



10 August 2010

AREVA Statement

AREVA NC Australia (AREVA) today said it was surprised that the Federal Environment Minister, Peter Garrett, has made a commitment for future actions after the Federal election around the Koongarra site in the Northern Territory.

AREVA, which has held current Mining Lease and Exploration Licence Applications on the site since 1995, made a submission on the issue in May 2010 to the National Parks Service.

The Managing Director of AREVA NC Australia, Mr. Philippe Portella, said that the company's submission recognised the significant cultural, traditional and economic interests associated with the site.

"There had been no further feedback or consultation from the Government on the submission since then.

"Given the complexity of the issues, AREVA did not expect the announcement of such a decision to be rushed through during an election campaign," Mr Portella said.

AREVA considers that it is essential that the next government follows a proper decision making process, including taking into account all stakeholders as well as the views of other Cabinet Ministers. AREVA remains willing to fully cooperate, as already stated.

"The company will be asking the Minister for an official Statement of Reasons for his decision. AREVA will obviously be seeking legal advice in order to protect its property interests," Mr Portella said.

Further information:

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