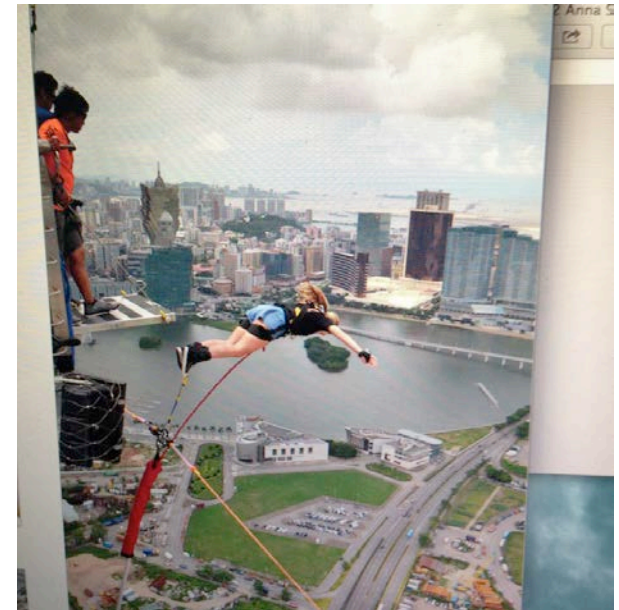


Exploring a Social Licence to Operate



Peta Ashworth, Chair in Sustainable Energy Futures
11th April, 2017

Its challenging



Defining SLO

...the ongoing acceptance or approval of an operation by those local community stakeholders who are affected by it and who can affect its profitability (Moffat & Zhang, 2014).



What constitutes an SLO

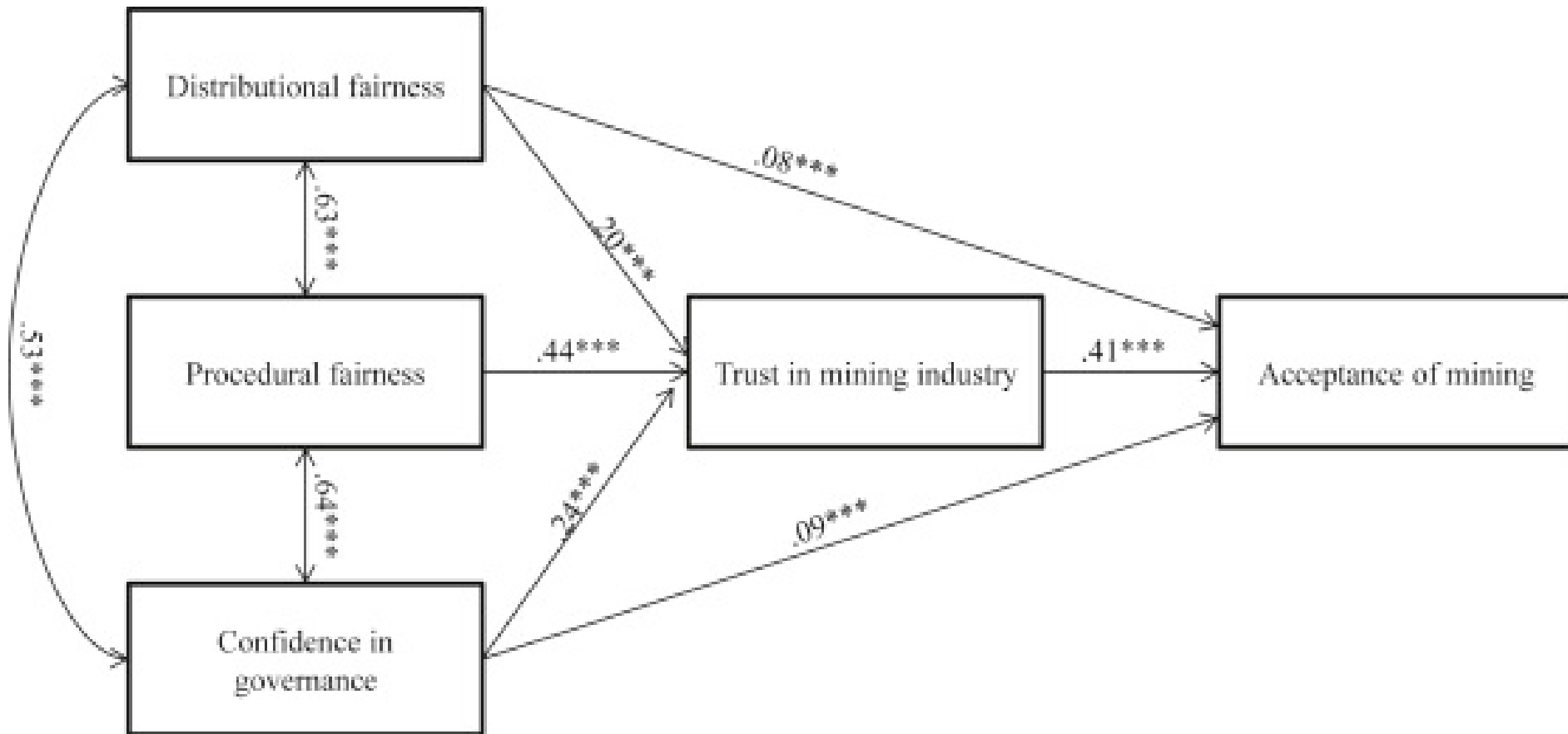


Fig. 3. SLO path model for the Australian sample. Zhang, Moffat, Lacey et al. (2015)

Procedural Fairness

- Will the process be fair?
- Is it transparent?
- Will anyone listen to us?
- Can we have a say in what happens?
- Who can I call?



Trust is critical

- A lack of confidence in government, industry and science to manage associated health, environment and social risks is likely to compound negative perceptions
- Can we trust the project owners and government to take care of our problems?
- What have our previous relationships been like?

Role of dialogue

SUNDAY VERSION

South Australia's Citizens' Jury on Nuclear Waste

Final Report

November 2016

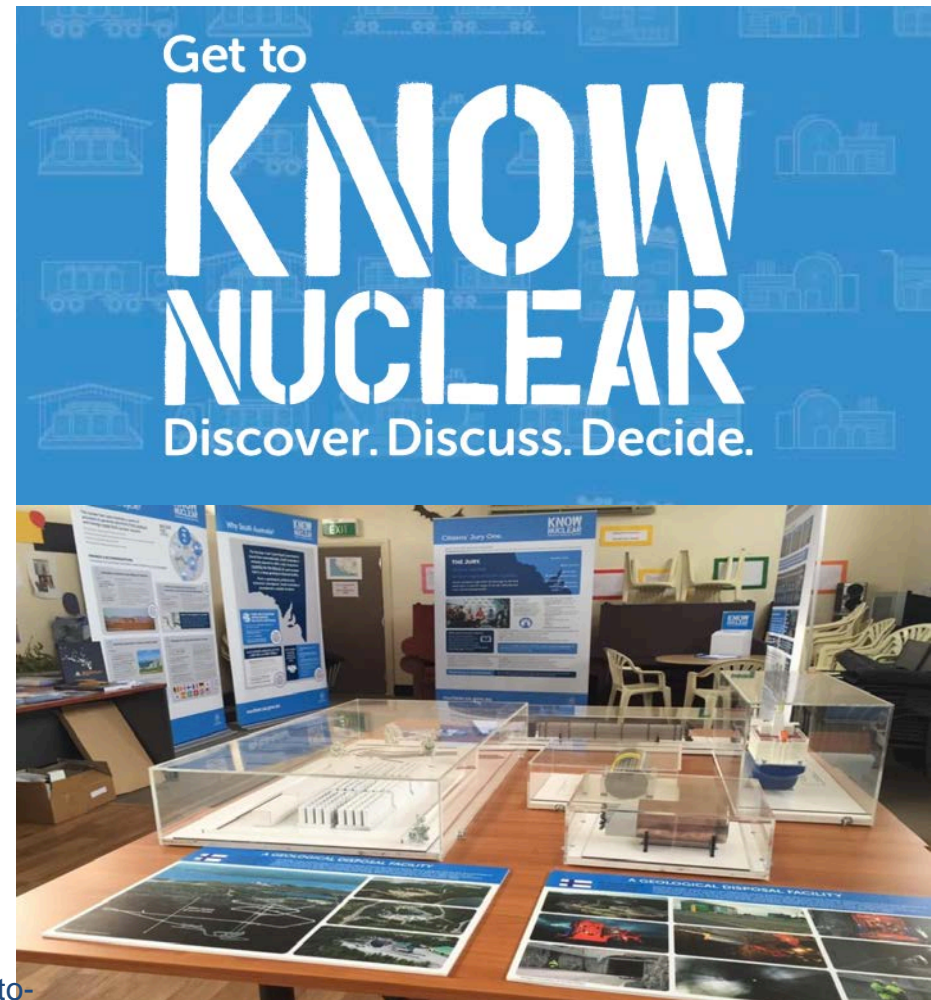
“Under what circumstances, if any, could South Australia pursue the opportunity to store and dispose of nuclear waste from other countries?”

Jury Summary Statement

The Citizens Jury would like to Acknowledge that we have been meeting on Kurna land and we pay our respects to the Traditional owners, past and present, across South Australia.

The jury generally had a strong conviction in taking a position one way or another. Two thirds of the jury do not wish to pursue the opportunity under any circumstances and one third support a commitment to pursue under the circumstances outlined in this report.

<https://nuclear.yoursay.sa.gov.au/news/get-to-know-nuclear-discover-discuss-decide-state-wide-consultation-program-photo-highlights>



... people favor information that is consistent with their self-serving conclusions (Frey, 1981), stereotypes (Johnston, 1996), and decisions (Frey, 1986). This preference for consistent as opposed to inconsistent information is often referred to as confirmation bias (Jonas, Schulz-Hardt, Frey, & Thelen, 2001).

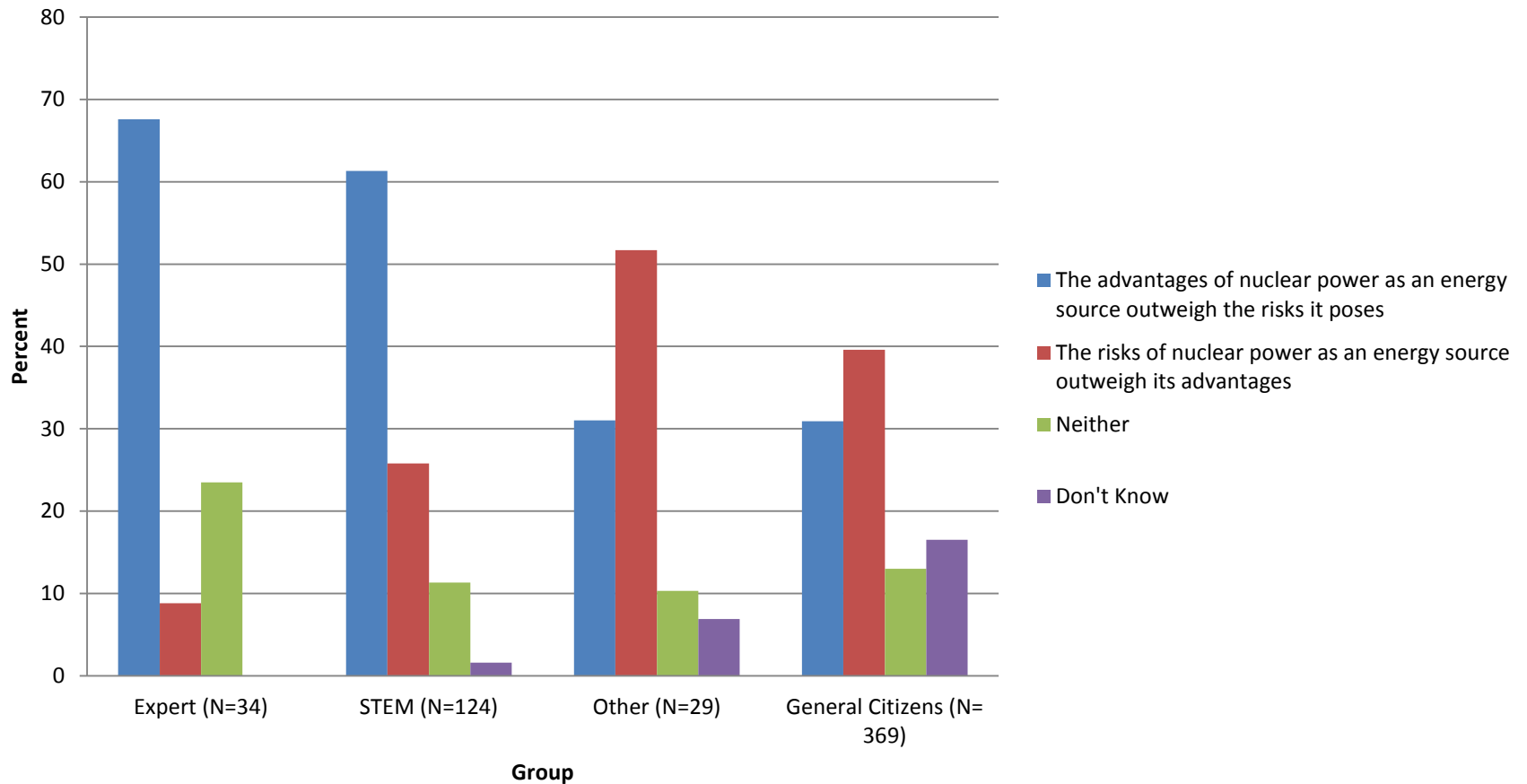
Mojzisch, A., Faulmuller, N., Kerschreiter, R. et al. (2014) p.961

Its about trade-offs

- The advantages of nuclear power as an energy source outweigh the risks it poses
- The risks of nuclear power as an energy source outweigh its advantages
- Neither
- Don't know

Advantages Vs risks

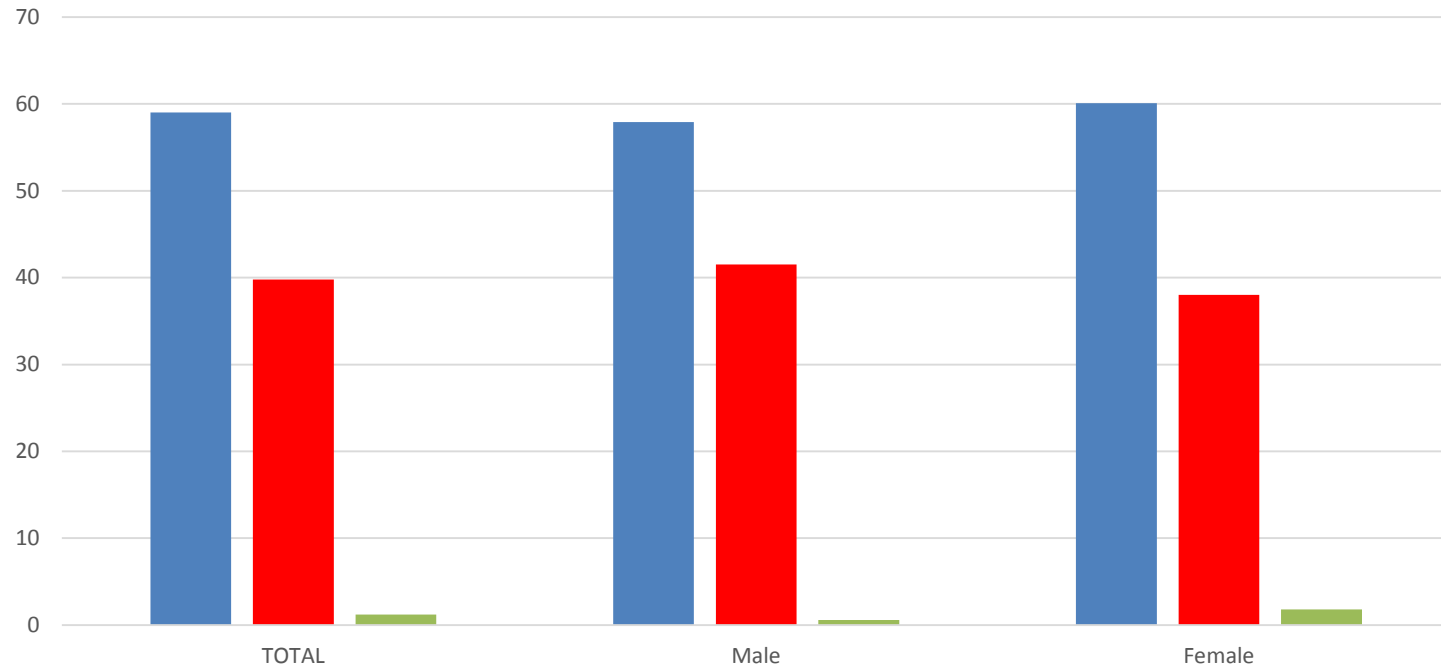
What first comes to mind when you think of Nuclear Power?



Its about trade-offs

- Protecting the environment should be given priority, even if it causes slower economic growth and some loss of jobs
- Economic growth and creating jobs should be the top priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent

Environment Vs Economy



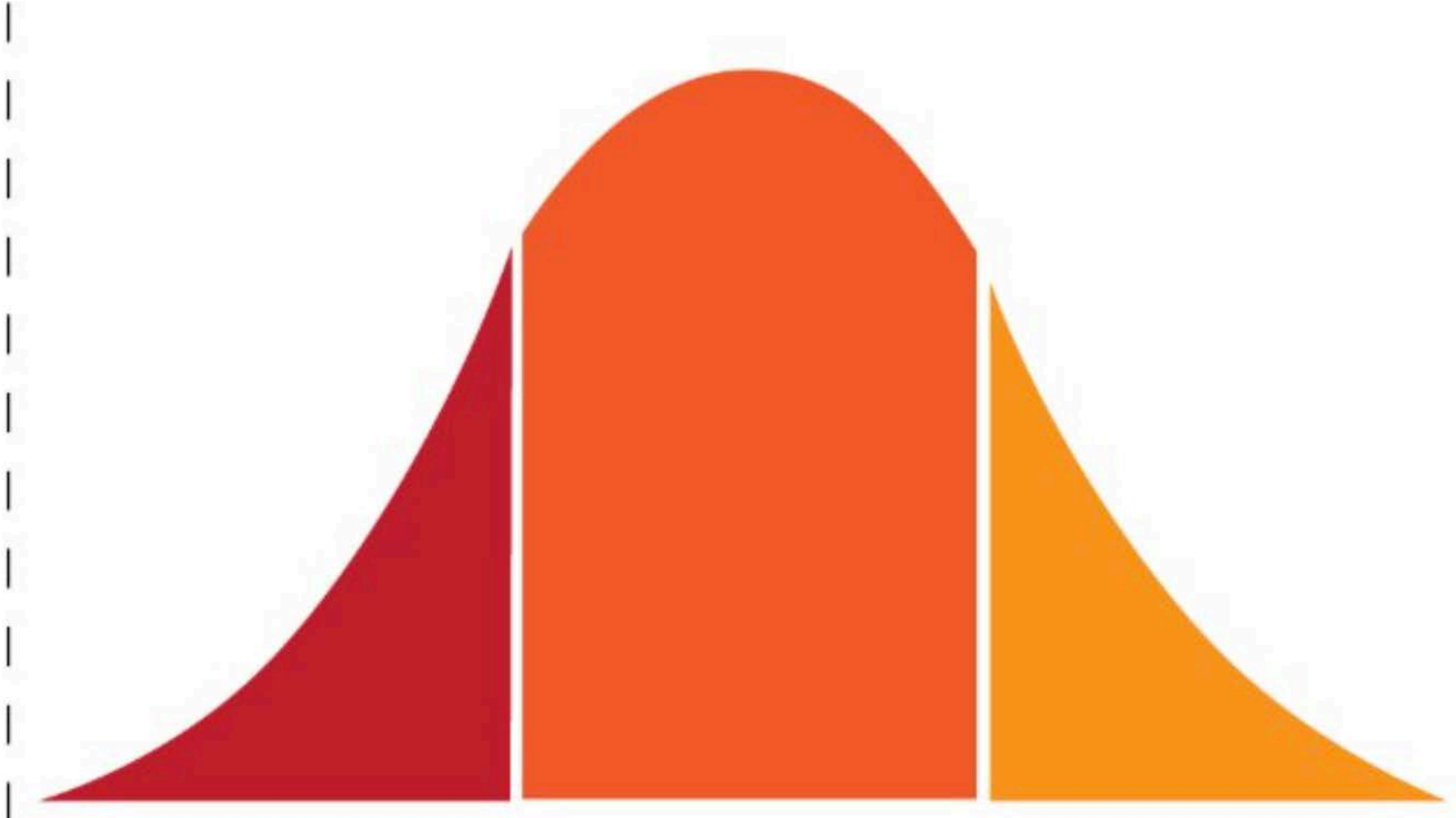
- Protecting the environment should be given priority, even if it causes slower economic growth and some loss of jobs
- Economic growth and creating jobs should be the top priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent
- No answer

Livelihoods and lifestyles



<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/files/sharedassets/parks/parks/flinders-ranges-outback/ikara-flinders-ranges-national-park/ikara-flinders-ranges-sunset-view-hero.jpg>

A Bell Curve of Acceptance



- ...interested in **the potential benefits that could accrue to the Kimba community** to help maintain facilities and services. They believe that while a facility is not necessarily the saviour of the town, **another industry will ensure the district has some diversification** from the agricultural industry and will ultimately assist the longevity of the town.
- **Potential funding for the school and investment in research and development for agriculture** ...were also motivated by the **employment and potential additional population** a facility could bring to the district.
- While they understand that people within the community have differing views, most of those that were supportive that we spoke to **did not believe the issue has impacted community cohesion.**

Department of Industry, 2016, p.9

In opposition

- *Of the percentage of the population we spoke to that is opposed to a new nomination for the facility in Kimba, **concerns remain relatively similar to the previous consultation process.***
- *The potential for **perceived effects on the agricultural reputation of Kimba and the broader Eyre Peninsula remains the biggest concern for those opposed,** with many particularly opposed to siting a facility on active farmland.*
- ***Impacts on community cohesion** were also cited as a key concern. People are concerned the issue has **already created significant stress and division in the town and a new nomination will make this worse.***

Department of Industry, 2016, p.9

No easy answer





Thank you

Email: p.ashworth@uq.edu.au

© Anne Love-Holmes

References

- Bradbury, J. Ray, I., Peterson, T., et al. (2009) Role of social factors in shaping public perceptions to CCS. *Energy Procedia*, 4665 - 4673
- Evans, A. & McAllister, I. World Values Survey - Australia 2012 Technical record. <http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp>
- Gallois, C., Ashworth, P., Leach, J. & K. Moffat. (2017) The language of science and social licence to operate. *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, Vol. 36(1) 45–60
- Department of Industry (2016) National Radioactive Waste Management Facility: Summary of engagement in the Kimba community. www.radioactivewaste.gov.au
- Moffat, K., & Zhang, A. (2014). The paths to social licence to operate: An integrative model explaining community acceptance of mining. *Resources Policy*, 39, 61-70
- Mojzisch, A., Faulmuller, N., Kerschreiter, R. et al. (2014) The consistency principle in interpersonal communication: Consequences of preference confirmation and Disconfirmation in collective decision making. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, Vol. 106, No. 6, 961–977
- Zhang, A., Moffat, K., Lacey, J. et al. (2015) Understanding the social licence to operate of mining at the national scale: a comparative study of Australia, China and Chile. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, Volume 108, Part A, 1063–1072
- <https://nuclear.yoursay.sa.gov.au/news/get-to-know-nuclear-discover-discuss-decide-state-wide-consultation-program-photo-highlights>