Building a Framework for post-accident recovery in Australia

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Recent Changes (new Agencies in 2020)

9. Radioactive waste management

A nuclear or radiological emergency may generate radioactive waste as well as conventional waste. In particular, nuclear or radiological emergencies resulting in significant contamination of the environment can be expected to generate radioactive waste with various radiological, chemical, physical, mechanical and biological properties. These may be of a volume that can overwhelm national capabilities and resources for radioactive waste management. The generation of radioactive waste in a nuclear or radiological emergency may pose a challenge to the implementation of the national policy and strategy for radioactive waste management, as well as to overall efforts to enable the termination of the emergency and achieving long term recovery objectives.

From Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (AGCMF 2021)

There are two mechanisms by which the Australian Government may coordinate disaster response and/or recovery efforts. The first, and primary mechanism, is through the NRRA. The second mechanism is reserved for unique crisis situations and involves a Government directed dedicated temporary agency or authority, where specific expertise is required that is not resident within the NRRA. An example would be a wide area radiological contamination event. CG NRRA would be engaged as part of decision making for any special purpose or temporary response mechanism.
What could recovery look like?

Building a Framework for Post-Nuclear Accident Recovery Preparedness
National-Level Guidance

- Holistic Basis for Discussion
- Defined Roles and Responsibilities
- Exercises!
- Prepared to Respond and Recover