

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 3

**Output Group:** 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation

#### **DEST Question No. E013\_05**

Senator Wong asked on 2 June 2004, EWRE Hansard page 106.

#### **Question:**

Did DEST or its contractors tell the public forum that DEST has no transport plan for the Repository?

#### **Answer:**

##### *National Radioactive Waste Repository – Waste transport*

Mr Tony Ryan of Gutteridge, Haskins and Davy Pty Ltd, the project manager for the national repository licence application, indicated at the ARPANSA public forum that a detailed transport plan for the national repository had not yet been developed.

This is because the transport of radioactive waste to the facility would be covered by a source licence rather than the facility licence application for the national repository.

On 14 July 2004 the Prime Minister announced that the Australian Government had decided to abandon a national radioactive waste repository at Site 40a near Woomera in South Australia.

The Australian Government will establish a waste management facility for the Commonwealth's low and intermediate level waste on Commonwealth land at a yet to be determined site.

The Department of Education, Science and Training has withdrawn its licence application to ARPANSA for the national repository.