

● THE AUSTRALIAN URANIUM ASSOCIATION'S URANIUM STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLES

These principles reflect and are consistent with the global principles being developed under the World Nuclear Association Stewardship Programme.

The Association's Principles are additional to the broader Australian minerals industry's commitment to sustainable development as outlined in the Minerals Council of Australia's Enduring Values and to the Australian Uranium Association's Charter and AUA Code of Practice.

Recognising that uranium stewardship is a responsibility shared by all players in every sector in the nuclear fuel cycle, the Australian uranium industry will work together with other sectors to give effect to the following Stewardship Principles and commits to:

1. Safe and peaceful use of nuclear technology
2. Continual improvement of our quality, health, safety, security and environmental performance to minimise the impacts of activities on people and the environment
3. Contributing to social and economic development of communities where we operate
4. Recognition of fundamental human rights
5. Honest and transparent communication
6. Operating ethically with sound corporate governance
7. Sharing knowledge to encourage widespread adoption of best practices
8. Acting responsibly in the areas we manage and control, and share our concern in other sectors of the nuclear fuel cycle
9. Providing responsible sourcing, use and management of uranium and all its by-products
10. As an industry, regularly communicating progress on the implementation of the principles to our stakeholders and review and update them as necessary

● PRINCIPLES OF URANIUM STEWARDSHIP

"A central idea of uranium stewardship is the responsibility shared by all players in every sector in the nuclear fuel cycle – from exploration and mining to spent fuel recycling and management, from the production of medical resources to the operation of nuclear power plants - to work with all other sectors to give effect to stewardship principles."

Australian Uranium Association

● FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON STEWARDSHIP

Australia's commitment to stewardship:

Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry
www.ret.gov.au

Uranium Industry Framework Transport Brochure
www.wna-symposium.com

In-Situ Recovery Best Practice Guide
www.ga.gov.au

'Radiation Control in the Mining and Minerals Processing Industry' produced on behalf of the Australian Uranium Association (AUA) and Australian Government
www.aua.org.au

AUA - Stewardship Program
• AUA Code of Practice
• Best Practice Guidelines for Uranium Exploration
www.aua.org.au

Minerals Council of Australia - Enduring Values
www.minerals.org.au

Other organisations:

World Nuclear Association - Stewardship Policy
www.world-nuclear.org
World Nuclear Transport Institute
- Best Practice for Packaging of Uranium Concentrates in Multinodal Transports
www.wnti.co.uk

International Council on Mining and Metals
- Stewardship Principles
www.icmm.com

STEWARDSHIP

● in the uranium industry



THE NEED FOR URANIUM STEWARDSHIP

Australia is well placed to make a greater contribution to meeting the projected increase in global demand for uranium due to our substantial available resources, development potential, strong record as a reliable supplier, and skilled workforce.

The IAEA projects growth in nuclear power of around 3% per annum out to 2030. Growth will be driven by both emerging and mature markets. High growth markets in the Asia Pacific region are likely to be China and India, while mature markets in North America and Europe will continue to grow and be the largest users of nuclear power. Currently, 29 countries operate 441 plants, with 60 reactors under construction.

Source: IAEA Item 16 International Status and Prospects of Nuclear Power 2010

WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

Growth brings forth opportunities and challenges. Growth magnifies the capacity to deliver value, but without innovation that addresses environmental and social concerns, growth magnifies the impacts of the business. Stewardship for social and environmental performance becomes a central issue for companies who seek sustainable growth.

There are many names used to describe responsibility: Sustainable development, sustainability, corporate social responsibility, triple bottom line. We call it *sustainable development* and believe it means meeting the needs of our stakeholders today while preserving choices for future generations to meet their needs.

Put simply, we want to do what's right.

The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism's *Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry Handbook* (The RET Handbook), focussed on stewardship, states that leadership is an evolving concept within the resources sector aimed at building partnerships throughout the lifecycle of materials to ensure the sustainability of their production, use and disposal.



world nuclear association

A program of action to demonstrate that uranium is produced, used, and its wastes disposed of, in a safe and acceptable manner. The program takes into account the life cycle approach and encourages use of leading practices for health, safety, environmental and social aspects along the value chain. It emphasises waste minimisation and encourages recycling.

The RET Handbook states there are three different types of stewardship within an umbrella of materials stewardship:

- **Resources Stewardship** - involves a program of actions to ensure resource inputs to a process are used for their most efficient and appropriate use.
- **Process Stewardship** - involves a program of actions focussed on ensuring processes are undertaken in a socially and environmentally appropriate manner.
- **Product Stewardship** - aims to minimise the net environmental impact from product use through product and product system design, as well as regulatory controls and provisions at each segment in the life cycle.
- **Materials Stewardship** - overarches the stewardship approach since it applies to resources, processes, and products and covers the full life cycle. The overall intent of materials stewardship is best captured by the notion of doing more with less, or eco-efficiency, as defined by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.



minerals council of australia

Stewardship is not a single action but is made up of many interlinked actions. The Strategic Framework for Water Management in the Minerals Industry aims to:

Promote a strategic approach to water management at mining and processing sites so that water is more efficiently managed and valued as a vital business, community and environmental asset.

WHY UNDERTAKE STEWARDSHIP?

Key benefits of a well-implemented Stewardship plan for the uranium industry are:

- Minimising opportunities that pose a hazard to people and the environment;
- Expanding commercially valuable relationships with other sectors of the lifecycle;
- Enhancing the industry's social license to operate, market and grow;
- Reduced consumption of energy, water and other auxiliaries in product delivery and use;
- Reduced product waste and maximising the opportunity for reuse and recycling; and
- Sharing of management systems and best practices within and among industry sectors which inevitably strengthens the efficiency of any enterprise.



bhp billiton

Stewardship is about everyone in a commodity life cycle working together to maximise the value to society without adversely impacting people or the environment from the mining, processing, manufacture, consumption and end-of-life management of that commodity.

