

Jurjevic, Dijana (SEN)

From: Hugh Bland [Hugh.Bland@clc.org.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 16 November 2005 12:02 PM
To: EET, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Radioactive dump site at Mt Everard



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

Although the actual land upon which the proposed Alice Springs sites are located is designated Commonwealth land, I would like to draw the attention of the committee of enquiry to the on-going attachment and occupation to the country surrounding these sites by Aboriginal traditional owners.

One of the most important roles undertaken by traditional owners is to safeguard visitors to their country. Usually this is done through consultation where traditional owners are able to advise visitors of potential dangers.

If the proposed dump site is developed without consulting traditional owners the health and well-being of the old people who are ritually responsible for safeguarding the workers will be compromised. It is their connection to the ancestral beings, who still inhabit sites in the area, that is being trampled.

The current foreign policy rhetoric of promoting democracy and freeing populations from tyranny and oppression is totally inconsistent with the imposition of a nuclear dump without consultation and contrary to scientific advice. To proceed with this course of action without the support of local or territory governments and in the face of hostile Aboriginal traditional owners and local resident opposition, seems ludicrous.

Please reassess the decision to push this facility on an unwilling host community.

Yours Sincerely,

Hugh Bland,

Celebrating 30 years of the Central Land Council
www.clc.org.au

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