

What YOU Need To Know About Canberra's Proposed Nuclear Dump



What is the Commonwealth Government proposing to do?

On 15 July 2005 the Commonwealth Government announced that it will investigate three sites in the NT where it can build a nuclear waste dump.

If the Commonwealth get its way and all the approvals are received, the dump would start operating in late 2011.

What kind of radioactive waste is proposed to be stored at the facility?

Based on information provided by the Commonwealth, the dump would be used to store Australia's highest grade nuclear waste.

All nuclear waste produced by the Commonwealth Departments, agencies and statutory bodies, including the Lucas Heights Nuclear Reactor, and any military ordinance would be stored at the dump.

From 2011 the Nuclear Dump would also house spent nuclear fuel rods returned from France and Scotland.

Is this radioactive waste dangerous?

Any nuclear waste needs to be handled with extreme caution.

Nuclear waste poses a serious danger to humans and the environment for many thousands of years.

A range of terminal and debilitating medical conditions have been directly linked to exposure to nuclear waste.

The Commonwealth is proposing to store all of Australia's medium level waste in the Northern Territory. This waste will pose a danger to humans and the environment for many thousands of years.

How were the 3 NT sites chosen?

Despite repeated requests the Commonwealth Government has provided limited information on how the three sites in the Territory were chosen.

Public statements by Commonwealth Government indicate that they have been chosen as they are all on Commonwealth or Defence owned land.

None of the sites listed appears on any previous reports or investigations dealing with possible sites for a nuclear dump. Suitable Commonwealth or Defence land outside the Territory was identified in these previous investigations.

Are they the safest sites in Australia for this purpose?

Over a twelve year period, a Commonwealth Government committee looked at potential sites across Australia and on offshore islands.

Using sophisticated scientific assessments, eight sites were shortlisted, including three in SA, two in the NT (Bloods Range and Tanami) and one each in WA, OLD and on the SA/NSW border.

A site in South Australia was identified as the most suitable.

Turn over to see what you can do to help oppose a nuclear dump in the Northern Territory

What Can I Do If I Oppose Canberra's Proposed Nuclear Waste Dump In The NT?



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Participate in local action groups established in:

- Alice Springs: Alice Community Alliance, via:
 - **Arid Lands Environment Centre**
PO Box 2796
Alice Springs NT 0871
Ph: 08 8952 2497 Fax: 08 8953 2988
Email: aridlec@ozemail.com.au
 - **Alice Springs Town Council**
PO Box 1071
Alice Springs NT 0871
Ph: 08 8950 0500 Fax: 08 8953 0558
Email: astc@astc.nt.gov.au
 - **Central Land Council**
PO Box 3321
Alice Springs NT 0871
Ph: 08 89516 211 Fax: 08 89534 343
Fax: 08 89534 343
- Darwin: **'No Radioactive Waste Dump' Committee**
Telephone: 8945 4116 or 8981 1984
Email: no-waste@eco-logical.info or ecnt@octa4.net.au
- Katherine: **Katherine Residents Against Nuclear Dump**
PO Box 1071
Katherine NT 0851
Ph: 8972 5500 Fax: 8971 0305
Email: anne.shepherd@ktc.nt.gov.au

What Canberra Said Before The Federal Election

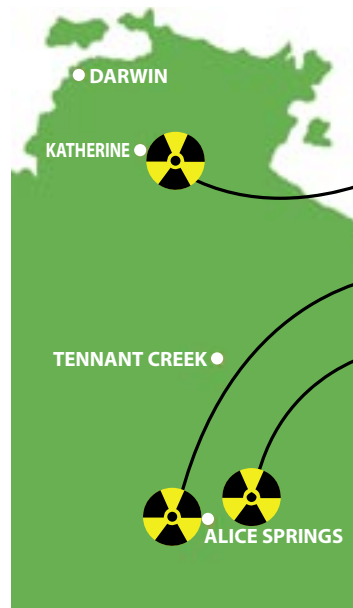
"... the Commonwealth is not pursuing any options anywhere on the mainland. So we can be quite categorical about that because the Northern Territory is on the mainland... so the Northern Territorians can take that as an absolute categorical assurance."

- Liberal Senator Ian Campbell, Minister for the Environment
30th September 2004

What Canberra Says Now

"Why on Earth can't people in the middle of nowhere have low level and intermediate level waste?"

- Liberal MP Brendan Nelson, Minister for Science
ABC TV, 15th July 2005



Proposed waste dumpsites:

- **Fishers Ridge**
47km east of the Tindal Base at Katherine
- **Mt Everard**
40km north-west of Alice Springs
- **Hart's Range**
165km north-east of Alice Springs

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Contact your local Federal members of Parliament:

- **Senator Trish Crossin**
PO Box 946
Palmerston NT 0831
Email: senator.crossin@aph.gov.au
- **Warren Snowdon MP**
GPO Box 1596
Darwin NT 0801
or
PO Box 4007
Alice Springs NT 0871
Email: Warren.Snowdon.MP@aph.gov.au
- **David Tollner MP**
PO Box 2163
Darwin NT 0801
Email: David.Tollner.MP@aph.gov.au
- **Senator Nigel Scullion**
Unit 1, 229 McMillans Road
Jingili NT 0810
Email: senator.scullion@aph.gov.au

- Write to the Prime Minister:

The Hon John Howard MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Northern Territory Government