



Australian Government

**Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science**

Media Release: A Great Weekend at the Quorn and Kimba Shows

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The Quorn and Kimba Shows “went nuclear” this year, with experts in radioactive waste, science, geology and industry staffing stalls about the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility.

Staff from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), Geoscience Australia and AusIndustry were all in attendance.

Two sites in Kimba and one at Wallerberdina Station are in Phase 2 of a process considering sites to consolidate Australian radioactive waste, currently spread across more than 100 locations.

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

As part of Phase 2, detailed studies will provide an understanding of the technical suitability of the site, and the community is being consulted to understand if they are supportive.

Bruce McCleary, General Manager of the National Radioactive Waste Management Taskforce, said the shows were another way to get information to the community.

“The community is at the very centre of our process, and the shows were a great opportunity for us to make experts available and answer any questions,” Mr McCleary said.

“In order for a site to continue it needs to be broadly supported by the community, so our experts were there to provide the facts and answer questions, to help the community with their decision.

“Rod Dowler from the ANSTO Discovery Centre was there to talk to people about everything from the makeup of atoms to the applications of nuclear science for industrial and environmental research.

“He also talked through the basics of radiation, the ways radioactive waste is stored, and the role of nuclear medicine in our modern medical system.

“And Geoscience Australia staff explained the different studies and analysis that would be done on the nominated sites as part of the technical assessment.

“Thank you to everyone in both Quorn and Kimba for giving us such a warm welcome. We will hopefully see more locals at next weekend’s Flinders Fest in Hawker.”

Site characterisation studies are getting underway and community consultation will be continuing into next year.

In Kimba, applications have just opened for the Kimba Consultative Committee, while for Wallerberdina Station, the Economic Working Group has been announced and held its first meeting.

For more information on the project: www.radioactivewaste.gov.au.

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