



CITY OF
Port Adelaide Enfield

RESPONSE TO THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE ROYAL COMMISSION'S 'TENTATIVE FINDINGS' REPORT (February 2016)

Council welcomes the opportunity to provide a Response to the Royal Commission's Tentative Findings Report, and commends the Commission on the comprehensive investigations and research that has been undertaken in this process.

While the investigations and Findings Report have addressed and alleviated many of Council's queries and concerns on a range of issues, Council wishes to highlight a specific gap in the Findings report, for the Commission's future reference. In summary, the issues that have not been clearly identified in the Royal Commission's Tentative Findings as requiring further research, are primarily in relation to the optional coastal locations for the international import of the nuclear waste material into South Australia, and the transport routes and systems that may be used to transport the material to the nominated waste facility in the north of the State (should that option go ahead).

While Council is fully aware that there is a long process ahead in regard to the planning and consultations on the potential establishment of a waste storage facility, Council wishes to ensure that the Council and the local community are fully communicated with ongoing in regard to the assessment of potential import sites in particular, and that the local community have the opportunity to have input during that process.

It has been noted by other respondents to the Commission's work that the establishment of dedicated, purpose-built wharf and storage facilities (and specialised shipping) does not appear to have been factored into the establishment costs for the nuclear fuel waste facility and associated infrastructure. Any future location of new wharf and transport facilities, or the re-design and refurbishment of existing facilities in the Port Adelaide area would

need to undergo a comprehensive investigation and consultation process, to identify potential impacts and risk management requirements.

Council highlighted in its original Submission the need for the State Government (with Commonwealth and private sector assistance) to look at the development of new or expanded wharf facilities in regional South Australia to accommodate the import and export of minerals and other regional commodities, and thereby reduce the pressure on the Port of Adelaide and its surrounding suburbs from the increasing use of the port at Outer Harbor.

The increased volume of general rail and road freight movements on the Lefevre Peninsula in particular is also of concern to Council and the community. As Council's Submission also highlighted, the State government's own projections show a very significant increase in freight movements through Outer Harbor in the coming decade – this would be significantly further increased by the addition of large imports of nuclear waste materials.

We invite the Commission, and future bodies who will progress the work into the future, to fully inform and consult with Council and the local community ongoing in regard to the implications for Outer Harbor and the Lefevre Peninsula, if the Port of Adelaide is to become the nominated import site to serve the operations of a future nuclear waste facility in the State.

We note Infrastructure Australia's (IA) recently released list of Priority Infrastructure Projects (18 February) includes the development of a regional port in South Australia, as a 'Medium Term' priority. The IA report notes that despite reports of job losses in some areas, the SA mining and resources sector will continue to grow – and notes that the lack of a transport plan, including high-capacity deep water ports, can be a hurdle for investment in the mining sector. We would argue that this priority (to establish a regional location for deep port shipping) will be strategically increased by the requirement for the import of the incoming nuclear waste material. Infrastructure Australia has identified three sites for potential port development in the regional areas of the State.

Thankyou.