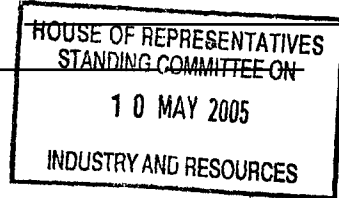


The Secretary
 Standing Committee on Industry and Resources
 Parliament House
~~Canberra~~ Canberra
 Act 2600



Nick Paslatzis

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05/05/05

Dear Secretary,

I want to make a submission to the Inquiry into the development of the non-fossil fuel energy industry in Australia case study into the strategic importance of Australia's Uranium Resources.

I believe Australia is wasting its time by mining Uranium. Mining Uranium creates pits Aboriginal communities against each other. Which is ruthlessly exploited by mining companies. It puts Aboriginal groups of the same language groups that agree with the company the most.

Australia should not create anymore uranium mines. The existing mines such as Olympic dam near Roxby Downs, Beverly near the gammon ranges and Ranger in the Northern Territory that mining lease is surrounded by Kakadu national park is a World Heritage area. All of these mines should be phased out as quickly as possible.

The existing mines use huge amount of water. Olympic dam is licensed take up to 12 megalitres a day from the Great Artesian Basin. (May 1997) The Report of the Senate select committee on Uranium

Mining and milling (Chapter 2 Pt 8 Uranium mining and the Environment.) With Australia being one of the most driest places on earth it would be unjustifiable to continue use huge amount of water on uranium mining. With a projected ~~total~~ population of 25 million people by 2050 (M. Krockenberger, Habitat ~~for~~ Australia, April 2005 p12, Australian Conservation foundation.)

Then there is Wastes created by mine tailings. In particular Open pit mining and underground mining. The mining method used in Beverly mine - In-situ leach, which requires sulphuric acid to pumped into the saline aquifer. Then solution is extracted and processed to remove the uranium. The remaining solution re-injected under ground in the aquifer were it supposed to stay for many years. Once it underground there are no guarantee it will stay where it is supposed to.

With the current trend towards nuclear power being the answer to stopping greenhouse emissions. Australia would be able to save a huge amount of greenhouse emissions if it was to stop uranium mining. By 2012 the world would have to start looking for even greater reduction in greenhouse emissions below the 1990 levels.

With the uranium spot price increasing in value. There will be more increased interest in Australia's uranium ~~resources~~ reserves. Australia is a unique position of influence, by phasing out of uranium mining the world would move away from nuclear power. Other sources of power would come from solar and wind.

I urge again the committee to phase mining and not to recommend expand the industry

yours sincerely

Vick Pastalatzis / Vlastalatzis