



Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) Uranium Forum – ARPANSA Dialogue Meeting – MINUTES

Date:	24 February 2016
Time:	09:00am – 12:30pm
Location:	Yallambie
Attendees:	ARPANSA, MCA, Rio Tinto, BHP Olympic Dam, Cameco, Areva.
Apologies:	Nil

1. Tentative Findings of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission

All

A round table discussion took place on the Tentative Findings of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission released in a document on 15 February 2016. The report was found to consider the important and most relevant issues of the nuclear fuel cycle in Australia using a process that was evidence-based with a focus on community engagement.

2. Nuclear waste

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The Australian Government is planning to build a National Radioactive Waste Management Facility (NRWMF) to provide a centralised location for the disposal of Low Level Waste (LLW) and storage of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) generated in Australia. An overview and key project milestones were discussed. ARPANSA highlighted the importance of regulatory independence and community consultation.

3. Australia National Radiation Dose Register (ANRDR) update

ARPANSA

An update on the ANRDR expansion project and key milestones was provided. Opportunities for improving how risks from radiation exposure are communicated in the annual ANRDR newsletter, *ANRDR in Review*, were discussed.

4. International best practice (IBP)

All

ARPANSA provided an overview of their engagement process for contributing to the establishment of IBP. ICRP is drafting 'Occupational Intakes of Radionuclides Part 3' document reflecting the new radon progeny dose conversion factors, expected to be published late 2016.

The joint ARPANSA and Olympic Dam project on 'Assessment of radon progeny dose conversion factors from particle size measurements in the underground uranium mine at Olympic Dam' has been completed. A draft report is pending.

Radon remains an important issue when considering rehabilitation and post closure requirements for the mining and milling of radioactive ores.

ARPANSA will work towards strengthening its processes for informing national stakeholders about upcoming document developments.

Department of Health in South Australia (SA) is reviewing 30 years of uranium industry data for epidemiological study. ARPANSA is to follow up on this project with SA.

5. Incident reporting

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The Australian Radiation Incident Register (ARIR) is a database of radiation incident reports provided by Commonwealth, State and Territory radiation protection authorities. The Register provides evidence on the effectiveness of radiation protection practices in Australia. Collecting information on incidents in the incident register remains a challenge. There is a need to raise national awareness on the benefits of timely incident reporting across all jurisdictions. ARPANSA makes announcements on the publication of important reports on Twitter.