



Radiation Health Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date	17 – 18 June 2026
Time	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (17 June) 9:00 AM – 14:00 PM (18 June)
Location	ARPANSA, 619 Lower Plenty Road, Yallambie, VIC
Members	Dr Joanna Wriedt (Chair), Dr Gillian Hirth (CEO of ARPANSA), Ms Fay Bellis, Mr Tom Sullivan, Mr Stuart Parr, Dr Selim Mahbub (ACT), Mr Simon Critchley (QLD), Mr Glenn Riley (VIC), Mr Bradley Feldtman (NT), Mr Nehal Ahmed (TAS, Virtual), Ms Hazel Upton (WA, Virtual).
Observers and Presenters	Mr Len Potapof (NSW EPA), Ms Kavitha Srinivasan (SA EPA), Mr Joseph Medved (ANNPSR), Mr Brent Le Vert (NZ, Virtual), Dr Ivan Williams (ARPANSA), Dr Marcus Grzechnik (ARPANSA, Items 1 – 4.2, 6 – 14), Dr Peter Thomas (ARPANSA, Virtual), Mr David Sibenaler (ARPANSA, Item 2.2), Mr Rohan Mate (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 2.3), Mr Jim Scott (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 3 – 4, 11 – 12), Dr Fiona Charalambous (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 4.2, 6, 7), Mr Erin McWilliams (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 4.2, 5.3, 6, 7), Ms Rachel Williams (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 4.2 – 4.3), Mr Alex Kalaiziovski (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 4.3), Mr Blake Orr (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 5.3 – 7, 12.3, 13.1), Ms Hannan Dempsey (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 5.3 – 7), Mr Keith Dessent (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 5.3), Dr Megan Cook (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 6, 13.6), Mr David Hardman (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 6), Ms Hayley Warren (ACSQHC, Virtual, Item 8), Mr Louis Casey (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 9), Ms Tone Doyle (ARPANSA, Virtual, Items 9, 10), Mr John Ward (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 12.1), Mr Jonathan Sentzas (ARPANSA, Item 12.3), Mr Stephen Alexander (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 12.3), Ms Jodie Hughes (VIC, Item 12.4), Prof Ken Karipidis (ARPANSA, Virtual, Item 13.5).
Secretariat	Dr Arne Biesiekierski, Mr James Wheaton, Ms Parmeet Kaur.

1 Meeting Open

The Radiation Health Committee (RHC) Chair acknowledged the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which the meeting was held, paying respects to their Elders past and present. The Chair welcomed in-person observers from the New South Wales and South Australian Environmental Protection Authorities (NSW EPA, SA EPA), the Australian Naval Nuclear Power Safety Regulator (ANNPSR) and ARPANSA. The Chair also welcomed online observers from the New Zealand Ministry of Health.

1.1 Housekeeping

The Secretariat noted housekeeping including meeting protocol and changes to the agenda, outstanding and ongoing action items, and the publication of the previous meeting minutes. No conflicts of interest were declared, and no correspondence was received since the last meeting.

2 CEO Update

ARPANSA's CEO provided an update on recent agency activities. These included but were not limited to:

- The agency's parliamentary and international engagement, including attendance at Senate Estimates, participation in the Review Meeting for the Convention on Nuclear Safety, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Regulatory Conference (RegCon)
- The recent Radiation Health and Safety Advisory Council (Council) and Nuclear Safety Committee (NSC) meetings, including recent discussion at Council on the Linear-No-Threshold (LNT) model's use in radiation regulation,
- ARPANSA's recent regulatory Direction to the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) regarding Building 57
- A general update on regulatory, medical radiation services, and radiation health services activities, including ongoing uplift around ARPANSA's primary standards function, ongoing work to support the Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water (DCCEEW)'s reforms of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and updates on its environmental monitoring program and sunscreen testing advice.

Following the CEO's update, the RHC discussed the use of the LNT model in the international system of radiological protection, where it was noted a joint statement from the Council, RHC, and NSC may be needed on this matter. The RHC also discussed the use of titanium dioxide (TiO₂) within sunscreen, though here it was noted that this sat outside ARPANSA's remit.

2.1 ARPANSA Correspondence to Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority (AHPRA)

ARPANSA talked to recent communication with the CEO of AHPRA, undertaken in response to an action from the March 2026 meeting following the NSW EPA's letter regarding novel unsealed source therapies. It was noted that this was an evolving space, and to aid in understanding key issues and emerging trends, the RHC agreed that jurisdictions would pass on enquiries received by their advisory councils on this topic and on wider theranostics.

Decision: RHC agreed that State and Territory members would pass on any enquiries their advisory bodies receive on novel unsealed source therapies to ARPANSA for collation.

2.2 Media Enquiries

ARPANSA gave an update on media enquiries received since the last meeting, including trends, sentiment, and a thematic analysis of the data. The RHC discussed the methodology of the presented statistics, and changes in the sentiment recorded across the last year.

2.3 Public Enquiries

ARPANSA provided an update on public enquiries across 2025 and early 2026 through its Talk to a Scientist program, with the RHC thereafter discussing the discrepancy between actual and perceived risk, and whether there had been enquiries regarding datacentres.

3 Member to Represent the Interests of the General Public

The Member spoke to their paper on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in regulatory decision-making, which made 3 recommendations on the monitoring and reporting of AI's use in radiation reporting. RHC members considered their experiences with AI in regulatory and medical roles, and the challenges their jurisdictions faced. ARPANSA provided a summary of its participation in a recent IAEA Nuclear Regulatory Systems panel discussion on this matter. In reply to the recommendation to provide a current and ongoing status update, the RHC agreed to instead receive an annual update from regulators on this matter unless there were significant developments. The RHC agreed to the second recommendation, to continue to monitor the use of AI in radiation regulation, and that its use in regulatory publications be transparently noted. Radiation safety regulators further agreed to require licence holders to disclose the use of AI in any regulatory application. The RHC also discussed including guidance around the use of AI tools in the safety guides currently under draft.

Decision: RHC agreed to an annual agenda item to receive updates from regulators on artificial intelligence (AI) use in Radiation Regulation unless there were significant developments.

Decision: RHC agreed to continue to monitor the use of AI in radiation regulation via its workplan.

Decision: RHC agreed to transparently declare the use of AI in RHC regulatory publications,

Decision: RHC agreed to require its current working groups to consider how the use of artificial intelligence (AI) impacts draft Radiation Protection Series documents.

4 Radiation Protection Series

4.1 RPS Status update

The RHC received an update on the status of Radiation Protection Series (RPS) projects not on the agenda, including draft codes and guides relating to fixed and portable gauges, well-logging devices, the exemption and clearance of radioactive material, and the use of nuclear medicine. The RHC discussed the impact of theranostics on the draft safety guide for nuclear medicine.

4.2 Radioactive Waste Management Code

The RHC discussed progress on the first draft code and key issues currently under consideration. The working group lead requested RHC endorsement of proposed changes to the original proposed document structure, the incorporation of content from the existing Code for Disposal of Solid Radioactive Waste (RPS C-3), and the desired prescriptiveness of the code. The RHC also discussed the management of legacy radioactive sources from exempt uses, such as those used in secondary schools' education programs and the benefits of a coordinated national approach.

Decision: RHC agreed that requirements from RPS C-3 should be integrated into the draft Radioactive Waste Management Code.

4.3 Non-Medical Human Imaging Code

The RHC discussed the draft Non-Medical Human Imaging Code presented for feedback, including on proposed targeted stakeholder engagement. The RHC discussed the scope of the document, the suggested dose constraint, and the frequency of periodic compliance testing. The RHC agreed to provide feedback on the code out-of-session, and suggested key stakeholders including police forces, privacy/information commissioners, and suitable unions. It noted that a decision to proceed to targeted stakeholder consultation after out-of-session review. The Project and Document Plan (PDP) was amended to note Glenn Riley as the RHC Sponsor for this project.

Decision: Glenn Riley is appointed as the RHC Sponsor for the NMHI Code project.

Task: RHC to review the draft Code and provide feedback by **17 July 2026**.

5 Radiation Protection Series (Continued)

5.1 Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology Guide

The Working Group lead tabled the draft Safety Guide for feedback, and talked to the progress, key points of Working Group discussion, and notable changes in the revised guide. The RHC agreed to provide feedback by 17 July, in order to allow targeted consultation by late August. The lead also noted the discussion regarding addressing use of AI under **Item 3** and committed to raising it at the next Working Group meeting.

Task: RHC to provide feedback on the draft Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology Guide by **17 July 2026**.

5.2 Radiation Therapy Guide

A draft Radiation Therapy Safety Guide was tabled for feedback with a verbal update on progress of the guide. Noting the similarity to **Item 5.1**, the RHC agreed to provide feedback by 17 July.

Task: RHC to provide feedback on the draft Radiation Therapy Guide by **17 July 2026**.

5.3 X-Ray Equipment Code

The RHC Sponsor for the Working Group tabled material relating to the draft Code. In addition to outlining the progress and efforts of the Working Group, this included an attachment outlining proposed equipment inclusions and exclusions to the code in response to a query alongside the March RHC meeting. The RHC accepted most proposed inclusions/exclusions, though noted that portable X-ray transmission imaging equipment used for security/bomb detection should remain in RPS C-4, with any concerns regarding emergency uses to be covered by appropriate license conditions. In discussing this issue, the RHC identified a lack of clear principles and/or criteria for determining which Code a device or practice was best suited for. It was therefore agreed that an extraordinary session of the RHC be held in late August/early September to address this issue.

Decision: The RHC accepted the proposed inclusions and exclusions to the X-ray Equipment Code outlined in the tabled attachment, except for the portable X-ray Imaging equipment used for security purposes.

Decision: RHC to hold an extraordinary session to resolve X-ray equipment source categorisation.

6 RADMAP Aus Expansion

ARPANSA provided an update on the Australian Radiation Monitoring and Assessment Program (RADMAP-Aus), including outlining the motivation for the program, the status of existing pilot programs, live data portals, and planned expansions. The RHC discussed their interest in collaboration, the possible locations for monitors, jurisdictional concerns and considerations around environmental monitoring, and public awareness of the program.

7 IAEA Drafting Pipeline

ARPANSA provided an update on recent and current document development at the IAEA. Australian jurisdictional feedback on a previous document was noted with thanks, and the inclusion of Australian case studies in the Australian submission on this document was highlighted. Following this, a recorded presentation was shown of the ARPANSA delegate who represents Australia on the IAEA Waste Safety Standards Committee (WaSSC). This presentation outlined the purpose and scope of the committee, as well as current issues under consideration at the committee, and upcoming documents of note that may be circulated.

8 ACSQHC Dial-In

The RHC received a presentation from a representative of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) regarding recent revisions to the Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme (DIAS) Standards. The presentation outlined the history of the ACSQHC, their role in standards creation, and the scope and timeline of the DIAS Standards changes. The RHC thereafter discussed the responses received by the ACSQHC to the changes.

9 National Glossary of Terms

The Working Group lead presented on the draft Terms of Reference prepared by the Working Group in response to the action recorded at the March 2026 meeting, and further talked to the efforts of the of the Working Group in addressing example terms. The RHC endorsed the Terms, with the Secretariat noting that a PDP incorporating these would be prepared and circulated out of session.

Decision: The RHC endorsed the National Glossary of Terms working group draft Terms of Reference.

10 National Competency Framework

ARPANSA tabled a paper with proposed Terms of Reference for a National Workforce Competency Framework working group further to RHC's decision at its March 2026 meeting. The RHC agreed to establish a working group to further consider the proposed scope of work out-of-session. The RHC broadly agreed to prioritise work to identify existing competency requirements within jurisdictional regulations and develop a system of national documentation to record nationally agreed competency standards. It noted its preferred approach is to record competencies in the Radiation Protection Series

(RPS) documents. The RHC discussed dental and veterinary practices as a focus for initial efforts, which represent a large portion of Australian radiation licences or registrations.

Decision: Establish a working group to start work on a National Workforce Competency Framework.

Task: The working group will consider the draft Terms of Reference and send a revised draft to RHC.

11 Revision of the National Directory for Radiation Protection (NDRP)

ARPANSA tabled a paper outlining a proposed revision of the NDRP, seeking input from RHC members, including support for a revision, current issues to be addressed, and proposed amendments. The RHC discussed the role of the Environmental Health Standing Committee (enHealth), the need for regulatory impact statements, and current issues faced by jurisdictions particularly the disposal of school sources. ARPANSA offered to circulate the outcomes of enHealth engagement out of session, and formally write to each jurisdiction seeking input on issues caused by the exemption of school sources. The RHC also agreed to further recommend NDRP amendments.

Task: Secretariat to circulate any ARPANSA update on enHealth discussion outcomes out-of-session.

Task: States and Territories to provide feedback on issues caused by exemption of school sources.

Task: States and Territories to recommend further NDRP amendment by **2 July 2026**.

12 Regulatory Knowledge Sharing

12.1 ARPANSA Regulatory Update

ARPANSA presented on the content and outcomes of its recent License Holder Forum and associated workshop on regulatory expectations, covering ARPANSA's expectations of licence holders, and licence holders' requests or questions. The RHC discussed the prevalence of AI use by ARPANSA licence holders, the structure of licencing stages in the commissioning process, and the use of the graded approach in ARPANSA regulation.

12.2 Western Australia (WA) – Remote Computed Tomography (CT)

The WA RHC member discussed a recent request from a national medical imaging provider to carry out remote/telepresence operation of CT scanners and sought RHC perspectives on this practice. RHC State and Territory members discussed whether they had received similar requests and noted that no jurisdiction currently supported this practice, with some opposing it outright. RHC discussed the extent to which this practice is prohibited under the existing Code for Radiation Protection in Medical Exposure, Radiation Protection Series C-5 (RPS C-5).

12.3 Emergency Preparedness ARPANSA Update

ARPANSA presented on recent progress and activities relating to emergency preparedness, including the publication of the Australian Radiological and Nuclear Events Plan (AUSRNEPLAN), past and planned participation in simulated emergency scenarios, ongoing work to revise the Australian Clinical Guidelines for Radiological Emergencies, and background and outcomes of a radiological incident which occurred in Indonesia in 2025.

12.4 Victorian Shielding Standard

Victoria presented on recent consultation undertaken on their Shielding Standard, covering the scope, content, and rationale for the new Shielding Standard, inviting feedback from RHC.

13 New and Emerging Issues

13.1 Internal Dose Assessment - Australasian Radiological Protection Society (ARPS)

The WA member noted an ARPS presentation in April 2026 on estimating internal alpha dose from dust inhalation. It raised concerns around historical underestimations due to possible measurement and modelling errors. The RHC discussed the assumptions and modelling used and noted many of the issues were addressed by using current modelling assumptions, such as in the International Commission for Radiological Protection (ICRP) publication ICRP137. ARPANSA also shared resources that facilitated provision of site-specific modelling values.

13.2 ANZSNM TSIG Radiation licensing body Letter

The Tasmanian member tabled a letter received from the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM) regarding the recognition of Diagnostic CT competencies that are included in Nuclear Medicine Technologist degree programs. The RHC discussed jurisdictional perspectives and course accreditation. Several members noted their support for the recognition of these competencies, and the wider RHC agreed to draft a letter supporting this position.

Task: RHC to draft a letter supporting the ANZSNM proposal to recognise Diagnostic CT competencies in Nuclear Medicine Technologist degree programs.

13.3 Theranostics

ARPANSA gave an update on recent engagement with AHPRA on the use of theranostics, noting the increasing prevalence of these technologies, and the potential risks in this space. ARPANSA noted its continuing engagement with AHPRA, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA), and Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), and undertook to provide further updates.

Task: RHC agreed to an agenda item at a future meeting for further updates from ARPANSA on its engagement with TGA, AHPRA and DHDA.

13.4 Fluoroscopy for Pain Management

The Chair discussed concerns with an observed rise in the use of fluoroscopy (including repeated imaging) during pain management procedures relating to training and record keeping, and sought jurisdictional feedback on training and licencing requirements.

13.5 RHSAC Lasers Working Group Enquiry

ARPANSA tabled a request from the Radiation Health and Safety Advisory Council for State and Territory feedback on their approaches to laser regulation, as well as any concerns or identified issues in this space. The RHC discussed existing concerns identified with current professional and consumer devices,

including those used for rust removal, party illumination, and bird scaring. Members agreed to provide a response to circulated questions out-of-session.

Task: State and Territory members to respond to circulated questions on laser regulation by **2 July 2026**.

13.6 Australian Radioanalytical Laboratory Cooperation

The QLD member raised the issue of expense in importing radioanalytical laboratory samples and standards, and noted the opportunity for states and territories to collaborate in procurement. The RHC noted challenges posed through, for example, traceability of standards when divided for further distribution given decreasing numbers of accredited laboratories across the country. ARPANSA noted that the Australasian Radioanalytical Laboratory Network (ARLN) may be able to help uplift national capability and facilitate bulk importation through Commonwealth organisations.

14 Housekeeping and Meeting Close

The Chair noted the next meeting is scheduled for **24-25 November 2026** in Adelaide. An extraordinary virtual RHC was also noted, to be held in late August or early September to address the matter raised under Item 5.3. The Chair closed the meeting.