

30/7/02

18 Agass St  
Rosalie Q 4004

AH'n

Secretary  
Senate ECITA References Committee  
Parliament house  
Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Sir / Madam

Submission to the Senate Inquiry into the  
Environmental Regulation of Uranium Mining

I would like to make the following points please: -

At Beverly & Honeyman ISL mines: -

- The federal & SA governments should commit to the protection of groundwater including no discharges of mine waste to groundwater, to prohibit underground leaks into connected aquifers & to require rehabilitation of mining impacts on groundwater.

- The inquiry should recommend increased monitoring of operators & public reporting of all radioactive leaks

- The inquiry should recommend a new public environmental assessment of the mgt. of mine wastes.

At the Kakadu Mines

- The federal & NT governments should facilitate the rehabilitation, lease relinquishment & incorporation of the Jabiruka & Koongamu mineral leases into Kakadu National Park.

- Rio Tinto & relevant government agencies should support a phase out, exit & rehabilitation strategy for Ranger, including aiding the establishment of a viable Aboriginal economy independent of mining
- The inquiry should articulate a credible action plan to prevent the development, rehabilitate the impacts & incorporate the mineral lease of the Jabiluka site, in order to protect the region's world heritage property & values
- The Federal & NT governments to act to reduce environmental impacts of operations at Ranger & for monitoring, reporting & regulatory regimes to be strengthened to include more event based monitoring, increased monitoring scope & trigger points & enhanced reporting

### Terms of Reference

I also request that the Senate Environment, Communications, IT & the Arts References Committee inquire into & report on the regulatory, monitoring & reporting regimes that govern environmental performance at the Ranger & Jabiluka uranium operations in the Northern Territory & the Beverley & Honeymoon ISL operations in SA, with particular reference to: -

- The adequacy, effectiveness & performance of existing monitoring & reporting regimes ~~that govern~~ & regulations
- The adequacy & effectiveness of those Commonwealth agencies responsible for the oversight & implementation of these regimes
- a review of Commonwealth responsibilities & mechanisms to realise improved environmental performance & transparency of reporting

Yours sincerely, ~~Keith M. Armstrong~~ (Keith M. Armstrong)