

The Senate Inquiry,

The issue of nuclear power and nuclear waste is a complicated one. Many people are convinced that we, Australia, must go Nuclear in order to maintain our energy needs - clean energy alternatives just wont make enough power.

The thought of nuclear waste, being radioactive and around for many years is a scary thought to me. Some people say that the fact that the radioactivity takes many years to breakdown and dissipate is a good thing - if it were to break down more quickly it would pose an even greater problem. Of course there is little doubt that this 'stuff' (nuclear waste) is poisonous, dangerous to people and dangerous to the environment.

What makes Big Business think that they can impose their will over the people of Australia in general and/or over any people in any particular area ?

What makes a government body believe that they can secretly go about destroying an ecosystem, the livelihood and the homeland of a people ?

If the government were given powers to secretly, and/or openly choose a disposal site for nuclear power at their will what is stopping that government from choosing my backyard ?

We the people of Australia already live in a manner with more comforts than the kings and queens of 'not so long ago'. Maybe the government should be putting plans in place to reduce the energy needs of every person. Maybe the government should be putting in place plans to put a halt to industries with high energy needs. Years ago there was talk of little self-sustaining villages with lots of open space, forest etc. in-between. In this electronic age communication is not a problem. Commuting could be greatly reduced; Vast roads and transport needs cut. We really do need a radical rethink of how this country can survive into the future.

Yours faithfully  
Carol Sheehy