

Jurjevic, Dijana (SEN)

From: Joel Williams [joel@tristesse.org]
Sent: Thursday, 17 November 2005 11:47 AM
To: EET, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Inquiry into Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005



Hi!

Submission for:

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

This submission is in response to the invitation for public comment as part of the Committee's Inquiry into radioactive waste management.

Having had some exposure to indigenous communities in South Australia, I am concerned with the low level of consultation undertaken with regard to communities and landholders in the Northern Territory. I believe that ineffective and insufficient consultation was responsible for some of the problems the Government encountered with their previous plans for a South Australian radioactive waste repository. Attempting to repeat a flawed process in a new state is likely to be met with similar opposition, is a blatant waste of taxpayer resources and reflects a poor appreciation for community concerns and democracy.

I also believe that the Government has failed to make any compelling case for the urgency of this legislation. Radioactive waste management is a long term problem and without elaboration and justification it is difficult to imagine how existing storage policies are now suddenly less appropriate than they have been for the last twenty years. Rushing through legislation is likely to cause resentment and undermine confidence in the Government's actions and future intentions.

Sincerely,