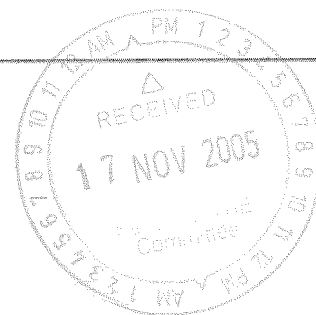


Jurjevic, Dijana (SEN)

From: Mervyn Murchie [murchiem@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 17 November 2005 10:40 AM
To: EET, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Senate Committee Enquiry-Radioactive Waste Management Bill



SUBMISSION.

I wish to oppose the location of a nuclear waste dump in the Northern Territory of Australia for the following reasons.

- 1) The history of the nuclear industry in the Northern Territory is one of appalling disregard for the environment and the people of the region.
- 2) Despite proclaimed safeguards from the nuclear industry to protect the environment contamination by leaching of radioactive waste has occurred on a massive scale and it will occur again if the proposed nuclear waste dump is sanctioned by government.
- 3) There has been no consultation with the Northern Territory Government or community organizations or with aboriginal people in the proposed locations of the dump near Katherine or Alice Springs.
- 4) Community confidence in the Commonwealth's actions and plans have been undermined by its disregard for the rights of the people and will lead to greater alienation from the norms of parliamentary government in the Territory to the detriment of all.
- 5) No limit has been indicated by the Commonwealth to the capacity of the proposed dump. Supplementary legislation could be introduced which would allow international radioactive waste from all over the world to be dumped in the Territory.
- 6) The proposed sites for the Territory dump were not selected through proper process involving rigorous scientific assessment.
- 7) The International Atomic Energy Agency demands that such facilities require community consent. The proposed legislation is not consistent with this obligation.
- 8) All political parties in the Territory are opposed to the proposed legislation and even the Senate Scrutiny of Bills Committee has criticised it for its 'adverse impacts on 'personal rights and liberties'.

For the above stated reasons I request the Senate Committee Enquiry to advise the Government not to proceed with legislation to enable a nuclear waste dump to be located in the Northern Territory.

Yours sincerely,

Mervyn A. Murchie,