



**Submission No. 1**

**Submission from Mr Robert Elliott**

The emotion surrounding the nuclear fuel industry makes it tempting to remain with the current mine and export approach. I do not think that this serves the best interests of Australia or the world.

It is now possible with the newer technologies such as pebble reactors to make a safe nuclear reactor because the rate of the reaction is automatically self limiting and does not rely on external controls that could fail. Australia should be involved in promoting this safer technology.

Australia has a balance of payment problem partly because we export raw materials. Australia is the most politically stable (and geologically stable) in the world and is the place that our uranium should be processed and returned to after use.

The problems from the enhanced greenhouse effect are becoming evident and it is most probable that nuclear energy will be an important part of the medium term solution. This indicates that there will be a significant value on nuclear fuel and Australia should get the benefit rather than overseas processors.

The above benefit warrant a full investigation and the initiation of an effective national debate on the issues.

Robert Elliott