

20 February 2018

Submission:

Selection process for a national radioactive waste management facility in South Australia

I am a Hawker resident and business owner. I believe the site selection process was correct, I acknowledge it may have been carried out any number of different ways, but that does not imply something improper with the process implemented. What is really impressive is the extensive consultation which has taken place since day one. All residents have had the opportunity to gather information and express their concerns over a period of almost two years.

Hawker has a great opportunity to become involved with the wonderful work ANSTO perform, which in turn makes a significant contribution to Australia's first class health system. We in Hawker will proudly share a sister city type relationship with Lucas Heights, which will allow our children and grandchildren openings into Sydney employment prospects. I am bubbling over with enthusiasm for this project; it is a once in a lifetime opportunity for a small community to obtain a massive injection of investment which will provide an increase in employment and business activity for many years to come. It will guarantee the future of our town.

The terms of reference segment I wish to specifically address is, whether the local or state wide community views should be taken into consideration. I believe the way this has played out to date is not in our community's best interest. The no campaign has yet to come up with factually correct and relevant reasons not to build the repository; if they did I would change my mind. However they are very good with slogans, some shout them, some print them, worse some even print abuse. The net result is the intimidation of some local peace loving people into a position of silence. It is right to have the negativity of such detractors contested.

I would like to draw your attention to a Facebook petition addressed to the Police Commissioner, requesting action be taken to enforce the law including the South Australian Nuclear Waste Storage Facility (prohibition) Act 2000. It is doubtful the dubious prospect of police taking action against the Commonwealth would be taken seriously by many people; however it is a worthwhile indicator of where our project's adversaries come from. As at 30th January 2018, the petition had 539 signatures, all but 2 had a postcode. The table shows how the signatories are broken down geographically:

	signatories			signatories	
Interstate	160	29.7%			
Adelaide to 200km radius + Mt Gambier	281	52.1%			
Port Augusta, Port Pirie to Burra	18	3.3%			
Flinders Ranges Council	4	0.7%	of which Hawker has	2	0.4%
North of Hawker	4	0.7%			
Eyre Peninsula	47	8.7%	of which Kimba has	12	2.2%
Signed twice	23	4.3%			
Unknown	2	0.4%			
Total	539	100%			

In fairness the petition would exclude some people opposed to the project who can see the folly of the petition intention; nevertheless the results are consistent with what many people in Hawker already know. That is, there isn't much opposition coming from Hawker, yet there is massive resistance coming from distant places. How can the optimism of little Hawker compete with this bombardment?

The petition as appears on Facebook is copied below.

I authorize the publication of my submission.

John Hennessy

Dear Commissioner of Police,

We are citizens of Australia who want action taken to enforce the law, including the South Nuclear Waste Storage Facility (Prohibition) Act 2000 (abbreviated herein as the NWSF(P)

We are sick and tired of being threatened with illegal importation of nuclear waste.

We are sick and tired of public money being spent illegally to plan and promote illegal importation of nuclear waste.

We want action now to stop current threats of illegal importation of nuclear waste. We want to deter future threats of illegal importation of nuclear waste.

OPEN letter requesting action. Please read and sign at the Bottom.

Online Open letter requesting ACTION.

Total Signatures As of Now 539.

Please read and sign at the Bottom.