

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation

DEST Question No. E481_06

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

What is the legislative and regulatory basis of these criteria? Provide a copy of the Siting Criteria. (the Request for Tender” for a Consultancy to study the 3x nominated potential sites only provides generic IAEA siting advice and Australian Siting Criteria for a low level waste facility)

Answer:

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility – Siting Criteria

The siting criteria to be used in assessing the three potential sites are those stated in the Request For Tender (RFT).

The *Code of practice for the near-surface disposal of radioactive waste in Australia* is prescribed by the *Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Regulations 1999*. The *Draft Criteria for the Siting of Controlled Facilities* is an Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency guidance document for use by its staff in assessing licence applications.

The *Code of practice* may be downloaded from http://www.arpansa.gov.au/rhs_pubs.htm. The *Draft Criteria* may be downloaded from http://www.arpansa.gov.au/ass_info.htm#criteria.