

03 April 2018

Attn: Committee Secretariat

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via e-mail: economics.sen@aph.gov.au

Submission to the selection process for a national radioactive waste management facility in South Australia

The South Australian Chamber of Mines & Energy (SACOME) welcomes the opportunity to make this submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Economics' selection process for a national waste management facility in South Australia.

By way of general comment, SACOME recognises that a majority of residents in Kimba and Hawker have expressed their support for the proposed facility; and that the site selection process continues to be rigorous and focused on genuine community engagement.

SACOME notes that the Commonwealth Government has clearly stated that it will not impose a national radioactive waste facility on an unwilling community and expresses strong support for this position as a guiding principle in the site selection process.

SACOME's specific comments are limited to the following terms of reference:

e) Whether wider (Eyre Peninsular or state-wide) community views should be taken into consideration and, if so, how this is occurring or should be occurring.

SACOME views the site selection process as one that is specifically relevant to those local communities identified as possible site locations. As such, the views of the wider community are secondary to those of residents of Kimba and Hawker.

While SACOME recognises that the proposed facility has attracted significant attention and opposition due to its nature, it is questionable as to whether wider community views have sufficient connection to the proposed facility to justify them being taken into consideration.

This development has direct local impacts and benefits and, as such, the views of local communities should be given primacy.

f) Any other related matters

Construction of a national radioactive waste management facility at Barnidoota near Hawker or in Kimba in South Australia has the potential to create significant economic benefit to local communities, both through creation of local jobs and through Commonwealth funding provided to the host community.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Knol
Chief Executive Officer