

6th March 2010.

*Senator Scott Ludlam,*

Dear Members of the Senate Inquiry -Trish Crossin, Guy Barnett, David Feeney, Mary Jo Fisher, Scott Ludlam and Gavin Marshall,

I write with reference to the possible intention of placing a Nuclear Waste Dump in the heart of our beautiful, ancient, fragile land - homeland of our Indigenous Peoples, whom, it sees, we're still negating.

This Government, so anti the unjust and undemocratic Radio Active Waste Management Act brought in by the government under Mr Howard now seems prepared to continue that same undemocratic and very secretive approach instead of honouring Labour's clear 2007 election promise to be transparent.

While the Government has finally repealed the Commonwealth Radio-active Waste Management Act it has left Muckaty Station in N.T. (which was procured under that unjust Act) as the most likely site for the Nuclear Waste Dump.

The Repeal legislation is even more constraining and controlling than the Bill it's replacing:-

Section 11...overrides and state or territory laws that would hinder site selection.

Section 12..eliminates Aboriginal Interests and green interest from the process of choosing a site.

Section 13...eliminates the property rights of any individual unlucky enough to be in the path of the dump or it access corridors.

The remaining provisions in the bill vest total discretion in the hands of the Minister to pursue the sole nomination at Muckaty Station.

Actually, to really clear the air, set a course of openness and transparency and involve all the people who live in this land - a Referendum is needed to see if we really want Australia to become the dumping ground for most of the nuclear waste of the world!

We have been fed so many lies or half truths as have the Indigenous people whose community is being torn apart by the underhand method that was used by the previous government to get a couple of signatures-- bypassing major Elders and their very vocal "NO".

No country has found a totally safe way to store this dangerous, toxic, everlasting waste material.

Having spent some time in the Centre I have a strong gut feel that hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent by the previous government and major companies with a vested interest in the Nuclear Movement and its "world capacity" dump being located in close proximity to the railway track running from Adelaide to Darwin.

It will necessitate leaders of great integrity and courage to really confront the whole situation.

It's not just part of the "political game" it's part of the bigger challenge that involves us all -the welfare of our Environment and the Planet.

Please take the trouble as Senators to go out to Muckaty Station and Tennant Creek to really hear the simplicity and wisdom of the Aboriginal people who are so at one with this land.

As you make your final deliberations I pray you'll have spent some time in deep personal silence so your decisions and responses come from the truth and depth of your whole being rather than political expediency.

A truly profound response that lifts the spirit of us all so we feel proud to be Australian and proud of our Government and its stance for Humanity and our Environment.

*Yours sincerely*