



To: Senate Committee Inquiry into
 Commonwealth Radioactive Waste
 Management Bill. 2005

Att: Mr John Carr 02 6277 5706

From: Barbara Molanus

18 November

2 pages

see letter attached



Barbara Molanus

18th November 2005

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

To Sen. J Troeth,

I am writing to express my disillusionment with the Howard Government in regards to its plans to build a Nuclear Waste Facility (dump) in the Northern Territory. For starters the almost non-existent **consultation process** must be bordering on illegal – had it been properly performed they would've come up with responses that didn't lie in the Government's interests on this plan.

I know now never to trust the Government when they use the words "**absolute categorical assurance**" as this was the statement presented to Territorians that the Waste Dump would not be imposed on us. Say no more – this was very obviously a complete lie -- I didn't realise child's play such as 'I had my fingers crossed so it's not true' also applied to grown men, but really why am I not surprised!

One does not need to be part of the Medical Profession to know, Medicine does not need a dump or a new Nuclear Facility to maintain access to high quality **Nuclear Medicine**. This is playing the fear card and if the Government really believes this and they really don't know how exposing us to more and more Uranium through the potential transportation and handling accidents that will occur with a Waste Facility, they need to go back to school and learn about the health risks involved.

I could go on – there are many many reasons why it is absurd and brainless to build a Nuclear Waste Dump in an area that was **not even scientifically chosen as a safe one**. Not to mention the **lack of democracy** involved at reaching this decision. In a time such as this one, the government needs to do all it can to get the backing of the Australian people, not get their 'backs up'. 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.

I urge Senator Scullion to cross the floor on this one – vote against the legislation when it comes back to the senate for a final vote. If not, I'm sorry, but you have lost me – no longer will I vote for you, no longer will I support your policy making, no longer will I suggest my friends and colleagues support you. Your time is up get ready to say goodbye at the next election!

Sincerely



Barbara Molanus