

**From:**  
**To:** [Legal and Constitutional, Committee \(SEN\);](#)  
**Subject:** Muckaty Station nuclear waste dump  
**Date:** Friday, 5 March 2010 2:47:09 PM

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Chair: Senator Trish Crossin (ALP, Northern Territory)

Members: Senator Guy Barnett (Liberal, Tasmania),  
Senator David Feeney (ALP, Victoria),  
Senator Mary Jo Fisher (Liberal, South Australia)  
Senator Scott Ludlam (Greens, Western Australia),  
Senator Gavin Marshall (ALP Victoria)

Many Traditional Owners of Muckaty Station and many other Australians do not want this nuclear waste dump on their lands. Therefore it is essential that the Senate Committee pay due respects to the Traditional Owners on the front line, by travelling to Tennant Creek to take evidence from them directly.

A more democratic and respectful approach to radioactive waste management is required. In choosing a specific site, the proposed bill overrides all relevant state and territory legislation as well as overriding commonwealth environmental and Aboriginal heritage protections. It also overrides private property rights of affected individuals with regards the dump site or its access route.

It's time the radioactive waste management debate in Australia looked at options other than remote waste dumps on Aboriginal land. The industry has never made the case that a remote shed is the best place for this material. Nuclear waste should be moved as little as possible, and should be stored above ground close to the point of production, close to centres of nuclear expertise and infrastructure.

Ken Rumsby