

I ask the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties to recommend the cancellation of all of Australia's uranium export treaties, or to recommend major revision of those treaties, because of the following flaws and limitations of the 'safeguards' arrangements and the unacceptable risk of Australia's uranium exports contributing to nuclear weapons proliferation.

Uranium is the only energy source with a direct and repeatedly-demonstrated connection to the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Safeguards are limited and under-resourced.

The scale of the safeguards challenge is ever-increasing

Accounting discrepancies involving Australian-Obligated Nuclear Materials are common.

Australia exports uranium to countries with unacceptable proliferation/disarmament records.

Australia's uranium exports are shrouded in secrecy.

Australia does not require that all nuclear facilities processing Australian-Obligated Nuclear Materials be subject to International Atomic Energy Agency inspections.

The Australian Safeguards and Non-proliferation Office is dishonest and unprofessional

The benefits of the uranium industry are overstated - Claims about the greenhouse 'benefits' of nuclear power typically ignore more greenhouse-friendly renewable energy sources and the use of several types of renewables to supply reliable base-load power (e.g. geothermal, bioenergy, solar thermal with storage, and sometimes hydro).

Yours faithfully

Jody Witt

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