



Australian Government
Australian Radiation Protection
and Nuclear Safety Agency



15 July 2026

Ref: D2618435

Dr Jane Canestra
Chair
Radiation Health and Safety Advisory Council

Dear Dr Canestra

Re: Safe Work Australia *Deemed Diseases in Australia Report*

Thank you for your letter addressing the ***Deemed Diseases in Australia Report*** published by Safe Work Australia (SWA) and its application to the administration of workers' compensation across Australian jurisdictions. I appreciate Council's commitment to providing me with advice on enhancing radiation protection and nuclear safety, including matters of policy and regulatory implementation.

ARPANSA has communicated with SWA about the issues and recommendations Council raised. I am pleased to advise that in June 2026, ARPANSA received an invitation from SWA to provide direct input to their 2026 review of the List of Deemed Diseases in Australia. The review is now commencing and will assess causal links between specified diseases and occupational exposures to provide evidence-based recommendations to inform any revisions or additions to the current list.

I acknowledge the importance of considering the magnitude of exposure and statutory dose limits in occupational exposure to ionising radiation. ARPANSA will provide advice and input to the review based on epidemiological and other scientific studies, including on the matters which Council raised in relation to specific references, hazard description, correlation with ARPANSA's public advice, and avoiding specific thresholds or limits. We will also highlight the benefit of explanatory information to interpretation of the SWA Deemed Diseases List, which has been omitted from recent SWA report updates.

Thank you for your advice.

Yours sincerely

Dr Gillian Hirth AO
CEO of ARPANSA