

McMahon, Rosalind (SEN)

From: shin furuno [shinfuruno@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, 18 November 2005 7:13 PM
To: EET, Committee (SEN)
Subject: radioactive waste bill

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

RE: Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005

Dear senator,

I write as a concerned citizen with regard to the Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005 that is proposed to allow the construction of new radioactive waste management facilities in the Northern Territory.

I am concerned that this legislation will prove to be a dangerous precedent, in that no consultation with local communities or stakeholders was undertaken to my knowledge as regards the effects or desirability of such facilities, and denies peoples democratic rights to participate in the decisions that affect them.

Further, the consequences of legislative authority to "override or restrict the application of laws that might hinder the facility's development and operation" require greater examination. Do then laws related to social, community, and environmental health not apply in regards to activities undertaken to construct and operate the radioactive waste management facilities?

Surely with materials as hazardous as nuclear waste there must be the strictest safeguards against social and environmental damage to regulate such operations.

Where is the consent from the local people, adjacent landholders, local government and state government?

This Bill is a dangerous, anti-democratic, and partially planned imposition and should be fundamentally revised.

Sincerely,

SHIN FURUNO
