



South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy



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**Adelaide public to be given unique
access to world uranium experts**

Some of the world's foremost experts in uranium and its associated technologies will make themselves available to members of the public in Adelaide in a unique event to be held by South Australia's leading resources organisation in an effort to demystify the element.

On Friday 20 June, Adelaide is to play host to an industry-first "*Uranium Open Day*" designed to give the public a unique opportunity to ask experts pressing questions they may have about the mining, processing, use and disposal of uranium.

"Demystifying Uranium" is the theme of this free event, hosted by the South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) and supported by The AusIMM and the South Australian Government.

The uranium open day will feature a series of short seminars, a variety of displays and presentations; including a presentation at 1pm by science communicator Professor Deane Hutton (of Curiosity Show fame); demonstration of a radiation detector and other equipment; and SA Museum's 'cloud chamber', which shows radioactivity in action!

The program will commence 9am at the Adelaide Convention Centre with the official opening by the South Australian Minister for Mineral Resources Development, The Honourable Paul Holloway.

The short seminars will be on a range of topics related to uranium will be presented by some of the world's leading uranium producers, researchers and scientists who are in town for the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (The AusIMM) International Uranium Conference to be held on the two days immediately preceding the open day.

"What better opportunity can there be to bring together experts from government, researchers and leaders from the uranium industry to answer any questions that members of the public may have," SACOME Chief Executive, Mr Jason Kuchel said.

The short seminars between 9am and 11am will cover uranium mining, processing and disposal in Australia. From 11am until 12 noon, the theme of the seminars will be a global perspective, discussing uranium's role as a part of a climate change mitigation, as well as advances in nuclear technology and international safeguards designed to ensuring its use for peaceful purposes. At noon there will be a panel discussion.

Among the speakers will be Mark Chalmers, Chair of the Federal Uranium Industry Framework and senior representatives from the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) and Geoscience Australia.

Visitors will have an opportunity to quiz experts in the fields of uranium mining and processing, energy security, safeguards against radiation and nuclear non-proliferation.



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“There are a lot of myths about uranium, but this event provides an opportunity for people to learn more about current practices and technologies concerning uranium and its broader importance in an energy hungry world,” Mr Kuchel said

“The climate change debate and the world’s drive to more nuclear-based power generation has elevated uranium and its uses to one of the most current front-line issues in political, commercial, equity markets and public arenas.

“This is an industry that has until recent times, been tucked away for two decades so the knowledge gap between the resources sector and the public has become significant.

“This is a good time to make information more accessible to people who have a professional or personal interest in uranium and we believe is one of the first such events in Australia’s resources sector.” Mr Kuchel said.

SACOME President, Mr John Roberts said, “We hope that by bringing together experts and members of the public, we will help bridge the gap between those with specialised knowledge about uranium and those curious to know more,”

SACOME says the forum is open to allcomers, but is particularly relevant to include senior secondary and university students, media and communications professionals and, “anyone who has had questions about uranium but doesn’t know who to ask”.

The uranium open day is free, however, attendees wishing to bring a group to the event need to register to help SACOME accommodate their participation.

OPEN DAY INQUIRIES AND REGISTRATION: Anne Walker and Debbie Boyd at SACOME on (08) 8202 9999 or go to; www.uraniumsa.org.

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