

## **SACOME supports Chief Entrepreneur's calls for Nuclear Kickstart**

The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) welcomes South Australia's Chief Entrepreneur, Mr Jim Whalley's, call for South Australia to re-examine economic opportunities presented by the nuclear fuel cycle.

These comments closely align with SACOME's Budget call for the State Government to fund a Nuclear Energy Forum to progress discussions on the development of a South Australian nuclear industry.

As a world class uranium province, hosting 25% of the world's uranium resources and 80% of Australia's uranium, South Australia is yet to realise the significant untapped economic opportunities made possible by development of a nuclear industry.

The refinement and commercialisation of small modular reactors is progressing rapidly. Coupling this technology with South Australia's abundant renewable energy sources will assist in resolving one of the key input costs for resources projects in this State.

Abundant, cheap energy will also assist the South Australian Government reach its competitive energy targets and advance its *Growth State* objectives by embedding an investment incentive for the State.

South Australia is already reaping the benefits of its considerable uranium expertise with the establishment of the Australian Radioactive Waste Agency (ARWA) in Adelaide.

Rebecca Knol, Chief Executive Officer said: "Nuclear energy offers a zero-emissions energy source with the ability to provide safe, reliable baseload power but is routinely excluded as both an emissions reduction and energy solution."

"Uranium is also a key economic contributor to the South Australian economy, bringing in \$118 million in royalties over the last 10 years over which time \$346 million dollars of uranium has been produced and exported."

"Despite these advantages, South Australia is yet to fully realise the benefits of a nuclear industry and this can only come from concerted, bipartisan efforts to advance the public policy debate."

"SACOME supports the Chief Entrepreneur's statements and calls upon the Marshall Government to establish a Nuclear Energy Forum to advance the conversation about development of a South Australian nuclear industry."

Jonathan Armstrong, Head of Australian Business for SACOME member company Frazer Nash, endorsed the call for a Nuclear Energy Forum.

“As nations adapt to COVID, they will seek sustained economic advantage through innovation that promotes national productivity, highly skilled technology jobs and responsible climate action. International developments in nuclear technologies offers all these.”

“Any decision to adopt such technologies must be a societal one, based on openness and transparency. Part of that is to raise awareness that South Australia has a genuine opportunity to achieve national and regional leadership through the development of skills, knowledge, practice and technology in the nuclear fuel cycle.”

## Background

Want to learn more about uranium and how nuclear energy can provide safe and reliable power for our State? Read about it <https://www.saresources.com.au/1/18/power-for-the-people> and <https://www.saresources.com.au/2/22/coming-of-age>

Read SACOME & Frazer Nash’s joint media release welcoming establishment of the Australian Radioactive Waste Agency in Adelaide: [link](#)

## Media contacts

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## About SACOME

The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy is the peak industry association representing companies with interests and connections to the South Australian resources and energy sector.