

GOING NUCLEAR

Muja Power Plant on Dutton's list of proposed sites

FEDERAL Opposition leader Peter Dutton yesterday named Collie as a location for a proposed nuclear power plant.

Under the Opposition's energy plan, Muja Power Station would host a small modular reactor, utilising existing infrastructure to integrate with the South West Interconnected System.

Mr Dutton said an exhaustive process had been conducted to identify suitable sites and claimed nuclear would be a "huge win" for local economies.

"It will mean that at end-of-life coal-fired power station sites we can utilise the existing distribution network," Mr Dutton said.

"This is a plan for our country that will underpin a century of economic growth and jobs for these communities."

Mr Dutton described nuclear as the "best possible pathway to meeting net-zero by 2050", and floated the possibility the first sites could be producing electricity by 2035.

But while claiming nuclear would deliver cheaper and cleaner energy, avoiding the need for extensive new transmission infrastructure required by renewables, he would not be drawn on costs.

"The focus today is on the sites," Mr Dutton said.

"We'll deal with the cost in the next stage of our policy announcements."

Federal member for O'Connor Rick Wilson said under the plan Collie would host a 200 to 300 megawatt reactor.

Mr Wilson said the reactor would have a small footprint and not require large quantities of water.

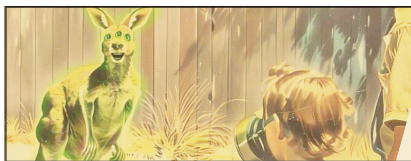
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RAINFALL REPORTS

Collie resident Marty Wallace has been recording local rainfall data after the Bureau of Meteorology's Collie rain gauge was turned off due to issues with incorrect reporting.

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ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIVISTS TARGET COLLIE

THE Australian Conservation Foundation is targeting Collie residents with anti-nuclear advertising via social media.

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