

From: Toni Collinge [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:42 PM
To: Committee, Public Works (REPS) <pw@aph.gov.au>
Subject: RSF Priority works submission

Nuclear waste facility at Garden Island:

I'm strongly against having a facility to store radioactive waste at Garden island and I'm also not in favour Australia using nuclear submarines. Future generations will have to deal with the waste for generations to come.

Contrary to what is being stated by our government, the waste isn't the same as hospital radioactive waste as it has a much longer half-life – hundreds of years. Stating that the waste will only be stored at Garden Island temporarily is meaningless when there's no permanent waste facility planned and approved. History shows us that Australians don't like radioactive waste in their area and numerous proposals have failed because of this.

Residents in this area have not been asked their views on the storage facility. We've had no chance to air our concerns about the risk to human health should there be any leakage or, heaven forbid, an attack on the facility.

Australia would be able to afford more non-nuclear powered submarines if we abandon the AUKUS deal and these would be more effective in protecting us from a possible invasion. I'm against nuclear power in any shape or form – why use risky waste when there is a viable alternative?

We also have a severe housing shortage W.A. and we shouldn't be spending much needed funds and skilled labour on housing hundreds of overseas defence personnel.

Last but not least, as far as the environment is concerned, Garden Island has a wonderfully diverse ecosystem and is close to the Shoalwater Marine Park – a very precious and uniquely wild place with significant flora, fauna and marine species. It's been a haven from the busyness of life for me and many others for decades.

Thank you for the chance to have my say on this important matter.

Sincerely

Toni Collinge
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