

ARPANSA Corporate Plan on a Page

Purpose

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) is the Australian Government's primary authority on radiation protection and nuclear safety. Our purpose is to protect the Australian people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation, through radiation safety research, policy, advice, codes, standards, services and regulation.

Vision

Our mission is to protect the Australian people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation. Our vision is that radiation safety:

- is appropriately considered in societal decision making
- is addressed uniformly and effectively across Australia
- as applied in Australia, is current international best practice.

Capability



People
ARPANSA will commit to connecting people through its organisational strategy and aligning people practices with business objectives.



Governance
ARPANSA will enhance governance arrangements and systems in place to achieve a more integrated approach to our planning, performance monitoring and reporting processes.



Infrastructure and technology
ARPANSA will ensure we adopt appropriate technologies in a coordinated way to improve the services we deliver to our staff and stakeholders.



Stakeholder engagement
ARPANSA will position stakeholder engagement as a priority across the agency through the stakeholder engagement framework.

Strategic Objectives



Protecting the public, workers and the environment from radiation exposure

Activities

In 2016-17 our activities will focus on:

- assessment of sources of, and exposure to ionising radiation and non-ionising radiation; and the associated health and environmental risks
- expansion of the Australian National Radiation Dose Register to include worker records from Commonwealth licence holders and the mineral sands mining and milling sector.

Outcomes

Outcomes in society will include:

- improved understanding of the sources of radiation exposure
- reduced risks of harmful effects of ionising radiation
- reduced UV exposures
- address risks from EMR
- understand pathways to exposure in workplaces.

Risk

Strategic risk:

Failure to provide accurate, effective and timely advice to the Minister's office and the Department.



Promoting radiological and nuclear safety and security, and emergency preparedness

Activities

In 2016-17 our activities will focus on:

- managing National Radiation Security Advisor Accreditation Scheme
- overseeing nuclear and radiological imports and exports
- executing safety and security monitoring and compliance regime
- developing radiation detection capabilities
- promoting a national network of radio-analytical laboratories
- providing modelling products and national guidance for nuclear and radiological emergencies
- engaging in nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness and response exercises.

Outcomes

Outcomes in society will include:

- controlled facilities maintained under safe and secure conditions
- up-to-date records of movement of radioactive sources
- a national system for the release and recovery of radioactive substances
- a radiation protection framework to ensure appropriate protection of public, workers and environment in the event emergency.

Risk

Strategic risk:

Ineffective response to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies.



Promoting the effective use of ionising radiation in medicine

Activities

In 2016-17 our activities will focus on:

- establishing, reviewing and updating diagnostic reference levels for diagnostic imaging
- estimating the amount of radiation delivered to the Australian population from medical procedures
- developing additional radiotherapy dose audits for new clinical practices
- engaging with stakeholders to develop a user pays system for the ACDS audit program
- providing traceable calibration services to radiotherapy centres.

Outcomes

Outcomes in society will include:

- radiotherapy services that deliver the correct dosage
- diagnostic imaging services that deliver adequate images with minimal doses
- an effective national dialogue with stakeholders
- a detailed understanding of doses from medical procedures.

Risk

Strategic risk:

Error in Australian Clinical Dosimetry Service audit.



Ensuring effective and proportionate regulation and enforcement activities

Activities

In 2016-17 our activities will focus on:

- enhancing our regulatory framework
- regulating the use of radiation by Commonwealth entities
- enhancing awareness of radiation risks
- promoting best practice in radiation safety
- providing national leadership to develop the national regulatory framework
- building on international best practice to strengthen regulation and enforcement activities
- administering the Australian Radiation Incident Register
- improving the efficiency of regulatory services.

Outcomes

Outcomes in society will include:

- a strong culture of safety and security among licensees
- licensed activities monitored to reduce risk to people and the environment
- corrective actions to address non-compliance
- transparency in decision making
- uniformity in radiation safety
- regulatory systems that provide effective safety and security measures
- reduced regulatory burden.

Risk

Strategic risk:

Inadequate or delayed regulatory decision.

Strategic Risks across the Agency

- Inability to deal with fiscal restraint
- Inadequate workplace health and safety arrangements