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The Secretary
Senate ECITA Reference Committee.
Parliament House
Canberra. A.C.T. 2600.

SUBMISSION TO SENATE INQUIRY

Dear Sir / Madam,

I write this letter because I am very pleased to know that the Senate has ordered an inquiry into the uranium mining industry.

This inquiry is most important, because over a long period of time there have been many reports of spills, leaks, and failure to report incidents.

Despite the proven fact that the waste from uranium mining is disastrous for the environment, the Australian Government continues to actively support and promote the industry, despite the people of our country being clearly against it.

The Beverley mine has had several leaks this year, and is the only mine in the Western world to use the controversial acid method. This mine is U.S.A. owned.

I ask for the Federal and South Australian Governments to commit to protection of groundwater, including no discharge of mine waste to groundwater, to prevent leaks, and to require rehabilitation of mining impacts on groundwater.

At Kakadu, I ask for the Federal and Northern Territory Governments to facilitate the rehabilitation, lease relinquishment and incorporation of the Jabuluka and Koonjarrua mineral leases into Kakadu National Park.

I ask for the Inquiry to set out an action plan in order to protect the region's World Heritage property and values.

It is essential for the Commonwealth Government to have effective and wide-ranging powers in order to control every aspect of uranium mining in this country.

I look forward, in due course, to receiving the results of the Inquiry.

Yours sincerely,
Geoff Buchanan