

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts  
Department of the Senate  
P O Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT, Australia 2600  
Email: [eca.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:eca.sen@aph.gov.au)

Re: Repeal of the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Act

I am writing this submission due to the effects that a Radioactive Waste Management Facility would have on our life styles and possible income from within the Katherine Region.

Apart from the fact that anybody I have spoken to do not want the Dump in the Northern Territory. The water that we use daily for households, stock and agricultural purposes would be severely affected as we all rely on the water aquifer that currently sits beneath Fishers Ridge. I am sure that a lot of people are unaware of the vast water supply that this aquifer supplies. Not only would this area be affected but also the water from this underground water supply flows into the Katherine River and into the Daly River and then out into the ocean. There are many pastoral and agricultural businesses that rely on this water to aid in their income and lifestyles.

Gone will be the recreational fishing that so many tourists and locals enjoy. Which I might add is another source of income through Tourism for the Northern Territory. Our stunning rivers will be lifeless and of no use to anyone that enjoys fishing or relies on their existence for an income. You might consider this an extreme example but as I am sure you are aware that other facilities for this purpose have leaked and the environment and people are the ones that suffer.

As you are also aware the ALP clearly committed to throw out the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Act if they were elected. Well guess what? You have been elected so why is this still an issue. I for one know that the only reason I voted the ALP in was because of this election promise. If this is how committed you are to your election promises this is the first and the last time you will be getting my vote.

Also before being elected the ALP politicians had previously referred to the legislation as 'draconian' 'sordid', 'arrogant' and 'profoundly shameful'. Do they still hold this view or is that just something that they said as an election was pending and they were aware of the communities feelings on this matter? We don't need or want this facility in the Northern Territory.

Regards

Karen Drew