

McMahon, Rosalind (SEN)

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Date: Friday, 18 November 2005 2:14 PM
To: T, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Nuclear Waste Dump In Katherine Region

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To Mr John Carter,
Secretary,
Senate Employment Workplace Relations and Educations committee

This letter is addressing the issue of the nuclear waste being dumped in the Katherine region. I strongly disagree about the plans to dump radioactive waste near human habitation. There is a high possibility that it will endanger the health of locals and damaging the environment.

I am aware if the employment benefits on your behalf, this dump can increase employment rates within our region; however Katherine could experience disastrous effects that could result in 'being no Katherine'.

Some disastrous effects that could occur in the future may be similar to past events. Such as the accident in Russia, Chernobyl, "when a test was played out on the reactors emergency equipment and cooling system." (Gulnura Toralieva, Freelance journalist)

No public hearings were held in Katherine, or anywhere else in the Northern Territory. Written submissions needed to be sent in under a week, when it takes atleast two weeks for a letter to reach Canberra.

Katherine's eco-system is unpredictable. Its power source is unstable; the power fails countless times in the wet season. Katherine is also a flood area and is likely to flood during the end and beginning of each year.

Temperature is a rising threat. We live in conditions of over 40 degrees for approximately 10 months of the year. Could that lead to an accident in the future?

In conclusion, I disagree with the plans to dump your radioactive waste in our back yard. The effects and future problems that will occur should be considered and the high possibility of damaging Katherine and its employment rate could become a major issue, such as other countries that have gone through with similar plans.

Amy Domaschenz
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