

# GeoSynthesis Pty Ltd

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AUSTRALIA

18 Mar 2016

Att Rear Admiral the Honourable Kevin Scarce AC CSC RAN (Rtd)  
Royal Commissioner  
South Australia Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission  
GPO Box 11043  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Sir

My brief submission to the Royal Commission on its Tentative Findings is given below. This submission is a follow-up to my complete submission of 30 July 2015, wherein my qualifications, experience, and affiliations are given in full.

I congratulate the Commission on the Tentative Findings, which represent a triumph of facts and common sense over emotion, a combination rare to extinct in Australian discussions on the nuclear industry since the 1960s.

In addition to my conclusions in July 2015, my extra conclusions include:

- Community consent must include bipartisan political support for the long-term future of all Australians in terms of energy security and safety. It is recommended that the political establishment in Australia should form a small committee to oversee this important facet of Australian politics. Initially this would include the LNP, ALP, and independent politicians; all parties including the Greens must be invited, of course.
- Education in the facts of nuclear power, from mining through processing and manufacture, to electricity generation, and finally to waste storage should be made a priority in all SA government communications to affected communities, viz all South Australians.
- The Commonwealth Government must legislate to assist South Australia to achieve its future requirements, including removal of all Federal legislative barriers.
- While issue can be taken with economic modelling of nuclear power, it must be noted that the potential economic impacts of the introduction of nuclear power via small modular reactors (SMR) is a total unknown, given that no country has yet attempted introduction of nuclear power via this source. All economic models are based on utility of large scale reactors, and further common sense-based approaches using SMRs is required. Australia is a special case given the dispersed nature of the population and power consumption (outback mine sites).
- Further study is required on the use of SMRs to generate fresh water for civilian, transport, and mine site use in South Australia.
- The opportunity for South Australia to go to the forefront in Australia for technical and engineering education in the nuclear fuel cycle has not been examined in detail. It is recommended that this option should form a priority in South Australia's future approach to the cycle.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Browne

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