



Australian Government

Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

Media Release: Nominations sought for Kimba Consultative Committee

20 September 2017

Nominations have opened for the Kimba Consultative Committee. The Committee will give the community the opportunity to have their say about a National Radioactive Waste Management Facility.

The formation of the Kimba Consultative Committee is an important next step in the Phase Two consultation and technical assessment process, which is now underway in the Kimba area.

Most of Australia's current and future waste stream is linked to the production of nuclear medicines that, on average, one in two Australians will need in their lifetime.

The waste is stored in more than 100 locations around the country, and after landowners volunteered two sites and the community was found to be supportive, Kimba is being considered as the location for the facility where that waste will be consolidated and managed. Barndioota is the other site currently under consideration.

The Committee will ideally be made up of community members with a variety of views on the project, and include business owners, direct neighbours, local government and other stakeholders.

It will meet regularly during consultation as an information sharing source between the Government and Kimba community, providing a forum for:

- Advice and input into areas that affect the community in relation to the project;
- Advice on the suitability of proposed projects under the Community Benefit Package;
- Consulting on, and being informed of, the outcomes of field and technical investigation work;
- Advice on engagement activities undertaken with neighbouring landowners, key stakeholders and the general public;
- Helping to identify the key social and community values to be considered in the evaluation of the sites; and
- Assisting in communicating and disseminating information to the broader community.

Bruce McCleary, General Manager of the National Radioactive Waste Management Taskforce, confirmed the details today.

“This Committee is a key conduit between the community and the Government, and will reflect the successful model already in place at Barndioota,” said McCleary.

“There are a number of jobs, business opportunities and community benefits that would come alongside the facility, and this Committee will provide advice to help shape those aspects.”

In addition to community engagement, at both sites over the coming months, heritage and technical studies will help determine if the volunteered sites are technically suitable.

A Kimba Community Liaison Officer has also been appointed, a new local office has been established in town, and the \$2 million Community Benefit Programme will be established.

The Barndioota site, near Hawker and Quorn, has been in a Phase Two Consultation process since last year when surrounding communities also volunteered to move a site forward in the process.

Details on how to apply are at www.radioactivewaste.gov.au.

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