

Queensland
Government

Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: MN114873/AA07/IGR

13 NOV 2006

Submission 37
China uranium

Dr Andrew Southcott MP
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Andrew

Thank you for your letter of 8 August 2006 concerning the tabling of the following treaties in both houses of Parliament:

- *Exchange of notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Singapore to Amend 2C and Annex 2D of the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System to come into effect on 1 January 2007*
- *Exchange of notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Singapore to Amend 4-A and Annex 5-A of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System to come into effect on 1 January 2007*
- *Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Transfer of Nuclear Material (Canberra, 3 April 2006) (the Nuclear Material Transfer Agreement)*
- *Amendment between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (Canberra, 3 April 2006) (the Nuclear Cooperation Agreement)*
- *Exchange of notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan to replace the Delineated and Recorded Japanese Nuclear Fuel Cycle Program*
- *The International Health Regulations (2005) (Geneva, 23 May 2005).*

With respect to the Nuclear Cooperation Agreement and the Nuclear Material Transfer Agreement, the Queensland Government acknowledges the need for, and supports, safeguards in relation to uranium and nuclear material. However, the Queensland

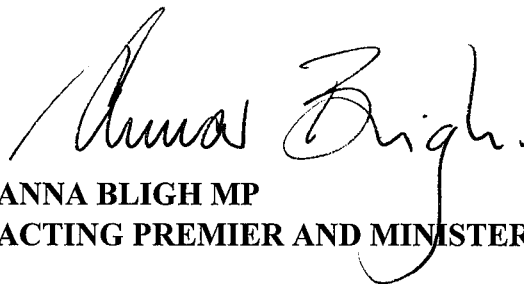
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Government is concerned if these agreements provide any scope for increased uranium mining activity in Australia in the future.

The Queensland Government has not identified any issues of significant concern with respect to the remaining treaties tabled on 8 August 2006.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anna Bligh." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.

ANNA BLIGH MP
ACTING PREMIER AND MINISTER FOR TRADE