
- [REDACTED]

Distribution List:

HNE
NPSTF
HNE COS
MAROPs
NPSO
JHC
SONPW
AGNSR
ANSTO
ANSTO
ARPANSA
ARPANSA
DAWE
DFAT
DSTG
HEALTH
IPDIV

For Information:

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s 47E - operations, s 33 - security

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

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s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

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s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

s 47E - operations, s 33 - security

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

s 33 - security, s 47E - operations

References

ARPANSA 2000. The 2000 Reference Accident Used to Assess the Suitability of Australian Ports for Visits by Nuclear Powered Warships. https://www.arpansa.gov.au/sites/default/files/ref_acc.pdf

ARPANSA 2019. Radiation Protection Series G-3 - Guide for Radiation Protection in Emergency Exposure Situations (2019). <https://www.arpansa.gov.au/regulation-and-licensing/regulatory-publications/radiation-protection-series/guides-and-recommendations/rpsg-3>

Lloyd's Register 2020. Nuclear Powered Warship Reference Accident Review. https://www.arpansa.gov.au/sites/default/files/reference_accident_review_report_-_prj11100253368_r001_v1.0.pdf

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s 33 - security, s 47E - operations