

Katherine Town Council position on a Radioactive Waste Dump in the Northern Territory is as follows:

'That the Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts be advised that Katherine Town Council strongly opposes the construction of a Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility anywhere in the Northern Territory'.

This Resolution was passed at the Katherine Town Council's Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 28 October 2008.

The Report submitted to Council is attached.

If you have any further questions please contact Mr Geoff Brooks the Chief Executive Officer of Katherine Town Council.

Kind Regards

Deborah Gillard
Executive Support Officer



ITEM 7.1 **MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**

FILE: **22/25/1**

MEETING: **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 28 OCTOBER 2008**

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED COMMONWEALTH RADIOACTIVE WASTE
MANAGEMENT FACILITY**

Background

In July 2005 the Australian Government advised that site investigations for a Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility would be undertaken on the following three Commonwealth owned parcels of land:

1. Fishers Ridge, approximately 40km east of RAAF Base Tindal.
2. Harts Range, approximately 200km east of Alice Springs.
3. Mt Everard, approximately 42 km north east of Alice Springs.

On 17 November 2005, in response to the above announcement, Katherine Town Council resolved as follows:

MOVED: Daw/Higgins

Motion 1 That Katherine Town Council informs the Federal Government, that for environmental reasons it does not support Fishers Ridge as a location for a Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility.

CARRIED: 5/2

MOVED: Buckerfield/Higgins

Motion 2 That should a Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility be considered elsewhere within the Katherine Region, Katherine Town Council will, if requested, work cooperatively with the Northern Territory and Federal Governments to identify a site that is acceptable from an environmental, social and economic view point to the community of Katherine and the people with the Region.

CARRIED: 5/2

Review of Council's Position

On 2 October 2008 Council was advised that the Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts was conducting an inquiry into the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment Bill) 2008. The Standing Committee has invited submissions with a closing date of 31 October 2008. As the above resolution was adopted prior to the election of the current Council it is appropriate that Katherine Town Council's position on this matter be reconsidered.

I am strongly of the view that Council's resolution of 17 November 2005 does not reflect the wishes of the community nor does it recognise the potential dangers to our pristine environment. On this basis I urge that Council alters its position on this matter and opposes the construction of a Radioactive Waste Management Facility by the Commonwealth anywhere in the Northern Territory.



RESOLUTION

That the Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts be advised that Katherine Town Council strongly opposes the construction of a Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility anywhere in the Northern Territory.

Anne Shepherd

MAYOR OF KATHERINE