

**Jurjevic, Dijana (SEN)**

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**From:** georgi stone [georgistone@ozemail.com.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 November 2005 8:32 PM  
**To:** EET, Committee (SEN)  
**Subject:** nuclear waste dump in the NT

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

I write in regards to the proposal for the location of a radioactive waste dump in the Northern Territory, and in opposition to Federal legislation that would prevent the NT government or community from doing anything to "hinder or delay" such construction. It has been made clear that all parties in the NT are not in favour of the waste dump. There has been no substantial consultation with the NT government or community, with traditional landowners, or those living near the proposed sites or transport routes to them. The International Atomic Energy Agency maintains that such facilities require community consent, and this in itself should be an ethical requirement of any such decision. In overriding a decision by the NT not to accept the location of a waste dump, the Federal government is callously dismissing the concerns of the residents there, taking advantage of federal powers over their rights and considerations.

There is nothing safe about a nuclear waste dump, and its toxic impact will contaminate further regions of Australia, the planet and future generations. There has been little consultation with the public, the sites chosen for the NT dump have not been scientifically assessed, transport issues have not been thoroughly assessed, and there is grave doubt as to safety in containing nuclear waste. The Inquiry is far too short to deal with the complexity of the issues involved, and little effort has gone into visiting the proposed sites or listening to the concerns of the people or Territory government.

For the Federal government to impose its wishes for a nuclear dump onto the Northern Territory just because it can, ignoring the processes of consultation and inclusion, shows very little care, compassion or respect for democratic policy and process.

Yours sincerely  
Georgi Stone,