

Fact Sheet

ARPANSA and a NRWMF

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) is the independent regulator of Commonwealth entities that use or produce radiation; this includes any Commonwealth organisation involved in radioactive waste management.

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (DIIS) is responsible for the current National Radioactive Waste Management Facility (NRWMF) project. This fact sheet sets out ARPANSA's role in the project.

ARPANSA is responsible for the licensing of any future NRWMF, such as that proposed by the DIIS.

ARPANSA will only licence a NRWMF if we are confident that it would not have an adverse impact on human health or the environment.

We have the relevant expertise to make this decision. Drawing on our extensive experience, our team of experts, led by our CEO Dr Carl-Magnus Larsson, endeavour to protect the Australian community and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation.



Independent & Accountable



Rigorous & Evidence-Based



Globally-Recognised Expertise



Experienced Personnel



Transparent Processes



Regulatory Oversight

ARPANSA and the NRWMF

What you can expect from ARPANSA:

- As an agency within the Department of Health portfolio we act **autonomously** and are **independent** of the applicant and wider government interests. Our CEO is answerable and **accountable** to the Australian community through the Australian Parliament and is required by legislation to always act in the community's interest and protect Australia from the harmful effects of radiation.
- We are **impartial** with regards to a facility and we will manage our stakeholder engagement **independently** of other agencies and the applicant.
- We will ensure the licensing process is undertaken with **scientific rigor** and **evidence-based** decisions, in keeping with **international best practice**.
- We are a leading member of a global community of experts who are dealing with similar issues in their jurisdictions and via the United Nations. ARPANSA's staff are **globally-recognised experts** in fields such as radiation protection, nuclear safety and radioactive waste management.
- We are experienced in the licensing of waste facilities and have the **in-house expertise** to carry out this role with **diligence** and **professionalism**.
- We will keep the community fully informed and engaged on all aspects of the process and our assessment and decisions. The licensing process will be **transparent**.



ARPANSA CEO, Dr Carl-Magnus Larsson

- We will ensure the NRWMF meets **regulatory requirements** during all stages of the life of the facility, including siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning via our ongoing monitoring and inspection program.

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