Dear Tony Windsor,

At the risk of stating the obvious I wish to draw your attention to the use of FIFO practices in the isolated immigration detention centres. I do this because the connection has only just registered with me as the Pontville Detention Centre (near Hobart) closes, and I can find no reference to immigration detention centres in the FIFO Inquiry submissions.

Personally I am opposed to long term immigration detention and I find the policy of establishing immigration detention centres in isolated areas particularly cruel. The fact that these centres have to be staffed by FIFO workers clearly demonstrates the inhumane disregard that this policy has for the detainees.

However for the purposes of the FIFO/DIDO inquiry, the fact is that the policy of establishing isolated immigration detention centres serves to normalise the FIFO work practice. This is the crux of the matter. Such is the insidious nature of FIFO/DIDO that it is being recognised as a standard work practice.

I urge you to take this into consideration in your deliberations with regard to the FIFO/DIDO inquiry.

Sincerely,

Sally McGushin
5.3.2012