

McMahon, Rosalind (SEN)

From: Shaun.Metcalf@csm.com.au
Sent: Friday, 18 November 2005 6:04 PM
To: EET, Committee (SEN)
Subject: RE- OPPOSITION TO THE COMMONWEALTH NUCLEAR WASTE

SUBMISSION
RE- OPPOSITION TO THE COMMONWEALTH NUCLEAR WASTE
MANAGEMENT BILL 2005

FROM-
Shaun Metcalf (NT resident)

PERTAINING TO SCHEDULE 1 SITE 3 FISHERS RIDGE (NT
portion 3260 on survey plan S86/252)

As a long term resident of the Northern Territory I strongly oppose the establishment of a nuclear waste repository in the NT. I see no benefit to myself or the vast majority of Territorians in the development of such a facility. My opposition is based upon the negative impact that the repository will have on our enviroment, livelyhood and most importantly our health.

The three proposed sites have not been chosen because they are geologically suitable but instead because they are remote, they are in the NT and most importantly they are on Commonwealth land. Local residents have not been consulted on the placement of a nuclear waste dump within their local community. The Fisher's Ridge site sits on an unstable limestone formation bridging the catchment of two of the Territory's biggest rivers, the Daly and the Roper. How could anyone possibly consider this a safe location for the storage of nuclear waste. Furthermore the Fisher's Ridge site is an island in the middle of a pastoral property, the owners of which have not been consulted in any way whatsoever and only found out about the proposed site when they read about it in the media. Not to mention the traditional custodians of the region the Jawoyn who have been treated with a similar level of disdain.

The livelyhood of a large number of Territorians depends on the Pastoral and Tourism industries. The establishment of a nuclear waste dump will have a negative impact on both of these industries by sullyng the clean, green reputation that we have.

No matter how carefully nuclear waste is handled it is not safe and never will be safe. There is no garantee that the transport and storage of radioactive material in the Northern Territory will not result in a spill of hazardous material. No matter how small the purported risk of such a spill is, it is unacceptable.

The NT people and it's government do not want this dump on our land. The only reason it is being placed here is because nobody else wants it and we dont have the power to say no. Why should we be exposed to the unnecessary risks associated with a nuclear waste dump purely because we are not a state?

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