

Friends of the Earth Adelaide
120 Wakefield Street
Adelaide SA 5000

26 October 2006

Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Inquiry into the
Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests
(Treatment) Bill 2006

Friends of the Earth Adelaide is a not-for-profit, community based environment organization with members and supporters across South Australia. It is one of several member groups of Friends of the Earth Australia, which itself is a member of Friends of the Earth International. Friends of the Earth International has members and affiliates in over 70 countries.

Friends of the Earth has a long history of working with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities impacted by the nuclear industry. In Australia this has involved working closely with participants of the British atomic tests, including Indigenous communities who experienced and continue to experience the adverse health legacy of fallout from these tests.

Friends of the Earth Adelaide welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Bill 2006. While Friends of the Earth also welcomes the move by the Federal Government to finally provide some acknowledgement of the unique experiences of veterans of the British nuclear tests, we support the remarks of the Australian Nuclear Veterans Association (ANVA) that the proposed Bill does not go far enough in adequate compensating and acknowledging participants.

Friends of the Earth Adelaide calls on the Federal Government to extend full coverage of the Veterans Entitlement Bill to all military personnel involved in the British atomic tests and whose name appears on the Government's nominal roll; and for the immediate, full implementation of the recommendations of the Clarke Committee.

Sincerely,

Joel Catchlove
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