

AECOM – James Rusk

In preliminary planning, how many tonnes of base rubble and material for construction will be needed? How much material will be needed to cap the facility? Where will the material come from, and will it be compensated at the same rate as for other infrastructure in the area?

No assessments have been made surrounding the volumes of material needed. We have not identified all the materials that will be used in the capping of the facility. This would happen as part of the detailed design works once a preferred site is chosen.

Bruce Wilson: This will be a commercial project, if the material is sourced commercially, those businesses will be paid for the goods. Similarly, if the material is sourced from the council, the council will be compensated.

How much water is required annually for the NRWMF? Will water extraction for the NRWMF compete with requirements of current land users? How do you know?

The total estimated day to day demand for the operation of the facility is in order of up to 50 ML/year.

Groundwater at Lyndhurst and Napandee in the shallowest formations is low yielding and of high salinity, and therefore unlikely to be suitable for use at the facility. No assessment of the quality and yield of deeper groundwater formations has been undertaken. There is no expected limitations on the supply of water from an existing local source to either Lyndhurst or Napandee.

Groundwater at Wallerberdina could provide water needs for the facility based on the yield and moderate salinity in the shallowest formation; an extraction system would be designed based on further investigations in a manner that would not compete with other users (e.g. extraction with stock watering).

How long will concrete last in that environment? Will any salinity in the soil profile affect the concrete?

The durability of the concrete of foundations and slabs that interact with site soils will be considered with reference to the Australian standards. The durability of the concrete of any piles that are sufficiently deep to interact with groundwater (if at all) will also be considered with reference to the Australian standards.

Where will you draw the water from for the build and maintenance? Our water is saline, not good for making concrete.

If the NRWMF is located at one of the Kimba sites, the constructor of the facility and enabling infrastructure will need to consider options for sourcing of water to meet construction requirements (quality, capacity) without any undue impact on other local users. Water used during maintenance of the operational NRWMF would be obtained from a local source.

GEOFF CURRIE

With the recent breakdown in the production of nuclear medicine products, how have Australians been affected?

There are a large number of patients that rely on the products that come out of ANSTO. The current delay in Australia's production of medical products has provided a clear view of the difficulties that come from importing nuclear medicine products that could otherwise be produced locally. Delayed, cancelled, and rescheduled flights have created significant disruption to patient treatment.

Australia has not felt effects like this in recent times due to the local supply coming out of ANSTO. Production is now back on track and ANSTO has worked hard to achieve this. It has been made clear to the medical industry in Australia how hard it will be to treat patients without ANSTO.

Relying on importing generators (even though they are ANSTO produced 99Mo because it was not a reactor breakdown, it was a processing failure) over the 8 weeks has seen lower amounts of activity delivered and some unreliable timelines. So early on we saw many patients facing disrupted and cancelled procedures. For some, this saw delays in surgery or other treatments. In other sites, delays in diagnosis of bone or heart disease have occurred due to restrictions on the number of patients that can be scanned. In rural and regional Australia the effects have been greatest with patients often travelling a number of hours for procedures that have ultimately not occurred. Many days during the 8 week period have been urgent only bookings.