

August 2026

Investigation Report

Liberals Against Nuclear Pty Ltd

Foreword

The objective of the financial disclosure provisions contained in Part XX of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*¹ (Electoral Act) is to ensure disclosure. This is to enable voters to inform themselves of the financial dealings of entities engaged in the electoral process.

The matter

Whether the entity known as Liberals Against Nuclear Pty Ltd – ACN: 684 995 033 (Liberals Against Nuclear), for the purposes of Part XX of the Electoral Act, complied with significant third party registration obligations in 2024–25.

When and how the matter was raised

The matter was identified by the AEC through routine media monitoring processes in March 2025. Multiple news outlets reported the launch of an election campaign by Liberals Against Nuclear consisting of television, digital, and billboard advertisements.

Why the investigation was conducted

The AEC assessed that Liberals Against Nuclear was likely to have incurred electoral expenditure in excess of a significant third party registration threshold of \$250,000 in 2024–25.

Under s 287F(1)(a) of the Electoral Act (as in force in 2024–25), a person or entity (except a political entity, member of the House of Representatives or Senator) must be registered for a financial year as a significant third party if the amount of electoral expenditure incurred by, or with the authority of, the person or entity during that or any one of the previous 3 financial years is \$250,000 or more.

Subsection 287F(2) of the Electoral Act requires that the person or entity must be registered before the end of 90 days after becoming required to be registered.

Continuing to incur electoral expenditure, or fundraise for the purpose of incurring electoral expenditure, while not registered may amount to a contravention of a civil penalty provision under s 287F(3) of the Electoral Act.

Legislation

Part XX of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*.

¹ Part XX of the Electoral Act has been amended by the *Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Reform) Act 2025*. This report references certain provisions that may have been amended.

AEC process

The AEC considered information from the following sources:

- The advertisements published by Liberals Against Nuclear
- Media articles
- Emails sent from Liberals Against Nuclear to the AEC in response to informal enquires by the AEC
- Information and documents received from Liberals Against Nuclear in response to two notices issued by an authorised officer of the AEC under s 314AN of the Electoral Act.

Considerations

The disclosures required under Part XX of the Electoral Act underpin the integrity of the Australian electoral system and provides transparency to voters.

Under s 314AN of the Electoral Act, if an authorised officer of the AEC reasonably believes that a person is capable of giving information or producing a document that is relevant for the purposes of ensuring compliance with Part XX of the Electoral Act, they may, by written notice, require the person to give or produce any such information or document.

On 23 April 2025, an authorised officer of the AEC issued a notice under s 314AN of the Electoral Act to Liberals Against Nuclear requiring the giving of information and production of documents relevant to assessing compliance with significant third party registration obligations. A second notice was issued 13 April 2026.

Based on the preliminary assessment of documents and other information produced in response to the notices, the AEC sent a letter to Liberals Against Nuclear on 19 June 2026 in relation to their potential significant third party registration obligations. On 29 June 2026, Liberals Against Nuclear lodged an application to register as a significant third party and were registered on 30 June 2026.

Based on evidence gathered during the investigation, the AEC found that Liberals Against Nuclear did not continue to incur electoral expenditure, or fundraise for the purpose of incurring electoral expenditure, after becoming required to be registered.

Returns lodged during the investigation

On 31 July 2026, Liberals Against Nuclear Pty Ltd lodged a significant third party disclosure return for the [2024–25 financial year](#). Based on the evidence gathered during the investigation, the AEC considers that the return provides the relevant disclosure in the context of the requirements of Part XX of the Electoral Act.

Conclusion

Liberals Against Nuclear did not contravene a civil penalty provision in relation to significant third party registration obligations and the AEC considers this matter closed.