

From:
To: [Legal and Constitutional, Committee \(SEN\);](#)
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The nomination of the Muckaty site is highly contested

It is essential that the Senate Committee pay due respects to the Traditional Owners by travelling to Tennant Creek to take evidence from them directly.

The nomination of the Muckaty site by the Northern Land Council was highly controversial and is strongly contested by many Traditional Owners. Resouces Minister Martin Ferguson claims that Ngapa Traditional Owners support the nomination of the Muckaty site but he knows that many Ngapa Traditional Owners oppose the dump — as well as numerous requests for meetings, he received a letter opposing the dump in May 2009 signed by 25 Ngapa Traditional Owners and 32 Traditional Owners from other Muckaty groups.

Mr Ferguson is also aware of the unanimous resolution passed by the NT Labor Conference in April 2008 which called on the Federal Government to exclude Muckaty on the grounds that the nomination "was not made with the full and informed consent of all Traditional Owners and affected people and as such does not comply with the Aboriginal Land Rights Act". Mr Ferguson also knows that fellow Ministers Jenny Macklin, Kim Carr, Peter Garrett and Warren Snowdon among others have acknowledged the distress and opposition of many Muckaty Traditional Owners.

*"All along we have said we don't want this dump on our land but we have been ignored. Martin Ferguson has avoided us and ignored our letters but he knows very well how we feel. He has been arrogant and secretive and he thinks he has gotten away with his plan but in fact he has a big fight on his hands." --
Muckaty Traditional Owner Dianne Stokes*

I have met Dianne Stokes in person, she has shared her story with me. I'm supporting her. In no way you have the right to put the nuclear waste dump into her country. Not only have we as white people taken their counrty, now we although want to poison their country. When are we stopping. Do you want to live next to a nuclear waste dump?????? I don't. I believe the nuclear waste should stay in Sydney. We have to find a solution for the waste, not dumping it in the country. i pledge, find a different solution, don't use the country as a waste dump.

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