

## **PART I**

### **THE NEED FOR A NEW RESEARCH REACTOR**

As shown in the previous chapter, the argument for a new research reactor has a long history. Although it is many years since the basic arguments were first brought forward, they remain fundamentally the same. They are threefold, namely:

- Australia needs a new reactor for scientific research purposes and for industrial applications;
- Australia needs a new reactor to meet the growing demand for reactor produced radioisotopes, particularly for medical applications; and
- Australia needs a research reactor for maintaining nuclear expertise in order to serve the national interest.

These arguments are dealt with in turn in the following three chapters.

