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To Forecasting and Planning

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Draft Inputs, Assumptions and Scenarios report, regarding the CSIRO's GenCost 2020-21 draft.

By way of providing context, I hold a doctorate in chemistry from the University of Adelaide, and have been employed for many years in the local manufacturing sector in South Australia. During that time I have independently applied my scientific training to the examination of the potential which new nuclear energy technologies present for the purpose of wider energy demand decarbonisation, alongside renewable energy sources. This has included critical comparison of information sources, and direct engagement with vendors. It is not an exaggeration to say, since I began my investigations, the modern nuclear energy space has dramatically ballooned.

My personal focus has always been on the federal prohibition against the technology, which is unjustifiable and out of step with the international expert consensus on climate-energy scholarship and policy. Recent governmental inquiries related to nuclear energy have highlighted that the prohibition bears strongly upon the GenCost economics work originally carried out for AEMO's Integrated System Plan, specifically the lack of inclination to correct initial, dramatic errors in the research from GHD and engage with the appropriate knowledge base on the subject.

The forthcoming update to GenCost should therefore remove the section on nuclear SMR entirely since the numbers as presented don't correspond to the current state of knowledge (likely wildly so), and there is no sign that any effort is forthcoming to refine them.

For the present, considering the legislative state of affairs, this will adequately resolve the problem.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide this submission.

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