

To the Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on the Environment Communications and the Arts,

I am writing this submission to express my opinion that the Government should repeal the CRWMA for the following important reasons.

The CRWMA allows this radioactive dump to be imposed on the NT without consultation or consent from Traditional Owners, the affected communities or the NT Government.

The CRWMA actually overrides Territory laws that prohibit the transport and storage of these radioactive materials in the NT.

The CRWMA removes all rights to procedural fairness and the right to Appeal under the Administrative Decisions(Judicial Review) Act.

The CRWMA prevents Aboriginal and Torres Strait Heritage Protection Act of 1984 from having effect during investigation of potential dump sites and excludes the native Title Act of 1993 from operating at all.

Australia should step into line with international standards that highlight the need for community involvement and consent in decisions about locating nuclear facilities.

The sites in the NT were clearly chosen for political not scientific reasons. None of the sites currently under assessment for the dump were shortlisted in the 1997 national study to find a national radioactive dump site.

Senators Kim Carr and Trish Crossin gave clear statements before the 2007 election, that the ALP would repeal the CRWMA if elected. Prime Minister Rudd committed to keeping all election promises and this one must be followed through.

It is national Labor Party platform to repeal the CRWMA but eleven months since the election there is no indication that this will occur.

Labor should not just continue to roll out Howard Government plans to impose a dump on the NT. Before the election Labor Party politicians called this legislation "sordid" "shameful" and "arrogant".

I call on you to repeal the CRWMA and ensure a democratic approach to radioactive waste management.

Yours Sincerely,
Marion Giles