



Public hearing for inquiry into new nuclear medicine facility

The Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing for the inquiry into the proposed ANSTO Nuclear Medicine Project. Details of the hearing are below.

ANSTO (the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation) states that the proposed facility will comprise a new nuclear medicine manufacturing facility and a co-located Synroc waste treatment plant.

Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) is one of the world's most important nuclear medicines and allows the detection of life threatening diseases. In Australia, 550,000 people receive a diagnosis using Mo-99 each year. The proposed facility will also allow Australia to guarantee the future supply of Mo-99 to Australians, and will meet a significant proportion of the world's increasing demand for Mo-99 which currently totals around 45 million doses a year.

The Synroc facility is based upon ANSTO's proprietary technology and is a world 'first of a kind' facility able to treat a variety of wastes. The Synroc facility will provide a viable economic solution to consolidating waste which is a legacy of 50 years of Australian nuclear medicine production.

The estimated cost of the project is \$168 million. Construction is expected to be complete by 2016. The facility will be located at ANSTO's Lucas Heights campus.

Full details on the proposal are available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

Hearing Venue: AINSE Council Room, ANSTO, New Illawara Road, Lucas Heights, NSW
Date: Friday, 1 February 2013
Time: 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

NB the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation.

For interview: Contact the Chair's office on (07) 4922 6604.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.