

Submission to the Legal and Constitutional Committee by Anne Goddard

To Chair: Senator Trish Crossin (ALP, Northern Territory)

Members: Senator Guy Barnett (Liberal, Tasmania),

Senator David Feeney (ALP, Victoria),

Senator Mary Jo Fisher (Liberal, South Australia)

Senator Scott Ludlam (Greens, Western Australia),

Senator Gavin Marshall (ALP Victoria)

Julie Dennett, Committee Secretary,

The Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee must pay due respect to the wishes of the Traditional Owners of the designated area, by travelling to the area and speaking with them directly.

The Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee must also talk to DIRECTLY to Traditional Owners in the surrounding areas which may or may not share access to the designated area.

The general public must be secure in the knowledge that there will be a responsible body or person should any form of accident or leakage occur into the indefinite future, as nuclear waste can remain toxic for hundreds of generations, this person or body must be identified and a “price tag” must be placed upon this responsibility.

The public must know EXACTLY who will be held responsible for the safe transportation of nuclear waste should any form of accident or leakage occur in transit.

Answers must be provided to the questions below:

A What sort of insurance coverage will be required for all of the companies and transportation services involved, and what will the price tag be, ie, what is the pricetag to guarantee that no nuclear contamination will remain in any area - ever?

B Exactly what routes will be taken for the nuclear waste?

C What type of nuclear waste will be stored on the facility?

D For how long?

E Will any nuclear waste ever be accepted from overseas?

F Who will profit from such a transaction?

G How will such a transaction benefit Australia in the short and long term?

H Who will ensure the continuous safety of the site?

I Which company or government body will provide compensation and cover expenses for clean ups?

J What forms of guarantees can be provided for a continuous stable climate and environmental

conditions for the site?

K What inbuilt protections (infrastructures) from natural disasters will be employed, ie, cyclones proof buildings, seismic activity protections, protection from floods, etc.

L What protections from natural disaster will be provided for the transportation route(s).

M What form of safety from outside attack will the site provide and how long can this type of security and infrastructure maintenance and guarantees be maintained in a remote area.

N How stable is the containment materials? Will they ever leak? Can the proponents give some form of guarantee?

O Which individuals/bodies/corporations will be held responsible for N above?

Nuclear waste should not be moved. It must be stored above ground close to the point of production and remain close to centres of nuclear expertise and infrastructure.

Any further talks of a nuclear waste site on Australian soil must be put to a referendum.

This issue is too serious for a small handful of people to decide upon - the people of Australia must be heard on this important issue which will effect countless generations.

Anne Goddard

March 3, 2010