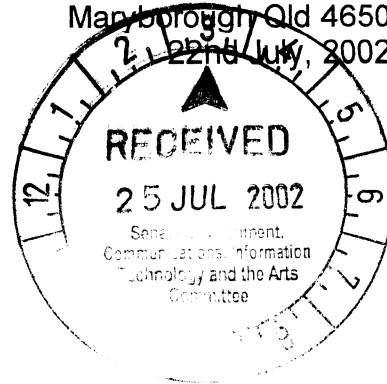


Secretary,
Senate ECITA References Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

52 March Street
Maryborough Qld 4650
22nd July, 2002



Dear Secretary,

Submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Environmental Regulation of Uranium Mining

I welcome the Senate Inquiry into uranium mining. As recent events have confirmed, uranium mining poses a number of risks to the Australian environment, wildlife, and people.

I request that the Senate Inquiry into uranium mining consider the following points:

The Beverley and Honeymoon ISL mines pose a threat to groundwaters. The Federal and South Australian governments should prohibit discharge of mine waste into groundwater, to prohibit underground leaks into connected aquifers and to require rehabilitation of mining impacts on groundwater. I also urge the Inquiry to recommend increased monitoring of operations and public reporting of all radioactive leaks, and to recommend a new public environmental assessment of the management of mine wastes.

I also request that the Inquiry consider the following points in relation to the uranium mines at Kakadu:

- The Federal and NT Governments to facilitate the rehabilitation, lease relinquishment and incorporation of the Jabiluka and Koongarra mineral leases into Kakadu National Park.
- Rio Tinto and relevant government agencies to support a phase out, exit and rehabilitation strategy for Ranger, including aiding the establishment of a viable Aboriginal economy independent of mining.
- The Inquiry to articulate a credible action plan to prevent the development, rehabilitate the impacts and incorporate the mineral lease of the Jabiluka site, in order to protect the region's World Heritage property and values.

- The Federal and NT Governments to act to reduce environmental impacts of operations at Ranger, and for monitoring, reporting and regulatory regimes be strengthened to include more event based monitoring, increased monitoring scope and trigger points, and enhanced reporting.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Pratley', written over a horizontal line.

Dean Pratley