



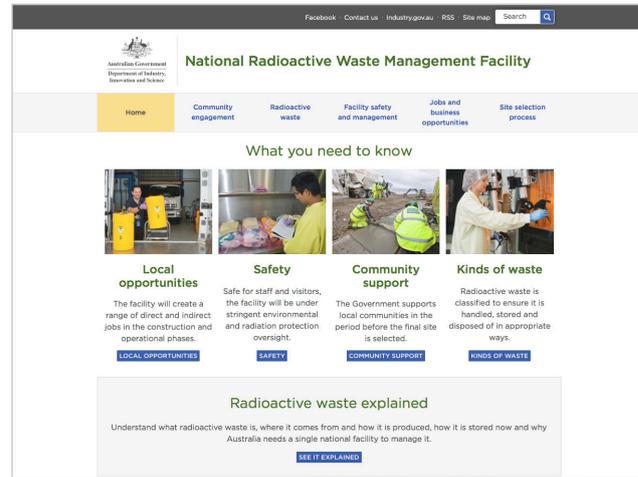
Check out our new website

The team at the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility project wants to do everything we can to provide you the information you are looking for in the easiest way possible.

Our new website has been built with you - the user - in mind.

There are many new features - for example you can use the buttons at the bottom of the pages to sign up to our e-newsletter or email a page to your friends.

And it contains all the information held on our old website.



How can we make it easier for you to use our website? Please take part in our online survey, located on our new website, to provide your feedback. The survey only takes 5 minutes.

RSVP for our February webinar

The project team wants to gauge the interest in holding a webinar to discuss Australia's role in nuclear medicine.

The webinar will consider the suitability of Australia's use of nuclear medicine production facilities and cyclotrons and the case around importing and exporting nuclear medicine products. Topics may include:

- Productive capacity of cyclotrons and nuclear reactors
- Waste generation from Australian production

The webinar is expected to be live online from our Sydney office and accessible from any computer. We would like to hear from the community in regards to interest in attending this event around the Quorn area should you not have the ability to watch online. Please signal your interest in attending in person in your area to radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au as this will assist in our planning. If there is enough interest, we may hire a hall.

Invited to Kimba

The project team visited Kimba, SA, in recent weeks on the invitation of the local group Working for Kimba's Future, to gauge the community's interest in re-engaging in the process to nominate a site. We'll update you as this progresses.

Checks and balances - an outline of our regulators

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) is scheduled to visit Hawker on Wednesday 14 December - the same time this month's newsletter is due to reach letterboxes and inboxes.

The independent regulator's second visit in recent months is a good opportunity to outline the regulatory organisations that ensure safe management of radioactive waste in Australia.

ARPANSA

ARPANSA's objective is to protect people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation.

If the Wallerberdina Station site is selected for the facility, ARPANSA will be the agency responsible for granting three licences for the facility to proceed which will be granted based on safety cases put forward.

Without all the licences from ARPANSA the site cannot be prepared and the facility cannot be built or operated.

The Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office

The Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (ASNO) is the Commonwealth agency responsible for regulating the non-proliferation safeguards and nuclear security aspects of the facility.

ASNO has four main areas of responsibility in the nuclear area: the application of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards in Australia; the security of nuclear material, technology and equipment in Australia; the operation of Australia's bilateral nuclear cooperation agreements; and contributions to the strengthening of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime through work with the IAEA, the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organisation and with other countries.

International Atomic Energy Agency

The IAEA is a global agency promoting the peaceful and safe use of nuclear technology. Australia reports on its radioactive waste holdings every three years through the IAEA's Joint Convention review meetings. Australia's latest country report to the IAEA was provided in October 2014.

Facility operators and regulators throughout the world share a wealth of experience through forums held by the IAEA.

For nuclear material, namely uranium, plutonium and thorium, ASNO reports to the IAEA several times a year and the IAEA does two or three inspections a year of Australia's limited holdings.

The National Radioactive Waste Management Facility will be subject to independent inspection by the IAEA.

Independent Advisory Panel

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science is establishing an Independent Advisory Panel to provide the department with a broader understanding of technical and community issues associated with managing Australia's radioactive waste.

Among its responsibilities, the panel provides independent technical and project implementation advice on identifying a national site and establishing the facility, including developing a site identification methodology that best reflects stakeholder and community values.

Department of the Environment and Energy

The department will ensure the project adheres to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.



Meet the team - Nick

Nick joined the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility project in September. As part of the community consultation team, Nick's role is to be the conduit of technical information about aspects of the project and to meet with communities regularly.

Nick has enjoyed the opportunity to engage with the local residents about the project.

Assessing cultural heritage



Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Matt Canavan meets with traditional owners in November.

As part of the assessments of the Wallerberdina Station site near Hawker, a comprehensive and independent assessment of cultural heritage by qualified experts will be done in collaboration with the traditional owners.

A cultural heritage assessment will establish the possibility of locating the facility on the site without impacting on cultural areas.

This information can form the basis of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan which sets out how important sites and knowledge can be protected and preserved for the future. The Government will provide support for the development of a plan along with supporting heritage surveys and documentation.

Barndioota Consultative Committee - stay tuned

The BCC had its first meeting on Tuesday 13 December just as this newsletter was being sent out to community members. We expect to have a full report in the January edition.

Wishing everyone a safe, merry Christmas and a great new year

As the end of the year approaches the department would like to thank everyone for the tremendous engagement we have had over 2016.

We would also like to extend our best wishes to our readers and their families for a safe and prosperous festive season.

We will scale back our visits over December and January while many of you enjoy a well-earned break.

The department will close its office at Foresters Hall, 72 Cradock Road, Hawker and at the Quorn Council Chambers from Monday 19 December until Friday 27 January.

If you would like a meeting with the team before the 19th we encourage you to call 13 28 46 or email radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au to book a meeting.

For inquiries or information in the new year please contact the hotline to speak to someone in the team or send us an email.

Of course you can visit www.radioactivewaste.gov.au to find out more information about the project.

Address any letters to the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility team at GPO Box 9839 Canberra ACT 2601.

All the best and see you in the new year.