

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

## **Budget Estimates Hearings October 2022**

### **Opening Statement**

#### **ANSTO**

as read by Shaun Jenkinson, Chief Executive Officer

Thank you Chair and Committee members.

Firstly, allow me to congratulate all new and returning Senators on their election to parliament and on their appointment to this important Committee.

It is my privilege to address you as the Chief Executive Officer of ANSTO, Australia's Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation. ANSTO owns and operates landmark national infrastructure that benefits Australia's scientific, business and broader community through the application of nuclear science and technology.

ANSTO is playing a key role in addressing challenges facing Australia today in health, the environment and defence to name just a few of the areas we work across. We are leading Australia in the development of a nuclear-capable workforce, and providing nuclear advice, expertise and services to Governments, academia, industry and community.

Human health has always been at the heart of our capability both in our research and our manufacturing activities. ANSTO produces 80 per cent of Australia's nuclear medicines, used in the diagnosis, staging and treatment of diseases, including cancers. ANSTO conducts and supports health research using a range of technologies across the breadth of our research infrastructure including the Australian Centre for Neutron Scattering, the Centre for Accelerator Science and the Australian Synchrotron in Melbourne.

Beyond health, ANSTO's work touches a range of national priorities that benefit Australia's people, economy and environment.

In advanced manufacturing, ANSTO utilises the OPAL nuclear reactor at Lucas Heights to irradiate silicon for use in the high-speed train, and automotive sectors and is the world's largest provider of this service with over 50% of global market share.



ANSTO researchers are using isotopic techniques to reconstruct variability in past climates, improving the accuracy and certainty of climate related predictions.

ANSTO also facilitates education and training in nuclear science and nuclear techniques and is the home to some of Australia's leading research talent.

With almost 70 years of nuclear experience in Australia, ANSTO stands ready to serve the Australian community through our nuclear science and research capabilities.

I am joined today by my colleague, Mr John Edge, Chief Operating Officer.

Thank you.