

TREASURER TOM KOUTSANTONIS

Thursday, 7 July 2016 (released Saturday, 4 June 2016)

\$3.6 million for consultation on Nuclear Fuel Cycle

The 2016-17 State Budget includes \$3.6 million to support the agency charged with consulting on South Australia's involvement in the nuclear fuel cycle.

The funding will allow the Government to conduct the biggest consultation undertaken in the State's history, including a statewide engagement program that will visit 60 towns and regional centres, and a Citizen's Jury of around 350 people in October.

A further \$1 million previously allocated for the 2015-16 Financial Year will also be carried forward.

Background

The Royal Commission into the Nuclear Fuel Cycle identified that South Australia can safely increase its participation in the nuclear fuel cycle to deliver significant economic benefits to the State.

The Consultation and Response Agency was formed following the release of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission final report, which was released in May.

A Citizens Jury is currently being held (final sittings on 9/10 July) and will provide a report to Government which will further guide the community discussion on the topic.

A three-month state-wide consultation will commence in late July, with members of the Consultation and Response Agency setting up around 100 sites in more than 60 towns across South Australia.

In October, a second Citizens' Jury of approximately 350 people, including the original members of the first Jury, will be convened to evaluate the feedback from the state-wide consultation and weigh up the choices and options on the important issues raised by the Royal Commission.

In November, this second Jury will produce a report summarising the community's position for the Government to consider in its response to the Royal Commission's Report by the end of the year.

People can download the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission's Final Report and register to stay informed at www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/nuclear.



Quotes attributable to Premier Jay Weatherill

The Royal Commissioner said there should be broad social consent if we are to further our State’s involvement in the Nuclear Fuel Cycle.

This funding will allow the newly formed Consultation and Response Agency to engage as many South Australians as possible on this important question for our State’s future.

Ultimately it will be up to the State Government to decide whether or not we further enter the Nuclear Fuel Cycle – however our decision will be informed by this important consultation process with the South Australian community.

Quotes attributable to Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

It is important that this agency has the resources it requires in order to conduct the most significant consultation in this State’s history.

We want all South Australians to tell us what they think of the Commissioner’s findings and what they see as the potential benefits and risks of us taking further steps into this industry.

This isn’t just about the economic benefits to South Australia – there are many other complex issues that need to be considered and the community in South Australia need to be part of that process.

Media Contact: David Russell 0434 307 012

web: www.statebudget.sa.gov.au
twitter: @sa_press_sec

