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Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation

Media Release

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Public forum to discuss ANSTO* and dismantling of the Moata reactor

ANSTO's next bi-annual community discussion is being held on Monday 28 July at ANSTO's Education and Tour Centre at 6.00pm. Topics will range from an introduction to ANSTO to the dismantling of the Moata reactor – a small 100kW research reactor that operated from 1961 until 1995.

"It is important that residents have the opportunity to know what is happening at ANSTO and what happens to a reactor when it is no longer in use," said Andrew Humpherson, ANSTO's General Manager, Public Affairs.

"ANSTO also wants to explain to people how nuclear science is being utilised to combat serious environmental issues like pollution and climate change and this is a key forum in which to do so.

"ANSTO seeks always to be open and honest about how it operates and wants to provide the community the opportunity to come along and hear more about our research and our new reactor as well as have their questions answered.

"There are many misconceptions about the nature of ANSTO and what we do, we hope that this forum helps alleviate any concerns and enlighten people about the wonderful, groundbreaking research that is carried out at ANSTO."

To start the discussion a presentation will be given by ANSTO's Chief of Research, Dr George Collins, to outline the type of organisation ANSTO is and the types of research it carries out. This will be followed by a presentation by Steve McIntosh, Senior Advisor Government Liaison, about the dismantling process for Moata.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the Community Discussion so ANSTO has the opportunity to answer your questions or concerns. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information and to arrange an interview please contact:

ANSTO Media Relations Manager, Sharon Kelly (02) 9717 9575 or 0400 394 085

*ANSTO is the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, the country's national nuclear research and development organisation and the centre of Australian nuclear expertise – over 70 per cent of all radioisotopes used in Australian nuclear medicine are made in ANSTO's reactor.