



Submission No 118

**Review of Australia's Relationship with the
Countries of Africa**

Supplementary Submission

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Australian Government

**Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
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9 June 2011

Dr John Carter
Africa Inquiry Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

cc:

Dear Dr Carter

I refer to my previous submission to the Africa Inquiry of 9 June 2010, submission No 80, on the required isolation time for the storage of uranium mine tailings.

In this previous submission I advised that, in reference to the source of the regulatory requirement for tailings at Ranger mine to be isolated for 10 000 years "...it would seem that this figure first appeared as an undertaking in the original Environmental Impact Statement for the Ranger project and this was then reflected in the [Commonwealth Environmental Requirements]."

I wish to clarify that the 10 000 year provision is reflected in the revised Commonwealth Environmental Requirements that came into effect in January 2000. The condition did not appear in either the original Environmental Requirements or the original Environmental Impact Statement.

I would be grateful if this clarification could be included for the consideration of the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Hughes'.

Alan Hughes
Supervising Scientist

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