



Australian Government  
Defence



Office for  
Nuclear Regulation

NPSRD 2024/119  
BS59950769  
ONR 2025/25709

**LETTER CONSTITUTING AN ARRANGEMENT CONCERNING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE OF AUSTRALIA REPRESENTED BY THE NUCLEAR POWERED SUBMARINE REGULATORY DESIGN**

1. On behalf of the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Department of Defence of Australia represented by the Nuclear Powered Submarine Regulatory Design (NPSRD) (together the Participants), the Participants undertake to cooperate to enable each Participant to advance its regulatory functions, and work towards achieving their shared objectives and interests relating to the AUKUS program.
2. The Participants intend that their cooperation will foster a spirit of collaboration and mutual benefit for a successful partnership in respect of the AUKUS program activities as they relate to the functions of each Participant.

**Commitments**

3. Subject to the provisions of this letter, both Participants intend to cooperate to:
  - a. share information and lessons learned from experience in Defence nuclear regulation activities in order to develop regulation best practice, including for licensing processes.
  - b. share training and educational products and information as well as best practices in order to enhance the technical competence and capability of staff members of both Participants.
4. The Participants may determine other areas of cooperation by mutual consent in writing.
5. Prior to undertaking any specific cooperation under this letter, the Participants may mutually determine in writing additional arrangements for the conduct of such cooperation.
6. In the event that funding is required to support cooperation under this letter, subject to availability of such funding, the allocation and terms of the funding shall be mutually agreed upon in writing by the Parties prior to the commencement of any activities requiring funding.



7. The highest level of information to be exchanged under this letter is AUS Official Sensitive/ UK Official Sensitive.

8. Any information shared in connection with this letter will be shared in accordance with the Participants' national laws, regulations and policies. Information will be used only for the purposes for which it is provided and will not be transferred to any third party without the consent of the originating Participant.

9. Additional security requirements and procedures may be established by the written consent of the Participants.

10. All cooperation conducted by the Participants under this letter will be conducted in accordance with the applicable national laws and regulations of their respective jurisdictions. This cooperation will be based on principles of mutual respect, transparency, and shared benefits.

### Final provisions

11. This letter does not create any legally binding rights or obligations under domestic or international law.

12. Any dispute relating to the interpretation or application of this letter will be resolved solely through consultation between the Participants, and will not be referred to any national or international court or tribunal, or any third party or entity for settlement.

13. This letter will constitute an arrangement between the Participants, which will come into effect on the date of the last signature further below.

14. This arrangement may be amended or terminated at any time with the mutual written consent of both Participants. Either Participant may terminate this arrangement by 3 months notification in writing.



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