

Subject: submission to the Nuclear Energy Inquiry

My name is Stephanie Riddel. I am 25 and live in Melbourne. I am not only strongly opposed to the development of nuclear energy in Australia (or anywhere) but morally outraged that it is even being considered given the abundance of evidence we have that proves there is NO working solution to nuclear waste - And it only seems logical that if we dig it up and process it then we should bear some responsibility for dealing with the waste. No-one wants a Toxic Nuclear Waste Dump on their land. Nuclear energy is NOT the answer to global warming. Renewable energies such as Wind and Solar are obvious CLEAN solutions that we could adopt without threatening the livelihood of future generations. Because that is the reality, Nuclear waste poisons everything it touches, mutates DNA and makes the earth unable to sustain life. I hope that at this inquiry the power synergy between the nuclear energy industry and weapons manufacturers is discussed as it clear the two are intrinsically linked. Why does Australia want to contribute to the manufacture of nuclear weapons that have the potential to render all life on the planet null and void? For a bit of quick cash? It is disgusting and irresponsible to say the least. We should be adopting politically progressive policies, like New Zealand, and be advocating the reduction of nuclear proliferation. I am deeply disturbed by America's use of nuclear weapons in the Balkans, Afghanistan, Iraq and in numerous training exercises in countries all over the world (including possibly Australia) I have spoken to many experts on the issue of Depleted Uranium weapons, including Doug Rokkie, the man hired by the Pentagon to clean up Iraq after Gulf War 1. America is basically dumping toxic nuclear waste, in the form of Depleted Uranium weapons, all over the world. Since Gulf War 1, cancers and birth mutations in Iraq and surrounding countries have dramatically increased, extremely high levels of radiation are being found in the soil, in

the air, in the water. The earth is a living,
breathing organism to which all life is connected.
You cannot dump poison on one part of it and expect it
not to effect another. Those who allow the
development of a nuclear energy industry condemn our
species to certain death.

I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion and
hope it will be considered.

Thank-you,

Stephanie Riddel