

The Senate

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management
Bill 2005

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management
(Related Amendments) Bill 2005

November 2005

© Commonwealth of Australia

ISBN 0 642 71595 5

This document was produced by the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee and printed by the Senate Printing Unit, Department of the Senate, Parliament House, Canberra.

Members for this inquiry

Members

Senator Judith Troeth	LP, Victoria	Chair
Senator Trish Crossin	ALP, Northern Territory	Deputy Chair
Senator Russell Trood	LP, Queensland	
Senator Guy Barnett	LP, Tasmania	
Senator Anne McEwen	ALP, South Australia	
Senator Lyn Allison	AD, Victoria	

Participating Senators

Senator Christine Milne	AG, Tasmania
-------------------------	--------------

Secretariat

Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education
 Legislation Committee Secretariat
 Suite SG. 52
 The Senate
 Parliament House
 Canberra ACT 2600
 Phone: 02 6277 3520
 Fax: 02 6277 5706
 E-mail: eet.sen@aph.gov.au
 Internet: www.aph.gov.au/senate_employment

Table of Contents

Members for this inquiry	iii
Government Senators' Report.....	1
Introduction	1
Conduct of the Inquiry.....	1
Overview	1
Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005	2
Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Related Amendment) Bill 2005	3
Radioactive waste in Australia	3
The search for a site.....	5
The requirement to over-ride Territory and other laws.....	8
Suitability of the sites selected	10
Safeguards	11
Urgency of identifying a site	13
Public Consultation	14
Conclusions and recommendation.....	14
Opposition Senators' Report	17
Lack of consultation	22
Disregard for the views of Traditional Owners.....	23
Environmental impacts	24
Medical Necessity	26
Developing Community Confidence.....	28
Conclusions	28
Australian Democrats' Report.....	31
Appendix 1	33
List of submissions.....	33

Appendix 2	43
Hearings and witnesses	43
Appendix 3	45
Tabled documents.....	45
Appendix 4	47
IAEA categories of radioactive waste	47
Appendix 5	49
Australia's radioactive waste inventory	49