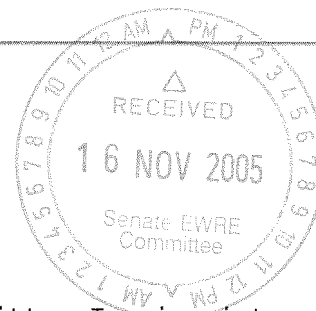


**Jurjevic, Dijana (SEN)**

**From:** Luke Vanlaar [ivanlaar@tsa.com.au]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 16 November 2005 10:59 AM  
**To:** EET, Committee (SEN)  
**Subject:** The Chair - Senator Judith Troeth



The Chair - Senator Judith Troeth  
 Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee Inquiry into  
 Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005

I am emailing this as a concerned citizen. I was involved in the process of seeing the last attempt for a nuclear dump site in South Australia being withdrawn and was pleased with the comments made by the Prime Minister at the time. However, it seems as though another agenda is in train with the same wolf in different sheep's clothing.

There are many compelling arguments to hold any movement on a new waste dump/s in the NT and the whole subject must again be open to full public debate. Haste in pushing any thing through is a counter step.

I table the facts and sentiments shared with many of my fellow Australians as listed in the following points:

- \* the federal government has failed to make any compelling case for the urgency of this legislation.
- \* there has been no consultation with the NT government or community, traditional Aboriginal landowners or those on the proposed transport routes.
- \* the overriding of existing provisions of federal and territory law that could hinder or delay the dump plan is a disturbing precedent that greatly undermines community confidence in the Commonwealth's actions on this issue - and its future intentions.
- \* the federal legislation would allow the proposed NT waste dump to be turned into an international radioactive waste dump housing highly radioactive materials from all around the world - effectively forever.
- \* the federal government earlier gave an "absolute categorical assurance" to the NT that there would be no nuclear dump imposed. This legislation is in complete conflict with this earlier promise.
- \* the Inquiry period is far too short to deal with the complexity of the issues involved and it is insulting that the committee has not bothered to travel to the NT to hear directly from the most affected community.
- \* the claims about the need for the dump in order to maintain access to high quality nuclear medicine are wrong and are contradicted by senior medical professionals including the former head of medical research at the Lucas Heights nuclear facility - Professor Barry Allen.
- \* the sites chosen for the NT dump were not selected through any scientific assessment.
- \* all political parties in the NT are opposed to the imposition of the dump.
- \* the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) maintains that such facilities require community consent and a reasonable degree of 'social license'. This legislation is inconsistent with this international obligation.
- \* this legislation has been criticised by the Senate Scrutiny of Bills Committee for its adverse impacts 'on personal rights and liberties'.

- \* the legislation is heavy handed and anti-democratic. It removes the ability of local, territory and state governments to adequately reflect the concerns and aspirations of the communities they represent.
- \* good public policy is developed through negotiation and inclusion - not imposed by governments determined to get their way no matter what.

Thank you for your consideration of the message in my missive.

Sincerely,

Lucas Vanlaar

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