

To: [Legal and Constitutional, Committee \(SEN\);](#)
cc: [PM Kevin Rudd; Anna Bligh; Anna Bligh;](#)
Subject: Radioactive Waste Management.
Date: Monday, 8 March 2010 1:45:21 PM

To: **Julie Dennett, Committee Secretary**, Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee - PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Australia.

Dear Ms Dennett

Please accept the following submission and, on my behalf, provide this to the Senate Legcon Committee by the due date of March 15th.

Submission:

RE: Radioactive Waste Management.

I am deeply concerned ... and outraged ... in relation to the Federal Government's proposed changes to the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Act.

Here are some of my concerns, outlined in point form:

- **There is no provision to safeguard land where Indigenous communities are situated from being targeted as sites for dumping radioactive wastes. The proposed legislation fails to exclude Indigenous land, reserves, and community areas (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) from an assessment for storage of nuclear wastes.**
- **The legislation places discretion in the hands of the Minister and there is no provision for any appeal process.**
- **State and Territory legislation and Commonwealth environmental and Aboriginal heritage protections can be overridden by the legislation.**
- **The legislation overrides private property rights of affected individuals with regards the dump site or its access route.**
- **No information is available to the public as to how assessments will be carried out.**
- **Nuclear expertise and infrastructure MUST be accessible to areas chosen as sites. I must add that, other than for indispensable medical requirements, most Australians DO NOT WANT the nuclear industry to grow. As aware and responsible citizens, we will also TOTALLY REJECT any proposal permitting storage of radioactive wastes from other nations.**
- **Legislation MUST have mechanisms to safeguard against coercion and pressure on individuals and communities.**

- **This legislation must reflect a process which is ethical, democratic, and adequately provides for human safety!**

Please accept my submission AGAINST the current proposed changes. As an Australian citizen, I cannot accept legislation that is so open to corruption and moral bankruptcy: the proposed legislation cannot progress without deeply and adversely affecting all Australian citizens.

I call for a full Parliamentary inquiry on ANY proposal for a nuclear waste dump and on the proposed legislation for radioactive waste management.

Yours sincerely,
Christine Bennett.