

Transcript

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Program: **MORNINGS** Time: **09:25 AM**
Compere: **DAVID BEVAN** Summary ID: **X00075423148**
Item: **INTERVIEW WITH PHILIP SPEAKMAN, BUSINESSMAN, ABOUT THE PROPOSED RADIOACTIVE WASTE DUMP IN SA.**
INTERVIEWEES: PHILIP SPEAKMAN, BUSINESSMAN

Audience:	Male 16+ 18000	Female 16+ 15000	All people 34000
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DAVID BEVAN: Philip Speakman is a joint owner with Grant Chapman of the Wallerberdina station and that's the one up near Hawker. Good morning Phillip Speakman.

PHILIP SPEAKMAN: Good morning David.

DAVID BEVAN: How big is this thing going to be?

PHILIP SPEAKMAN: David, this has been a - I'm just chuckled listening to some of the other callers because this has been an incredibly exhausting, detailed investigation over two and a half to three years. And what some of your earlier callers have said about lack of scientific attention and investigation is from what we've been told, completely untrue. They've gone out of their way to really ensure that all the boxes that need to be ticked, have been ticked.

DAVID BEVAN: Okay. Now, Michelle just rang in. She thinks it's going to be a blight on the Flinders Ranges. How big is this thing going to be?

PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Well look, we're still not aware of that. It's not a large piece of land and it's a bit unfair to keep saying the Flinders Ranges. The property is actually well short of the Flinders Ranges as you define it from a tourist perspective and it's sort of 10 to 15 kilometres up the road from Hawker and the property itself is quite a few kilometres off the Leigh Creek road. And our understanding of where the potential site may be finally agreed to is way up in the western part of the property.
DAVID BEVAN:	So you're not going to see it from the road?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	There's no possible way - the thing about this area, the Hawker area, it is range country. So it's very hilly, you've got lots of dry creek beds, little valleys, lots of sand. It really is a very rugged terrain.
DAVID BEVAN:	Alright. And do you - cause you're joint owner with Grant Chapman of the station, are you going to make a lot of money out of this? Not that there's anything wrong with making money, but are you going to make a lot of money?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	David, we haven't even got valuations on the property. No, look, the short answer is we believe it's a small piece of land that the government have looked at for two and a half to three years now and similar to the two sites in Kimba and...
DAVID BEVAN:	Yeah, but what do you get?

PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	It hasn't been discussed with us. There's no agreed formula that's been put to us and I think what the government are doing quite rightly is spending a lot of time at this stage on two fronts; one being community acceptance or otherwise and the other being the scientific.
DAVID BEVAN:	But, you must have some idea. I mean why would you hand over a portion of your station without having an idea what you're going to get out of this?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Well, if you've got the answer to it, please share it with myself and Grant because we don't seriously have a figure at all.
DAVID BEVAN:	So you're just doing this out of the goodness of your hearts?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Oh no. There is an expectation that there will be a monetary transaction.
DAVID BEVAN:	Okay. So what's your expectation?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	I wouldn't have a clue David.
DAVID BEVAN:	So you don't know whether they're going to pay you a dollar a year or a million dollars a year?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	No and as I say, the valuations are being conducted as we speak by independent, well recognised rural valuers.

DAVID BEVAN:	Well before people cast their votes on 20 August, shouldn't they know what's in it for you?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Well I think that the process will be very transparent.
DAVID BEVAN:	[Interrupts] well not if they don't know what's in it for you.
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Well as I say, that's really up to the government to come back to us, we're not in a position to put a figure to them, they're [indistinct] come back to us with what they [indistinct].
DAVID BEVAN:	[Talks over] Yeah, so if I was living up there I might think to myself well alright, Mr Canavan's - the Minister's just put an extra \$31 million on the table today, but I want to know what Phil Speakman and Grant Chapman are going to get out of this. Or if it goes over to Kimba, what that fella's going to get out of it because that would influence my decision. I might go back to them and think; well no I want a lot more than \$31 million for my community based on what Speakman and Chapman are getting.
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Look, I understand what you're saying but let me take you back to three years ago when I spotted the invitation to tender in the media, in the paper and that's when I said to Grant Chapman, I said we should put in for this because we both support the idea of a low level repository being established somewhere in Australia. And at that stage, we were just a very small player in a long list of people from all over Australia.

DAVID BEVAN:	Yeah, well that's the history, but it doesn't answer the question of what you think you're going to make out of this. And as I say, there's nothing wrong with you making money, I'm just asking how much? And you can't tell us.
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	No, we have no [indistinct] from the government.
DAVID BEVAN:	[Talks over] and that won't be settled before people vote on this on 20 August.
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Well that's a good question. The answer is I don't know as we speak.
DAVID BEVAN:	Do you think it would be a good idea for people before they cast their vote on 20 August, to know what the actual owners of the station would get?
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	I think that's a small piece of the pie, David. I think the bigger issue is to find a place somewhere in our magnificent country and take this away from the urban areas where it currently sits.
DAVID BEVAN:	Yeah, clearly there's a big issue here, we've got to work out where to put this radioactive waste. But, if it's going to get down to individual communities, they're going to have to cast their vote and it'd be handy for them to know, what's in it for Speakman and Chapman or whoever is your equivalent over at Kimba.
PHILIP SPEAKMAN:	Well the other side of that argument is that in today's <i>Advertiser</i> and this was absolute news to me and Grant

Chapman; the Minister's announcement for [indistinct] of \$31 million to locking nuclear dump. I read it the same as everybody else in today's paper.

DAVID BEVAN: Phil Speakman, thank you very much.

PHILIP SPEAKMAN: Thank you.

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