

Amendments scheduled for the two Acts, Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998 and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Now aged 90, I have been on active military service and have, at first hand, seen the stupidity of war and have an unease about the current build up of arms all over the world.

I urge the Senate Inquiry to recommend **against** the amendments scheduled for the two Acts, Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998 and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Even ignoring the cost of some \$386 billion, money which could be better spent improving the welfare of people living in Australia, the AUKUS treaty commits Australia to buy nuclear propelled submarines dependent on US technology for their maintenance and operation, this, together with the recent Labor Government declared fear of Chinas buildup of arms, makes us almost captive to Americas anti-Chinese foreign policy and, perhaps, draw Australia into an American war with China.

The world is facing an environmental crisis and the destruction of even one of these submarines would cause extensive nuclear pollution.

AUKUS provides for Australia to accept the nuclear waste from these long-range submarines.Â The alteration to these Acts is just a step towards accepting all forms of nuclear enterprise and to making Australia yet another nuclear power.

Robert Wilce