

### Site Characterisation Themes

The Themes to be addressed include the characteristics, quality, quantity and sensitivity, values and use of the following:

- (a) Vegetation and ecological communities (native and invasive), and fauna and habitat (including habitat corridors). Tenderers should note that this Theme will be separately evaluated and is referred to as 'Flora and Fauna';
- (b) Landscapes and landforms;
- (c) Geology, geotechnical and geochemical characteristics;
- (d) Seismic activity;
- (e) Soil and other substrates;
- (f) Water (surface and ground);
- (g) Hydrogeochemistry;
- (h) Conservation and special use areas;
- (i) Capacity to deal with facility wastes and emissions;
- (j) Risks from the surrounding environment eg bushfire;
- (k) Climatic conditions;
- (l) Climate change and long-term environmental scenarios;
- (m) Radiation, background and risks;
- (n) Site characteristics which have the potential to impact on site safety;
- (o) Risks from the potential impacts of human activities on site suitability;
- (p) Renewable or non-renewable natural resources, and the site potential to use renewable resources;
- (q) Transport considerations;
- (r) Utilities, energy and infrastructure;
- (s) Any other information about the site relevant to:
  - assessing the natural ability for the site to isolate radioactive materials from the biosphere including the various release, transport and dispersion methods that a site may present;
  - assessing any characteristics that may affect the design, construction and operation of the Facility;
  - establishing a baseline of information prior to development that can subsequently be continuously recorded throughout planning, construction, operation and post-closure periods;
  - the costs to build and operate the Facility; and
  - achievement of approvals under EPBC Act, the ARPANS Act and the Safeguards Act.