Update on Round One Community Benefit Programme projects

The $2 million Community Benefit Programme acknowledges the community's contribution to this national project, by providing funding for local projects.

Under the programme, last year about $2 million in grant funding was awarded to eleven projects that demonstrated a social and economic benefit for the community.

Damien Halliday, from AusIndustry, gave us an update on some of the other projects.

The Community Benefit Programme projects from the 2016 Barndioota grant round have been progressing well.

All contracts were signed with the successful applicants by April this year (2017), and since then we've had three of the eleven projects reach full completion, including:

- **Equipment for Hawker District Movie Events** (Hawker Community Development Board Inc) – *Purchase of projection and sound equipment to allow the local community to hold regular movie nights within the town of Hawker.*
- **SMART board for Hawker Childhood Services Centre** (Hawker Community Development Board Inc) – *Purchase and installation of a SMART IFP 4065 Interactive Flat Panel at the Hawker Childhood Services Centre.*
- **All weather access to Heysen & Mawson Trails near Mayo Hut** (Friends of the Heysen Trail & Other Walking Trails Inc) – *Upgrade a portion of the current tracks that form the Heysen Trail. This will involve the trail via Wonoka Station. This trail leads to Mayo Hut and Mawson Trail.*

Many of the projects are well underway, some with clearly visible improvements taking place such as the redevelopment of the Hawker General Store, while other projects such as the additional two independent living units at the Wirreanda Cottages site are quietly making progress.

One of the projects nearing completion is the installation of changing rooms at the Hawker Pool which has been undertaken by The Flinders Ranges Council.

This community benefit project is particularly well timed as warmer weather starts to approach, and will be complete for the pool's official opening season of November through to March.

The addition of the change rooms is good news for both local and visiting swimmers, offering male and female rooms with full wheelchair access, as well as an enclosed storage area for support items like VACSWIM equipment.

While some of the granted projects are only in the early stages of development, it is planned that all the projects will be completed by mid-2018.

Our Team was out and about last week and made a visit to the Viliwarinha Yura Housing Upgrade project.

This project was one of the larger of the first round projects, with funding awarded to upgrade the existing housing on Yappala Station.

The crew is about 90 per cent complete now, having upgraded the electrics and plumbing, updated kitchens and bathrooms and installed air conditioning units.

Cladding has been replaced, the houses have been repainted, and a new veranda was built as well.

The big job still left to do is the installation of solar panels and Genset generators to provide the housing with a more reliable power supply.

Photo: Tiger McKenzie with Kahran and Joshua McKenzie at the Viliwarinha Yura Housing Upgrade project.

Kahran and Joshua McKenzie have been working with the crew, and both said it was a great opportunity to learn and develop new skills.

Technical assessment continues

Technical assessment is now underway, and work completed will ultimately inform whether the site is technically suitable for a radioactive waste facility.

Specialists will work closely with the local community and this work is expected to take up to a year.

A highly qualified archaeologist will be engaged to undertake the important cultural heritage assessment of the land surrounding the nominated Wallerberdina Station site. It is expected work will begin in collaboration with the Adnyamathanha in September, with a full report expected in January 2018.

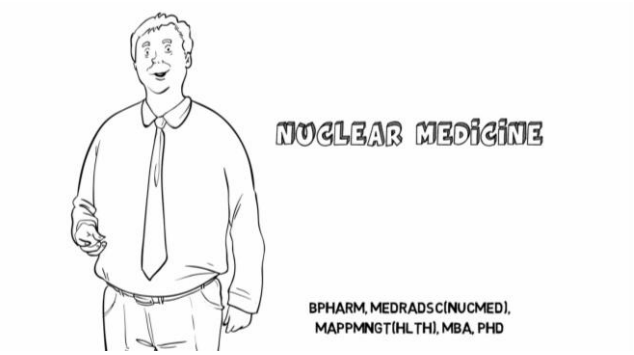
To find out more about the heritage assessment, please get in touch with the project team.

Barndioota Consultative Committee

The Barndioota Consultative Committee met on Tuesday 22 August 2017. ARPANSA attended the meeting to discuss the regulatory requirements of a facility such as this. Minutes from the meeting will be made available on the Project website.

Understanding where radioactive waste comes from

Dr Geoff Currie, an expert in nuclear medicine, has gone behind the scenes at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) to answer one of the questions we are most frequently asked: how is the production of nuclear medicine linked to Australia's radioactive waste.



In a new video Dr Currie explains how nuclear medicine is made, how it's used, and how the radioactive waste by-products are managed.

Dr Currie went to the ANSTO OPAL reactor, and waste storage areas at ANSTO, as well as the Camperdown cyclotron.

First, Dr Currie introduces our Australian nuclear reactor, which is quite different to what many people might think. He then explains the different types of nuclear medicine we use, and what they do.

An important part of understanding nuclear medicines is knowing how they are made. Some are produced in nuclear reactors, and others are produced in cyclotrons. Dr Currie introduces the cyclotron and what its ability is, in terms of how Australia manufactures nuclear medicines. He then talks about the future possibilities of nuclear medicine production.

The video explains the nuclear medicine production cycle from start to finish, and so at the end explains how all these things that are enabled by nuclear medicine, also have a by-product, which is radioactive waste.

The video can be found on the Project Facebook: www.facebook.com/radioactivewasteproject, and Project website: www.radioactivewaste.gov.au

Economic Working Group Announced

An Economic Working Group (EWG) has been established as part of the Phase Two consultation.

The group will meet every 6-8 weeks and report to the Barndioota Consultative Committee on the progress and outcomes.

The Terms of Reference for the EWG can be found at www. radioactivewaste.gov.au/news/economic-opportunities-sight

Economic Working Group co-chairs Tiger McKenzie and Ian Carpenter

The Co-chairs of the Economic Working Group are **Malcolm 'Tiger' McKenzie** and **Ian Carpenter**. Members of the Group are **Rachel Vella, Ashley Haywood**, **Ronald Daniel**, **John Coulthard, Deidre McKenzie** and **Kevin Wedding**.

Amongst other things, the Group will seek to understand how neighbouring communities can be best prepared to facilitate economic development opportunities that would come alongside the facility, such as from the construction and operation contracts.

Tiger said that the "Pride comes from having a job, and this facility is the best chance Hawker and Quorn have got for new, safe, long-term jobs."

Ian said, "We want to have a conversation about all of the opportunities that could come from this facility, including a museum, café, tourism facility featuring both pastoral and Aboriginal history."

Like, follow and sign up

As the project moves through Phase 2, there will continue to be many developments, as studies and assessments continue.

To stay up to date with what's happening, follow us on Facebook or sign-up for our online Newsletters.

Community Benefit Programme

Applications for the second round of funding under the $2 million Community Benefit Programme will open shortly.

A representative from AusIndustry – who administers the programme separate to the project team – is based in Hawker, to help locals with their applications. The Project Team is also available to assist community members.

The previous funding round in FY16/17 saw 11 local projects funded, including the refurbishment of the Hawker Institute and development of an undercover fish and plant facility near Quorn;

Applications will be assessed by AusIndustry, and in consultation with the Barndioota Consultative Committee to ensure they deliver social and economic outcomes, against criteria including:

- the capacity and capability to carry out the project;
- the benefit to the community the project will achieve; and
- the value for money offered by the project.

Photo: AusIndustry's Damien Halliday

Quorn Show

Members from the project team will once again take part in the Quorn Show. The Quorn Show provides an opportunity for experts to come out and meet with the community to discuss the project.

The Department and ANSTO attended last year's Show

Webinar

Earlier in the year, the Project Team ran a webinar that brought together an expert panel to discuss nuclear medicine production.

The webinar gave communities the opportunity to hear and engage in a discussion about the production of nuclear medicine, international markets, and nuclear medicine's role in Australia's health landscape. The videos are available on the Project website at: www.radioactivewaste.gov.au/news/thanks-viewing-our-webinar

Setting the Record Straight

On 1 September, a letter appeared in the Adelaide Advertiser and Bruce Wilson from the Department wrote a Letter to the Editor to set the record straight.

I write to correct the record on several points raised in "Nuke Medicine".

Firstly, the Federal Government is not pushing for a state-of-the-art National Radioactive Waste Management Facility to be hosted in South Australia.

Three potential sites, two in Kimba and one at Barndioota, were volunteered by landowners and have entered into an assessment process after the communities around them said they wanted that.

That said, the Government has repeatedly said we hold no view on if those sites should proceed, and it remains open to receiving and assessing applications from across Australia.

Secondly, around 85 per cent of our current and future radioactive waste streams are directly linked to production of nuclear medicine that one in two Australians will, on average, need at some point in their lifetime.

Some 10,000 doses are shipped around Australia every week to enable diagnoses and treatments, including in relation to heart, lung, and muscular skeletal conditions and specific types of cancers.

Waste from medicine production for over 50 years, historical uses including radiotherapy up until the 1990s and ground-breaking research that is happening today, which is currently stored at more than 100 locations around Australia including hospital basements, the CSIRO and the Department of Defence, will be consolidated at the facility, wherever it is located.

Thirdly, there are only about six reactors in the world that can make nuclear medicine and Australia has one of them at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO).

The OPAL reactor at Lucas Heights is one of the newest, safest and most reliable research reactors in the world, meaning we have secure supplies for domestic use and can export to others.

The plans for a new medicine production plant that would enable us to increase production and help more people across the world were first announced in 2011, and have been the subject of a number of public consultation processes since.

That will come alongside a new type of waste treatment facility that allows us to condense the by-products, meaning we can hugely increase production without a corresponding increase in waste volumes.

Over some 40 years, Australia has had multiple inquiries into storage of the radioactive waste generated as a result of processes that have greatly benefited our community and industries.

Taking those into account, we are now in a process to site and built a safe, job-creating, state-of-the-art, National Radioactive Waste Management Facility for storage of Australia's waste.

Bruce Wilson – Head of Resources Division