



Queensland
Government

For reply please quote: *UMICS/GR – TF/12/30563 – DOC/12/219962*

Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

1 6 NOV 2012

s73

Queensland Conservation Council
9/10 Thomas Street
WEST END QLD 4101

Dear s73

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

On 22 October 2012, the Honourable Campbell Newman MP, Premier and the Honourable Andrew Cripps MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, announced the resumption of uranium mining in Queensland.

To oversee the resumption of uranium mining in Queensland, the Premier has established a Uranium Mining Implementation Committee (the committee) to recommend a best practice policy framework for the orderly development and operation of a uranium mining and export industry in Queensland.

I have been appointed as Chair of the committee, which includes other members with a strong and diverse set of skills. Other members of the committee include:

- Mr Dan Hunt, Director-General, Department of Natural Resources and Mines
- Ms Noeline Ikin, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Gulf Resource Management Group
- Ms Frances Hayter, Environment Director, Queensland Resources Council
- Dr Geoff Garrett, Queensland Government Chief Scientist
- Mr Warren Mundine, Director, Australia Uranium Association and Indigenous leader.

The role of the committee is to advise the Queensland Government on a framework that will ensure that uranium mining recommences with world's best practice environmental and safety standards, while creating an attractive environment for investment. I have attached a copy of the committee's terms of reference for more information.

Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3224 2111
Facsimile +61 7 3229 2990
Website www.premiers.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

As an organisation with a significant interest in this matter, the committee is seeking your feedback on what you consider will provide the foundations for best practice uranium exploration and mining. This will assist in developing a framework that is contemporary and reflective of practical industry experience.

Enclosed is a document which contains questions which will assist you in providing your feedback. This feedback will inform the final report that is to be delivered by the committee. The report, and associated recommendations, are to be provided to the Queensland Government in March 2013.

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Uranium Mining Implementation Committee Secretariat
Attention: Mr Geoff Robson, Director
Email: Geoff.Robson@premiers.qld.gov.au
Post: PO Box 15185, City East, Queensland 4002

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Yours sincerely



Councillor Paul Bell AM
Chair
Uranium Mining Implementation Committee

*Encls



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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

1 6 NOV 2012

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Australian Conservation Foundation
First Floor
60 Leicester Street
CARLTON VIC 3053

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Queensland Regional NRM Groups Collective
PO Box 4608
TOOWOOMBA EAST QLD 4350

Dear s73

Recommendation of uranium mining in Queensland

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Chair
Uranium Mining Implementation Committee

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Environment, Conservation, Natural Resource Management Questions

- i. What are the environmental risks specific to the mining of uranium in Queensland that need to be addressed, and how should they be taken into account?
- ii. Are there examples of regulatory failures in other jurisdictions (both within and external to Australia) that have resulted in, exacerbated or prevented the remediation of environmental impacts from uranium mining?
- iii. What are the strengths and weaknesses of existing regulatory frameworks for uranium mining activities in Australia?
- iv. What best practices should be applied to the Queensland approvals framework to ensure the highest environmental safeguards, rehabilitation, and conservation outcomes are achieved in relation to any future uranium mining projects in Queensland?

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

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Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation
Locked Bag 2001
KIRRAWEE DC NSW 2232

Dear s73

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

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The University of Queensland
ST LUCIA QLD 4072

Dear ^{s73}

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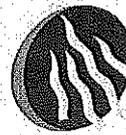
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The University of Queensland
Sustainable Minerals Institute
ST LUCIA QLD 4072

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Queensland University of Technology
GPO Box 2434
BRISBANE QLD 4001

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CSIRO Earth Science and Resource Engineering
Queensland Centre for Advanced Technologies
1 Technology Court
PULLENVALE QLD 4069

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CRC Mining
PO Box 5234
KENMORE EAST QLD 4069

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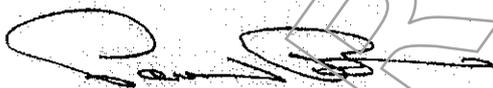
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Geological Society of Australia
Suite 61
104 Bathurst Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

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Recommencement of uranium mining in Queensland

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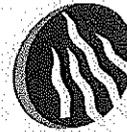
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Australian Institute of Geoscientists
PO Box 8463
PERTH BUSINESS CENTRE WA 6849

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PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3224 2111
Facsimile +61 7 3229 2990
Website www.premiers.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

As an organisation with a significant interest in this matter, the committee is seeking your feedback on what you consider will provide the foundations for best practice uranium exploration and mining. This will assist in developing a framework that is contemporary and reflective of practical industry experience.

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Yours sincerely



Councillor Paul Bell AM
Chair
Uranium Mining Implementation Committee

*Encls



Queensland
Government

For reply please quote: *UMICS/GR – TF/12/30563 – DOC/12/219962*

Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

1 6 NOV 2012

s73

The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
PO Box 660
CARLTON SOUTH VIC 3053

Dear s73

Recommendation of uranium mining in Queensland

On 22 October 2012, the Honourable Campbell Newman MP, Premier and the Honourable Andrew Cripps MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, announced the recommencement of uranium mining in Queensland.

To oversee the recommencement of uranium mining in Queensland, the Premier has established a Uranium Mining Implementation Committee (the committee) to recommend a best practice policy framework for the orderly development and operation of a uranium mining and export industry in Queensland.

I have been appointed as Chair of the committee, which includes other members with a strong and diverse set of skills. Other members of the committee include:

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Chair
Uranium Mining Implementation Committee

*Encls

Research Community Questions

- i. What practices are required to ensure a contemporary regulatory framework for the exploration and mining of uranium?
- ii. What are the practical strengths and weaknesses of existing regulatory frameworks for uranium mining activities in Australia (across the supply chain from exploration, production and export)?
- iii. Are there any geological, geographical or climactic factors applying in Queensland that would require some differences compared with other states and territories in the approvals and regulatory framework for uranium mining?
- iv. What are the target areas for exploration beyond the existing known basins?

RTI RELEASES



Queensland
Government

For reply please quote: UMICS/GR – TF/12/30563 – DOC/12/219962

Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

1 6 NOV 2012

s73

Queensland Resources Council
Level 13
133 Mary Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear s73

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

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Queensland
Government

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

1 6 NOV 2012

s73

Australian Uranium Association
GPO Box 1649
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear ^{s73}

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Queensland Exploration Council
Level 13
133 Mary Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear s73

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Queensland
Government

For reply please quote: UM/CS/GR – TF/12/30563 – DOC/12/219962

Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Association of Mining and Exploration Companies
PO Box 948
WEST PERTH WA 6872

Dear

s73

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

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Queensland
Government

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Minerals Council of Australia
Walter Turnbull Building
44 Sydney Avenue
FORREST ACT 2603

Dear ^{s73}

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Queensland
Government

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Mining and Energy Services Council of Australia
PO Box 7622
MELBOURNE VIC 8004

Dear

s73

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Queensland
Government

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Australian Petroleum Production and
Exploration Association Ltd
GPO Box 2201
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear s73

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

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Queensland
Government

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Australian Industry Group
PO Box 289
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

Dear

s73

Resumption of uranium mining in Queensland

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Department of the
Premier and Cabinet

16 NOV 2012

s73

Australian Institute of Export
Export House
22 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear

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Uranium Mining Implementation Committee

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Industry Questions

Best practice approvals frameworks

- i. What best practices should be applied to the Queensland approvals framework to ensure that the exploration and mining of uranium maximises commercial outcomes while maintaining environmental standards?
- ii. How would industry ensure the highest environmental safeguards and rehabilitation requirements associated with mining uranium?
- iii. What are the practical strengths and weaknesses of existing approvals frameworks for uranium mining activities in Australia (across the supply chain from exploration, production and export)?
- iv. What safety, security and logistics issues need to be considered with the mining, transport and export of uranium from Queensland?
- v. What workplace health and safety standards specific to uranium mining does industry see as necessary to equal or better world's best?
- vi. What is Industry's views regarding an appropriate royalty regime for uranium extraction?

Industry investment and certainty

- vii. What key considerations will companies factor into their decision to pursue uranium mining in Queensland?
- viii. Where will be the majority of industry interest be geographically across Queensland? What are the likely timeframes for pursuing uranium mining?
- ix. What strategies could the Government implement that would encourage investment, development and market demand for the uranium sector?
- x. Are existing uranium approved transport/export means and locations appropriate for a Queensland based industry i.e. utilising the Darwin or Adelaide ports?

Regional development and employment opportunities

- xi. How can industry best provide for real opportunities for Indigenous people, including employment and training, partnerships with industry, and what are the best mechanisms for ongoing indigenous consultation?

- xii. How can industry best contribute to regional and community development opportunities including job creation and address any social impacts?

RTI RELEASE

Terms of Reference

Implementation Committee

To advise on the recommencement of Uranium Mining in Queensland

The Implementation Committee (the committee) is asked to report to Government recommending a best practice policy framework for the orderly development and operation of a recommenced uranium mining and export industry in Queensland. The framework should ensure that uranium mining recommences with world's best practice environmental and safety standards, while creating an attractive environment for investment.

The Committee has been asked to report to Government by Monday 18 March 2013.

As part of its investigation, the Committee should consider:

- The context of uranium mining as currently permitted across other jurisdictions in Australia
- The appropriate role of the State Government in regulating the mining and export of uranium — having regard to Queensland's legislation and regulation framework and the role of the Federal Government
- Creating real jobs and opening up real opportunities for Indigenous employment and training, including partnerships with industry
- Regional and community development opportunities including job creation and addressing any social impacts
- Safety and logistics issues associated with the mining, transport and export of uranium from Queensland
- Workplace health and safety standards equal to the world's best
- Environmental safeguards associated with the mining, transport and export of uranium
- Uranium mining rehabilitation requirements, standards and the use of appropriate financial or other assurances
- Infrastructure and security issues associated with the processing, transport and export of uranium mined in Queensland, with particular reference to the use of export facilities in Queensland or interstate
- Establishing a best practice approval process for the uranium industry
- Developing appropriate cost recovery mechanisms for State Government regulatory activities, proportionate to the regulatory effort the industry imposes and consistent with promoting best practice regulation
- The appropriate royalty regime for the State
- Any other matters the Committee deems relevant to implementing the Government's decision to recommence uranium mining in Queensland

These terms of reference do not extend to the use of uranium as fuel for nuclear energy production in Queensland or for the disposal of nuclear waste produced by external customers of this material.



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In replying to this matter please quote: 2012/ACLM1

13 November 2012

Hon Campbell Newman MP
Premier of Queensland
PO Box 15185
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Premier *Campbell*

2012 LGAQ Annual Conference Resolution Number LM1

At the 2012 LGAQ Annual Conference held in Brisbane between 22 – 25 October 2012, the following motion submitted by Mount Isa City Council was adopted by resolution:

Uranium Mining

"That this Conference of the Local Government Association of Queensland congratulates the Queensland Government on their decision to abolish the long standing ban on the mining of uranium in Queensland. We believe that this decision will bring employment and prosperity to our State, particularly regional Queensland."

The Local Government Association of Queensland includes all replies to Annual Conference resolutions on LGOnline for the information of all member local governments. Therefore, it would be very much appreciated if your reply could be forwarded by letter or email to Beth Norman at beth_norman@lgaq.asn.au, clearly stating the above resolution title and number.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]
GREG HALLAM PSM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

cc: Hon Andrew Cripps MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

TO: Premier Campbell Newman
 email: thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
 PO Box 15185
 City East, QLD 4002

Date:

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CC:

RE: BANNING URANIUM MINES IN QUEENSLAND

As our newly elected representative/s, I call on you, as matter of urgency, to clarify your position on uranium mining and exploration. In the lead up to the election, now-Premier Newman and your party indicated a reluctance to support uranium mining in Queensland, making statements such as:

"The LNP has no plans for the development of uranium resources in Queensland at this time..[and] The LNP has made it crystal clear that we have no plans to approve the development of uranium in Queensland."

No sooner than LNP leadership of this state was decided, however, uranium mining company Mega Uranium announced its plan to commence work on the Ben Lomond uranium deposit outside Townsville, due to a favourable change of government.

I, therefore, call on the LNP government to give the people of Queensland an explicit and accountable policy on the mining of uranium in Queensland.

As you know, Queensland has a long, proud history of opposing uranium mining, a sentiment that was reflected in the former Labor government's long-standing policy of prohibiting mining in Queensland. Uranium exploration, however, continued to take place and uranium companies are now poised to open up Queensland to this toxic industry.

Your pre-election hesitation around uranium was well-founded and should be acted upon.

- * Uranium uses enormous amounts of water, leaving it radioactive and a threat to waterways, community and environment.
- Uranium is different to other forms of mining → the waste products are carcinogenic.
- Uranium leaves behind waste that is radiotoxic for many tens of thousands of years.
- Uranium mining poses health hazards for workers through radiation exposure, in addition to existing mine site hazards.
- Uranium mining threatens intractable contamination of farming and pastoral country in the event of flooding.

Australian uranium fuelled Fukushima.

I call on you to ensure that Queensland never fuels a radioactive catastrophe here or overseas. Now is the time to ban uranium mining and exploration in Queensland. I urge you to develop the policy and framework to do so.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding your commitment to banning uranium mining in Queensland.

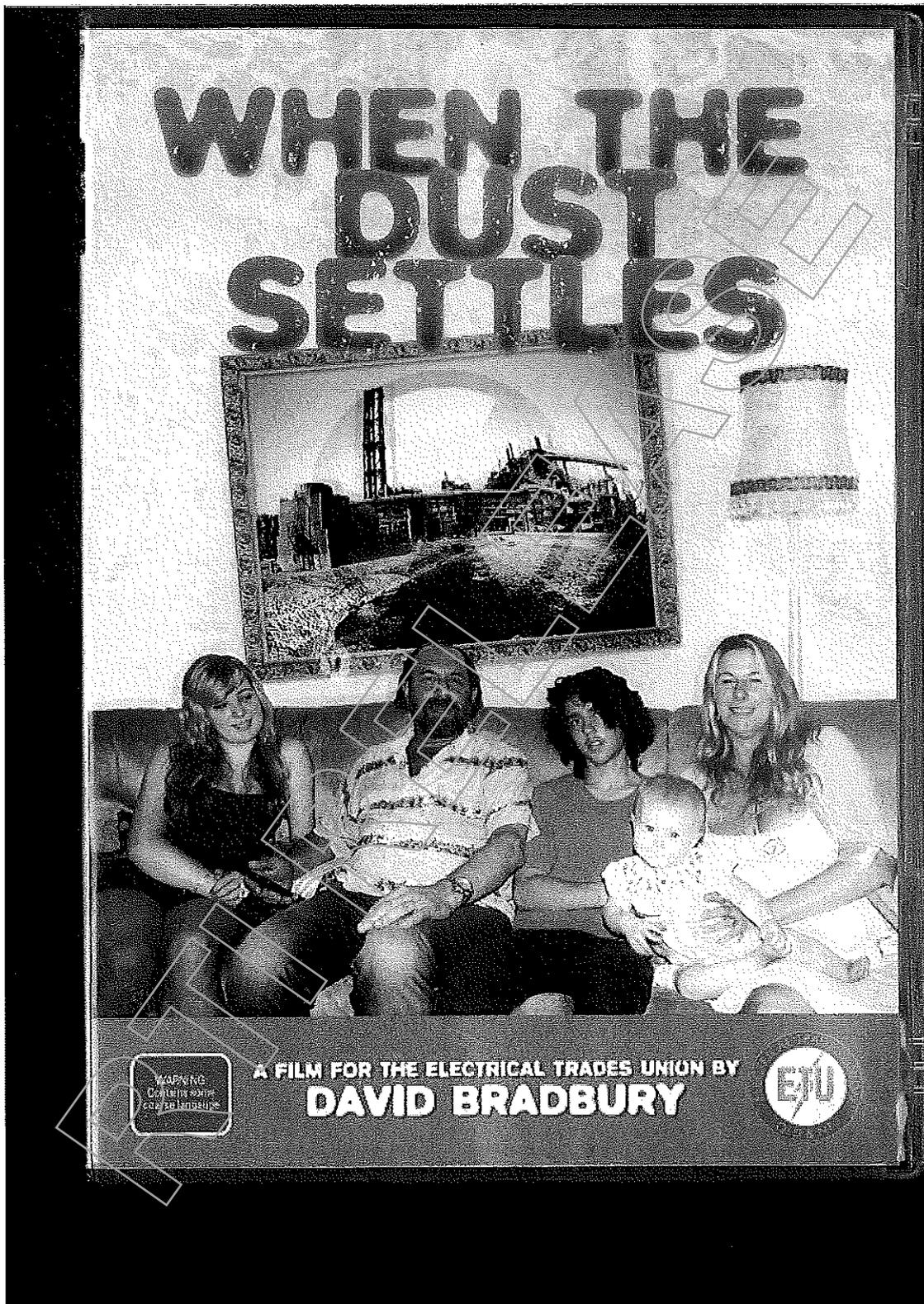
Thank you

Name:

Address:

s73
 s73

on behalf of the Qld Nuclear Free Alliance



WARNING
Contains some
strong language

A FILM FOR THE ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION BY
DAVID BRADBURY



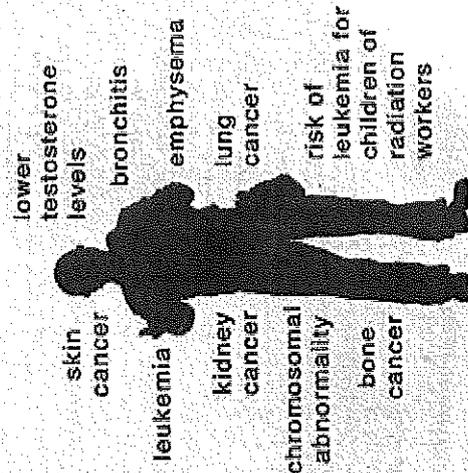
Why is uranium toxic?

Uranium is radioactive and releases ionising radiation which can cause cancer or serious genetic damage.

Uranium mining creates radioactive waste that remains dangerous for tens of thousands of years, threatening water supplies and posing a serious health risk to workers and the surrounding communities.

Once uranium has been used in reactors-like Fukushima- it becomes highly radioactive waste - for which there is no safe long term storage anywhere.

Some Governments and business believe that if we sell uranium then we should take back this high level radioactive waste and bury it in Australia. They want us to be the worlds radioactive waste dump as well as its uranium quarry.



Radiation Worker

health impacts from exposure to radiation
information from the Public Health Association Australia

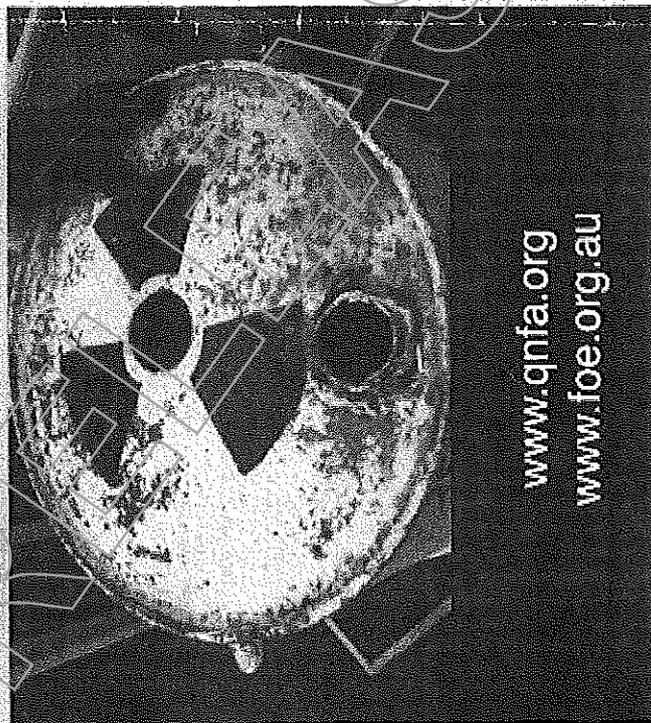
How do our political parties stack up?

Old Liberal National Party have no clear policy on uranium mining

Old Labor policy opposes uranium mining and nuclear power

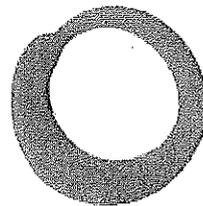
Old Greens policy opposes uranium mining and nuclear power

Katters Australian Party have no specific policy on nuclear issues but have made pro uranium mining comments



www.qnfa.org

www.foe.org.au



Friends of the Earth Australia

PUBLIC HEARING WARNING

Australian uranium fuelled Fukushima. Don't let Queensland become a radioactive quarry and dump, or fuel nuclear power, weapons and waste.

A failed industry

A 2003 Senate inquiry into the uranium mining industry in Australia found "a pattern of underperformance and non compliance" and all operating mines in Australia have a history of leaks, spills and license breaches.

Due to the seriousness of the radioactive risk of uranium mine tailings, the Ranger mine in the NT has a legal requirement to isolate radioactive tailings from the environment for at least 10,000 years.

Unresolved concerns over site specific contamination, tailings management, radioactive waste and nuclear proliferation mean that the Australian uranium sector fails any measured sustainability assessment.

Many of Queensland's uranium sites also sit on the Great Artesian Basin and other groundwater systems. It would be highly irresponsible to use and contaminate these ancient and precious waters, upon which our environment and numerous communities rely.

A risk to workers

Uranium is the asbestos of the 21st century. Past governments could plead ignorance of the effects of asbestos but today's politicians know the serious health impacts from radiation.

"It is estimated up to 50% of underground uranium miners in Australia do not use their masks, and thus drastically increase their risk of lung cancer, while underestimating their actual radiation dose."
Dr Peter Karamoskos, Nuclear Radiologist

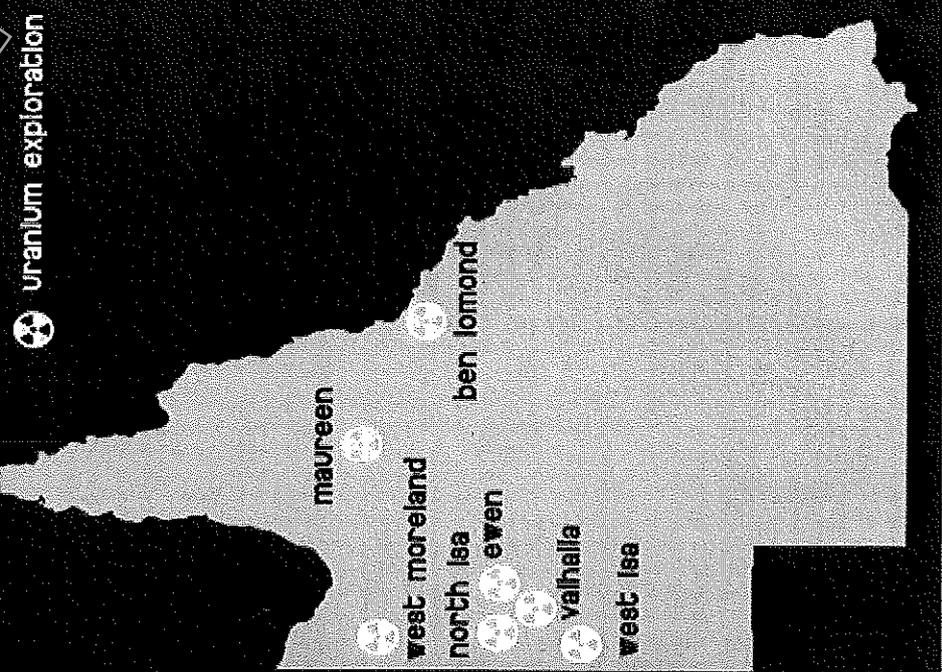
A whistle blower from BHP Billiton's Olympic Dam uranium mine told South Australia's Independent Weekly newspaper, "Assertions of safety of workers made by BHP are not credible because they rely on assumptions rather than, for example, blood sampling and an assumption that all workers wear a respirator when exposed to highly radioactive plutonium dust in the smelter."

4th June 2010

Uranium mining contributes a meagre 0.3% of Australia's export revenue - less than our cheese industry - and only 0.03% of jobs. It is a high risk, low benefit industry.



uranium exploration



Coming to you?

In Queensland there are already advanced uranium exploration projects. There is a long standing and sensible ban on uranium mining in Queensland - any change to this at the coming State election could mean the very fast development of uranium mines across Queensland.

There is no port in Queensland that is licensed to export uranium. The approval of uranium mines could lead to radioactive materials being transported throughout Queensland.

The Australian uranium industry should not be expanded - rather it needs to urgently address it's long term impacts and failures

Our future is renewable not radioactive



Queensland's nuclear landscape

Used in British atom bombs, Australian uranium may now power the nuclear warships, potentially carrying nuclear weapons that visit Qld's larger ports. With the federal government aggressively pushing for an expansion to the nuclear industry, Qld must take stock of its place in the nuclear landscape.

Uranium Mines and Exploration

Despite a current ban on uranium mining in the state, uranium exploration is taking place in Queensland. There are at least 13 sites under lease and exploration.

Westmoreland, near Settlement Creek

Location: 400km N Mt Isa, extends into NT. Owner: Laramide Resources Ltd, licensed from Rio Tinto. Main deposits are near Redtree Dyke in the catchment of Settlement Creek, one of the eight gulf country rivers being considered for Wild Rivers protection by the QLD state government. Westmoreland is inundated in the wet season, creating habitat for numerous wetland birds, including endemic and endangered species.

Valhalla, Skal and Anderson's Lode

Location: 40km N of Mt Isa. Owner: Summit Resources & Resolute Mining, Aust. Possibly the richest of Qld's uranium sites, in the Leichardt River catchment. Also other deposits nearby at Bikini Pile and Red Alpha. The government's Regional Natural Resource Plan for Southern Gulf of Carpentaria identifies water as a crucial issue for the region. Summit Resources claim Valhalla to have potential similar to the Olympic Dam mine in South Australia. Demand for water in the region would double if Valhalla were even half the capacity of the Olympic Dam mine.

Ardmore/Black Sunday

Location: 80km SE of Mt Isa. Owned by: U308, West Perth WA

Amethyst Castle & Three Amigos

Location: 7km N of Selwyn Mill, 100km S of Cloncurry
 Owner: Ivanhoe Mines, Canada. Chairman Robert Friedland has been associated with a number of questionable business and environmental practices including the biggest cyanide leak in US history at Summitville, Colorado. In April 2006, protestors in Mongolia burnt an effigy of Friedman in response to Ivanhoe's dubious deals over the Oyu Tolgoi copper and gold deposit in the Gobi Desert. Amethyst Castle is in the Cloncurry River catchment. The region is home to the only known distribution of the "Macgillivayi" race of the Australian Ringneck parrot.

Maureen, Trident & Twoges

Location: 45km N Georgetown. Owned by: Mega Uranium Ltd. Maureen & Twoges are in the Gilbert & Einasleigh River catchments. The Georgetown region and north is the only remaining population of the endangered Golden-shouldered Parrot *Psephthus chrysopterygius*.

Juntala

Location: Georgetown-Townsville uranium field. Owned by: Buffalo Gold Ltd. Vancouver, Canada

Oasis

Location: near Greenvale, 200km N Charters Towers
 Owned by: Glengarry Resources. Oasis & Greenvale are in the Clarke River catchment in the Burdekin Basin.

Ben Lomond

Location: 40ks W of Townsville. Owned by: Mega Uranium Ltd. Toronto, Canada. Ben Lomond began development in the late 70s but was stopped when Labor came in to power. The Townsville region is surrounded by aquatic habitat for wetland birds, and includes some critically endangered species including the Capricorn Yellow Chat and the Cotton Pygmy-goose. In April 2006 The Townsville Bulletin

reported that Burdekin schoolchildren had been drinking water contaminated with higher than recommended uranium levels. The water source was downstream from the Ben Lomond site.

Esk: Low level radioactive waste storage facility

Narangba: Steritech Nuclear Irradiation Plant

Visted by US nuclear warships

Mary Kathleen

Location: 50km W Mt Isa. Indigenous locals: Kalkadoon. Owned by: formerly Rio Tinto, now owned by Matrix Metals, Perth. Queensland's only existing uranium mine closed in 1982. Uranium from the now defunct MK mine was used in British nuclear weapons. During it's operation from 1958, Mary Kathleen Uranium (MKU) had a checkered and controversial history. A December 2005 newsletter of the Qld Dept of Natural Resources and Mines reports that Matrix Metals have discovered new uranium deposits near MK at White Range, McCabe, Vulcan and Leonie.



Top 10 reasons to oppose uranium mining

Uranium mining in Australia poses a threat to our society, our environment and our region. Nuclear power is not clean, nor is it safe. Renewed interest in uranium mining has been driven by an unsustainable increase in uranium prices and does not offer any solution to climate change.

Pressure is being put on the Queensland government to open the state up for uranium mining. Though the Queensland Labor Party currently has a policy opposing uranium mining in Queensland, uranium exploration is taking place, in particular in the Mt. Isa and Townsville regions.



1. Uranium mining threatens our environment, especially water

Uranium mining is a water intensive industry, as is nuclear power. The Olympic Dam uranium mine in South Australia uses up to 42,000,000 litres of water per day in its operations. (The average per capita Australian use is 1,000,000 litres per year.) After its use in uranium mining, the contaminated water is left radioactive and unusable.

Uranium mines and their tailings remain dangerous well after closure. The 2006 federal budget allocated \$7m for the ongoing clean up of contamination from mines in the NT that were closed in the 1960s.

In April 2006, residents of the Burdekin region, south west of Townsville, were offered subsidised rain water tanks when their drinking water was found to have higher than acceptable uranium levels. The region is downstream from the Ben Lomond uranium deposit.

Keep Queensland water safe - don't mine uranium



2. Uranium mining & nuclear power threaten worker and community health

Mine workers are exposed to ionising radiation from uranium. Surrounding communities can also be affected by radiation through water leakages, contaminated vehicles and contact with tailings ponds.

Accidents do happen. In March 2004, 150 workers at the Ranger mine (NT) were exposed to drinking water containing uranium levels 400 times greater than Australian standards. Mining company ERA was fined \$150,000- the long-term impact on the workers' health is as yet unknown.

The meltdown at Chernobyl in 1986 was not an anomaly; it was one of many cases of human and/or technological failure in the nuclear power industry. An overview of worldwide nuclear accidents, "Let the Facts Speak: An Indictment of the Nuclear Industry", is available on the internet: www.rachelsiewert.org.au/files/releases/let-the-facts-speak-3rd-edition.pdf

The long-term effects of radiation contamination from that one disaster are yet to be known. Sheep farmers as far away as in Scotland and Wales must still monitor all their stock for radioactive caesium levels due to fallout from the Chernobyl meltdown.

Once released into the environment, there is no way to retrieve leaked radioactive material

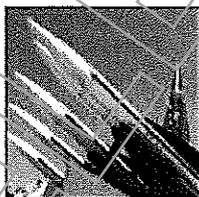


3. Uranium mining & nuclear power create radioactive waste

Uranium mines create millions of litres of radioactive waste in the form of mine tailings. Nuclear power creates high level radioactive waste. There are approximately 250,000 tonnes of high level nuclear waste stockpiled around the world.

The Federal Government is now attempting to impose a waste dump on the NT, despite promising not to do so in the last election. Both expanding uranium exports and opening an enrichment industry will increase pressure on Australia to import overseas waste.

No safe, long-term disposal site for nuclear waste exists anywhere.



4. Uranium mining & nuclear power are linked to weapons proliferation

All existing and proposed reactor types (including breeders, thorium, fusion etc) risk contributing to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Supposedly "peaceful" nuclear facilities and materials can be - and have been - used in various ways for weapons production. In fact, of the 60 countries which have built nuclear (power or research) reactors, over 20 are known to have used their 'peaceful' nuclear facilities for covert weapons research and/or production. It is widely acknowledged that the safeguards system monitoring uranium flow and weapons production is flawed.

Even if we only sold our uranium for use in nuclear power plants, doing so allows countries such as US and China to use their domestic reserves for weapons.



5. Mining and enrichment threaten regional security

Processing or enrichment will increase the social, political and environmental costs of the nuclear industry in Australia. The federal government is currently attempting to present enrichment as a means to ensure that Australian uranium is sold only for nuclear power. In fact, as is the case with Iran, an Australian enrichment industry will fuel regional fear that Australia is developing weapons capability, or is supportive of weapon's production.

Processing and enrichment will also create further radioactive waste, including U-238 or "Depleted Uranium" requiring long-term storage. DU, which has a half-life of 4.5 billion years, is now commonly used in US and UK weapons.

Regional security will not be served by a nuclear industry in Australia.



What's wrong with uranium mining?

The nuclear industry would like the public to think that it is environmentally friendly. In reality uranium mining poses a serious threat to the environment, workers, indigenous culture, the wider community and future generations.

Toxic from start to end

Uranium processing requires vast water resources and has serious long-term environmental impacts. Olympic Dam uranium mine in South Australia uses up to 42 million litres of water per day from the Great Artesian Basin and renders it contaminated. Large quantities of ore must be processed to produce the yellow cake commercially used and radioactive waste and mining tailings are created.

Greenhouse gases are emitted throughout the nuclear chain from mining, milling, transporting and reprocessing uranium for use in weapons and nuclear power.

Uranium and long-lived radioactivity

Uranium is the heaviest of all minerals. The percentage of uranium to ore is quite small in commercially mined uranium, averaging 0.3% in Australia but as high as 15% in Canada. The ore is, therefore, milled to concentrate the uranium, resulting in a marketable product, uranium oxide (U3O8), also known as called 'yellowcake' because of its colour. Because yellowcake contains the three commercially useful isotopes, it is radioactive.

Uranium isotopes remain radioactive for millions of years: U238 has a half-life (the time it takes for it to lose half its radioactivity) of 4.5 billion years, U235:

704 million years, and U234: 245,000 years. Radon is a radioactive gas released from uranium decay.

Mining

In Australia three kinds of mining process are used to extract uranium: underground (as used at Olympic Dam), surface (open pit, as used at Mary Kathleen), or solution/in-situ leach, (as used at Beverley).

Underground Mining

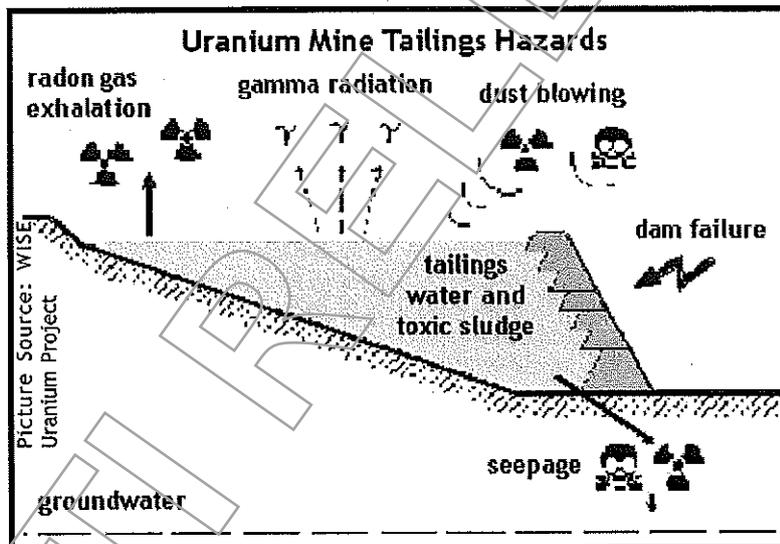
Tunnel mining poses risks to both human health and environment. Besides the risk of collapse and poor or dangerous air quality in underground operations, uranium mines present a dangerous scenario for workers due to exposure to radon gas and uranium dust. Subsidence, pot holes, fissure or other surface openings occur and disruption and contamination of groundwater and acid mine drainage also occur.

Open cut mining

The most environmentally visible of the types of mining used for uranium, open cut entails digging massive pits into the surface of the earth, clearing and extracting everything in its location. Open cut mining also allows more dust and particles to escape into the local atmosphere, although being outdoors may reduce the exposure to radon gas of workers. Open cut mines are notoriously difficult to rehabilitate due to the sheer quantity of earth removed.

In-situ leach mining

A contentious type of uranium mining, in-situ leach (ISL) involves injecting huge quantities of water and sulphuric acid into the deposit or the aquifer in which the uranium occurs, and sucking the resulting slurry out for separation. The potential for ground and surface water contamination is far greater than other types of mining. The pumping process may also release large quantities of radon gas into the atmosphere.



Milling and Tailings: turning mining sites into radioactive waste dumps

After ore extraction, uranium must be separated from the other minerals in the matrix. This is done by crushing and leaching the rock using water and sulfuric acid.

This process uses enormous amounts of water which is contaminated with acid, unwanted minerals and leftover uranium, and contains long lived decay products which continue to pose a risk to health and environment. It is left on site in tailings dams, in an attempt to minimise dust and because there is no safe means of disposal. The sludge that tailing water covers is 85% as radioactive as the uranium extracted and it continues to release radon.

Tailings dams all over the world have had leakage problems and there are many documented instances of increased exposure to radiation in people living downstream from these tailings dams through consuming contaminated water, fish and crops. In 2004 Olympic Dam uranium mine reported a leak from their tailings dams system that had gone unnoticed for several years. Local wildlife have been also been killed by drinking the tailings water, particularly water birds.



Uranium and your health

Uranium mining is but the first stage of the process of spreading nuclear contamination throughout the world. Dr Helen Caldicott, founder of the Nuclear Policy Research Institute, recently said we should not exporting uranium because "we are exporting cancer."

Workers

Mining is a dangerous industry. The presence of radioactive substances makes it even more so. Despite assurances and safeguards, the nuclear industry cannot stop workers from exposure, illness and even death due to the nature of the element they are working with. There are also many instances of corporate negligence and human error leading to workers accidents, and the nature of their work means that many insurance companies may refuse to give them personal or health insurance.

The three main dangers to workers are risk of inhaling radon gas, inhaling Uranium dust and external radiation exposure. Mining uranium and mineral sands creates radioactive dust and radon gas. When breathed into the lungs, the dust and gas release their radiation at close range where it does the most damage to the lining of the lung and increases the risk of developing cancer. Radiation exposure can affect men and women's reproductive health and is also associated with lower testosterone levels, chromosomal abnormality, skin, lung, kidney and bone cancer and bronchitis and emphysema.

Over the years the permitted levels of radiation exposure for workers and the public have dropped dramatically as research, particularly from radiation biologists, indicates harmful effects still exist at much lower exposure levels. An examination of the table on the right reveals how drastically permissible radiation exposure levels have been reduced over time. Despite these changes, workers are still expected to tolerate a higher level of exposure than others, between 20 and 5 mSv, compared to 0.1 for everyone else.

Epidemiological studies have revealed that young men working as uranium miners have a greater risk of birth defects than the general population and older men have an increased risk of cancer. Often the effects of radiation exposure can be delayed. In 2005 a retrospective study of 15 countries, the largest study of

nuclear workers ever conducted, found risk of cancer in the nuclear industry was increased even at low dose exposure.

Risks to the wider community

**NO SAFE DOSE:
The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Authority say that "...it is assumed that there is no threshold dose below which there are no effects...The lowest threshold of risk applies to the unborn child."**

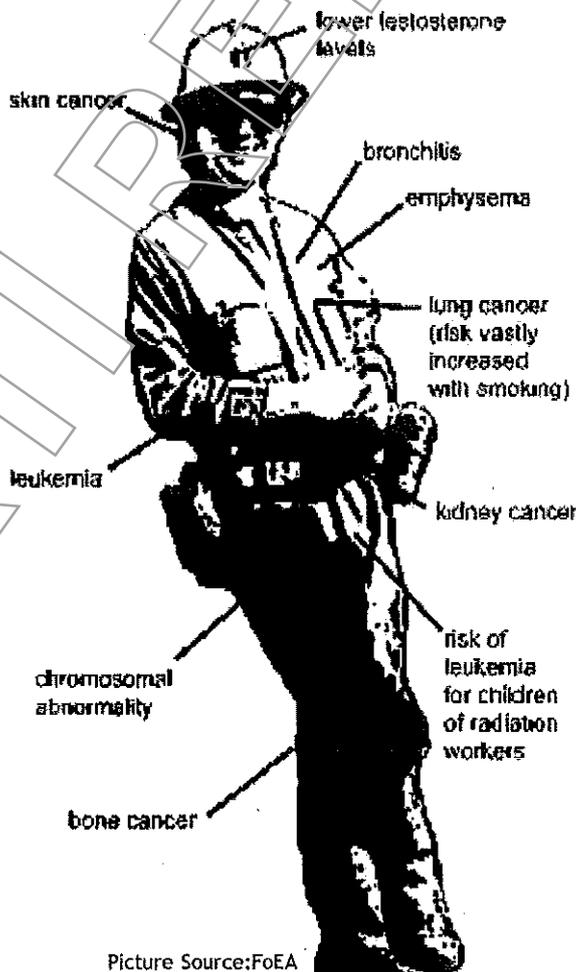
Risk is not confined to workers alone. Uranium mining continually increases the level of background radiation the community is exposed to. People's skin, clothes and vehicles can be contaminated through being physically near the source of radioactive material.

Risks are also posed by other stages of the nuclear industry including nuclear power, transport, storage of waste and of course, weapons. Many accidents, leaks, misplaced 'orphaned sources', and intentional releases of radiation emitting sources occur every year.

Because of potential accidents, there is a real concern about the transportation of radioactive material by trucks from the mine to the port. In February 2006 a poorly secured shipment of Cobalt 60 travelled 200km through the UK emitting gamma rays which could have burnt anyone exposed in minutes.

The insurance industry does not insure against any incidents of any nuclear activity. According to five Australian insurance companies surveyed by NFO, insuring against loss, damage, injury or death that occurs as a result of radioactivity or nuclear activity would set the risk too high. If nuclear incidents were to occur the level of destruction could be enormous and could take years to recover. Insuring against this would be uneconomical as the premium cost would be too high. Indeed, several compensation class actions against uranium mining companies have succeeded in winning cost for hundreds of uranium mine and mill workers worldwide suffering from cancer, although many communities are still living with uranium contamination.

Uranium contamination of water is the most widespread vector of



Picture Source: FoEA



Uranium and Queensland

With the nuclear push in full swing now, it is vital for Queenslanders to consider Queensland's position in the debate. Current Queensland Labor Party policy does not allow for uranium to be mined in Queensland, though exploration is taking place. The Coalition and some members of the Labor Party would like to see Queensland's uranium sites opened up for business.

Australia has 20% of the world's uranium and the largest known deposits of high grade uranium ore. Most of these are in SA, WA and NT. Despite the enthusiastic support of the Howard government for uranium mining, just one new uranium mine has begun production in Australia in the past decade. The Beverley mine in South Australia began commercial production in 2001 and produces about 10% of Australia's uranium exports, with Ranger in the NT and Olympic Dam (Roxby Downs) in SA producing the rest. Queensland has at least 13 uranium sites under lease or exploration, though the total amount of uranium in Queensland is estimated to be 2% of Australia's total and is almost entirely graded as low-grade ore.

The problems with uranium mining

Uranium is a radioactive heavy metal. Uranium normally makes up only a small percentage of the mineral content of the rock in which it is found. When it is mined and milled, it is made "bio-available" in a more concentrated form than in its natural environment. Even when stable inside rock or unprocessed, uranium emits (alpha and beta) radiation and radon gas. After uranium is mined and milled, the radioactive waste sludge from the process is left either in large tailings ponds on the site or is pumped back into the ground, potentially contaminating water sources and seeping back up through the earth.

Uranium mining is the first step in a nuclear chain which leads to the unsustainable nuclear power industry, nuclear weapons proliferation, and millions of years of radioactive waste.

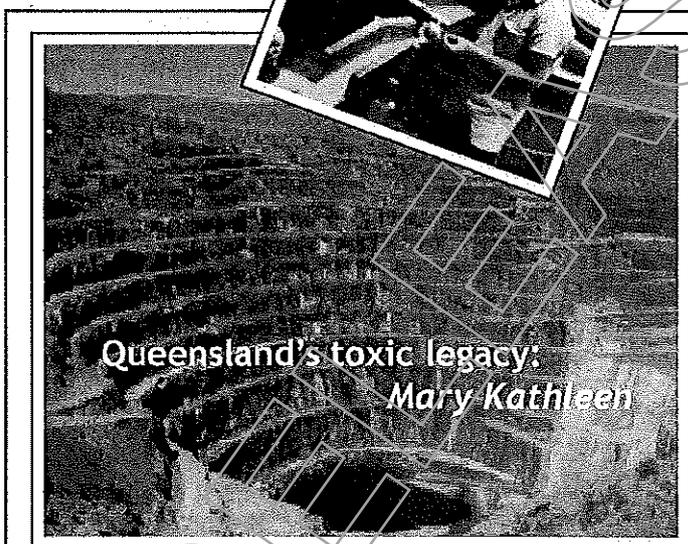
Economics of uranium

Rising uranium prices have driven a wave of uranium exploration in the past two years. However, uranium actually accounts for only 1% of Australia's resource exports. As most of Queensland's known uranium is of poor quality the cost, the infrastructure, the CO2 emissions from the processing and the waste means that most of the sites are unviable or uneconomical to mine. Deposits near Mt. Isa at Valhalla are seen as the most possibly lucrative if developed.

Coal v uranium - the wrong question

Queensland is the world's number one exporter of coal. Premier Beattie has stated that he would consider allowing uranium to be mined if the uranium industry did not interfere with Queensland's coal industry. As global energy consumption is predicted to increase, there is no doubt that the uranium and coal industry could co-exist in Queensland. In fact, coal reserves are much greater than uranium reserves and even "green" models of energy production include coal well into the future. Queensland and its coal industry are responsible for 26% of Australia's greenhouse emissions and nuclear power is an

environmental hazard with its own radioactive waste and emissions. Neither coal nor nuclear are long term sustainable solutions to meeting our energy needs or addressing global warming. Queensland already has the capacity to generate its own electricity through geothermal, wind, biomass, and solar generation. By developing its sustainable industries, Queensland can truly be the sunshine state.



Queensland has played an important role in shaping Australia's nuclear landscape. Mary Kathleen (MK) was one of the first uranium mines opened in Australia and one its most contentious. Initially used to supply uranium for British nuclear weapons manufacture, MK's life was dotted with scandal: in 1971, the mine was involved in exposing Australia's uranium cartel; in 1980, in 2 tonnes of yellowcake was stolen from the mine; throughout the late 70s to early 80s union and community action against uranium exports thwarted work at the site leading to the mine's closure in 1982. The strength of Queensland's opposition to Mary Kathleen inspired national debate on the issue and has ensured that no new mines have been opened in Queensland since.



Top 10 reasons to oppose uranium mining

Uranium mining in Australia poses a threat to our society, our environment and our region. Nuclear power is not clean, nor is it safe. Renewed interest in uranium mining has been driven by an unsustainable increase in uranium prices and does not offer any solution to climate change.

Pressure is being put on the Queensland government to open the state up for uranium mining. Though the Queensland Labor Party currently has a policy opposing uranium mining in Queensland, uranium exploration is taking place, in particular in the Mt. Isa and Townsville regions.



1. Uranium mining threatens our environment, especially water

Uranium mining is a water intensive industry, as is nuclear power. The Olympic Dam uranium mine in South Australia uses up to 42,000,000 litres of water per day in its operations. (The average per capita Australian use is 1,000,000 litres per year.) After its use in uranium mining, the contaminated water is left radioactive and unusable.

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Keep Queensland water safe - don't mine uranium



2. Uranium mining & nuclear power threaten worker and community health

Mine workers are exposed to ionising radiation from uranium. Surrounding communities can also be affected by radiation through water leakages, contaminated vehicles and contact with tailings ponds.

Accidents do happen. In March 2004, 150 workers at the Ranger mine (NT) were exposed to drinking water containing uranium levels 400 times greater than Australian standards. Mining company ERA was fined \$150,000- the long-term impact on the workers' health is as yet unknown.

The meltdown at Chernobyl in 1986 was not an anomaly; it was one of many cases of human and/or technological failure in the nuclear power industry. An overview of worldwide nuclear accidents, "Let the Facts Speak: An Indictment of the Nuclear Industry", is available on the internet: www.rachelsiewert.org.au/files/releases/let-the-facts-speak-3rd-edition.pdf

The long-term effects of radiation contamination from that one disaster are yet to be known. Sheep farmers as far away as in Scotland and Wales must still monitor all their stock for radioactive caesium levels due to fallout from the Chernobyl meltdown.

Once released into the environment, there is no way to retrieve leaked radioactive material



3. Uranium mining & nuclear power create radioactive waste

Uranium mines create millions of litres of radioactive waste in the form of mine tailings. Nuclear power creates high level radioactive waste. There are approximately 250,000 tonnes of high level nuclear waste stockpiled around the world.

The Federal Government is now attempting to impose a waste dump on the NT, despite promising not to do so in the last election. Both expanding uranium exports and opening an enrichment industry will increase pressure on Australia to import overseas waste.

No safe, long-term disposal site for nuclear waste exists anywhere.



4. Uranium mining & nuclear power are linked to weapons proliferation

All existing and proposed reactor types (including breeders, thorium, fusion etc) risk contributing to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Supposedly "peaceful" nuclear facilities and materials can be - and have been - used in various ways for weapons production. In fact, of the 60 countries which have built nuclear (power or research) reactors, over 20 are known to have used their 'peaceful' nuclear facilities for covert weapons research and/or production. It is widely acknowledged that the safeguards system monitoring uranium flow and weapons production is flawed.

Even if we only sold our uranium for use in nuclear power plants, doing so allows countries such as US and China to use their domestic reserves for weapons.



5. Mining and enrichment threaten regional security

Processing or enrichment will increase the social, political and environmental costs of the nuclear industry in Australia. The federal government is currently attempting to present enrichment as a means to ensure that Australian uranium is sold only for nuclear power. In fact, as is the case with Iran, an Australian enrichment industry will fuel regional fear that Australia is developing weapons capability, or is supportive of weapon's production.

Processing and enrichment will also create further radioactive waste, including U-238 or "Depleted Uranium" requiring long-term storage. DU, which has a half-life of 4.5 billion years, is now commonly used in US and UK weapons.

Regional security will not be served by a nuclear industry in Australia.



Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: ERP/RL - TF/12/29309 - DOC/12/215894

10 DEC 2012

Mr David Glasson
Chair
Mount Isa to Townsville Economic
Development Zone Inc
PO Box 1258
MOUNT ISA, QLD 4825

Dear Mr Glasson

David,

Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
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Telephone +61 7 3224 4500
Facsimile +61 7 3221 3631
Email ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
Website www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

Thank you for your letter of 29 October 2012 about recommencing uranium mining in Queensland.

I note the support of the Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone Inc for the development of a uranium mining industry, and I appreciate your support for the Queensland Government's decision to recommence uranium mining. I agree that this is an important issue, given that the known uranium resources in our State are worth approximately \$10 billion and there is considerable potential for more to be discovered.

With this in mind, earlier this year I wrote to the Honourable Julia Gillard MP, Prime Minister to ask what the Federal Government's position is on the future of uranium mining in Queensland. The Prime Minister wrote back to say she supports the development of the Australian uranium mining industry, subject to world's best practice environmental conditions and safety standards.

As you are aware, the Prime Minister recently travelled to India to begin negotiations on uranium exports and the sale of Australian produced uranium. The Prime Minister's announcement about formal negotiations on a nuclear safeguards agreement — which would allow uranium to be exported to India — highlighted that uranium mining is here to stay in Australia as national policy.

Given the Federal Government's position, I could see no grounds to continue to stop Queensland from gaining the significant economic benefits of uranium mining. Nor did I see any reason why Queensland should continue to take a different position from the other uranium producing states and territories — the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia.

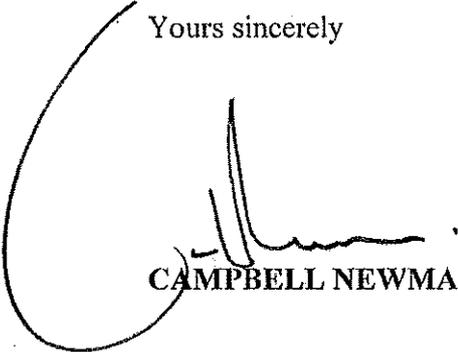


Queensland
Government

For these reasons, the Queensland Government reconsidered its policy position on uranium and recently announced that an implementation committee would be set up to oversee the recommencement of its mining in Queensland. With uranium mining providing jobs, royalties and regional development in other parts of Australia, the Queensland Government believes it is time for our State to share in the benefits.

Thank you for bringing your views to my attention.

Yours sincerely



CAMPBELL NEWMAN

RTI RELEASE



Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: ERP/RL - TF/12/28904 - DOC/12/220097

28 NOV 2012

Mr James Brown
Mr Jeff Pang
info@brownandpang.com

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100 George Street Brisbane
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Dear Mr Brown and Mr Pang

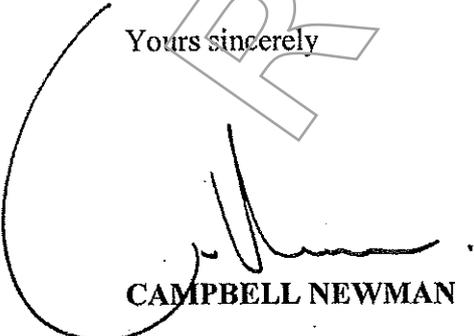
Thank you for your email of 25 October 2012 about establishing a nuclear workforce in Australia.

As you are aware, the Queensland Government has made a decision to recommence uranium mining. This is a very important issue because the known uranium resources in our State are worth approximately \$10 billion and there is considerable potential for more to be discovered. Given the Federal Government's recent reaffirmation of its support for mining and export during the Prime Minister's recent visit to India, I could see no reason for Queensland to take a contrary view. Nor did I see any reason why Queensland should continue to take a different position from the other uranium producing states and territories — the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia.

While the development of nuclear power plants in Queensland is not on the Government's agenda, I appreciate the information you have provided in relation to establishing a nuclear workforce in Australia. As you may be aware, the Queensland Government has appointed an implementation committee to establish the orderly development and operation of a recommenced uranium mining and export industry in Queensland. During its investigations between now and mid-March next year, the Uranium Implementation Committee (UIC) will examine and make recommendations on a range of issues including employment opportunities. I have asked my department to ensure that your article is provided to the UIC.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely



CAMPBELL NEWMAN





Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: *ERP/RL – TF/12/28580 – DOC/12/203736*

25 OCT 2012

Mr Don Henry
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Conservation Foundation Incorporated
Floor One
60 Leicester Street
CARLTON VIC 3053

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Dear Mr Henry

I write to provide you with some background and further information on recent events that have led to a significant change in Queensland Government policy on uranium mining.

In June this year, I wrote to the Prime Minister, the Honourable Julia Gillard MP, to confirm the statement made by the Minister for Resources and Energy and Minister for Tourism, the Honourable Martin Ferguson AM MP that 'the Australian Government urges Queensland to take the next step and also remove its ban on uranium mining, given that it already permits exploration' accurately reflected the Australian Government's official position on uranium mining in Queensland. I also sought the Prime Minister's position on the pursuit of uranium mining projects and exports from our State.

In her reply, the Prime Minister provided conditional support, subject to a range of high level conditions. These conditions were not adequately outlined at the time, consequently, the Queensland Government did not progress further considerations.

In my letter of 11 October 2012 to you, I accurately reflected the Queensland Government's policy on uranium mining which was current at that time. Subsequent to that, the Prime Minister travelled to India last week to open negotiations on uranium exports and the sale of Australian produced uranium. Her announcement that formal negotiations on a nuclear safeguards agreement, which would allow uranium to be exported to India, highlighted that uranium mining is here to stay as a matter of national policy.

Given the Australian Government's position, I can see no grounds to exclude Queensland from the potential economic benefits of uranium mining or for Queensland to take a position inconsistent with the other uranium producing states and territories — the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia.

For reasons outlined above, the Queensland Government reconsidered its policy position on uranium mining and announced, on 22 October 2012, that the Queensland Government would convene a three-member committee to oversee the recommencement of uranium mining in Queensland.



I understand that my Cabinet colleague, the Honourable Andrew Powell MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, and Mr Peter Walsh, Director of Policy in my office, have been in touch with you recently to further clarify the Queensland Government's position.

I am aware of the Australian Conservation Foundation's strong opposition to uranium mining. However, events over the past week have made it necessary for Queensland to reconsider our position and to actively investigate the issues and prospects more closely. I can assure you, however, that nuclear power plants or waste disposal are not on our agenda.

Yours sincerely



CAMPBELL NEWMAN

RTI RELEASE



Rob Katter MP

Member for Mount Isa

Queensland State Leader

Disputed?	YES	NO
If digital, this is now an ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT. ENTER ALL DATA in TRIM.		
Related Reports		
Date	16 OCT 2012	in
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File No.		
Tracking Folder No.		

28 August 2012

Hon Campbell Newman MP
 Premier of Queensland
 PO Box 15185
 City East Queensland 4002

Dear Premier

URANIUM MINING IN QUEENSLAND

I write to seek your support to develop a uranium mining industry in Queensland.

Queensland has some of the most readily available uranium reserves in world, worth an estimated \$20 billion. At a time when Queensland's budget is severely strained and Western Australia and New South Wales are removing regulations prohibiting uranium mining and exploration, it would be prudent to reconsider dated government policy on uranium mining.

I acknowledge your recent comments in the Queensland Parliament that you had written to the Prime Minister to seek her views on uranium mining. I thank you for these comments which indicate your government is open to looking at a new approach to uranium mining in Queensland.

I would like to invite you to visit the Mount Isa electorate (at a time suitable) so you can meet with those already investing in uranium exploration. Such a visit would also provide an opportunity to visit other projects in the electorate which could significantly build Queensland's economy.

I have also extended the same invitation to the Prime Minister, Federal Minister for Resources and Energy, and the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Rob Katter MP
 Member for Mount Isa

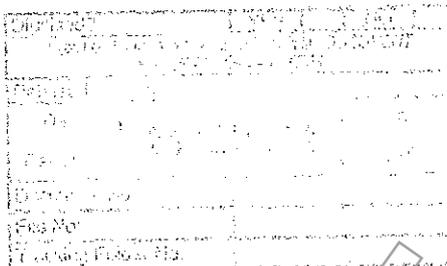




**AUSTRALIAN
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION**

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Hon. Campbell Newman
Premier of Queensland
Po Box 15185
City East Qld 4002

24 September 2012

Dear Premier Newman,

ACF notes with deep concern recent media reports that your government is considering requests from the Queensland Resources Council and the Australian Uranium Association to allow uranium mining to commence in Queensland.

Uranium is a mineral unlike any other and its mining, processing, export and use pose unique and long lasting risks to people and the environment, both here and overseas.

In October 2011 it was confirmed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade that uranium sourced from Australia was actually inside the Fukushima reactor complex when it melted down.

Rocks from Kakadu and northern South Australia are the source of the radioactive fallout which continues to spread across Japan and beyond causing massive and adverse human, environmental and economic impacts.

The Australian uranium industry has also been heavily impacted by the market fallout from Fukushima. Development plans at Yeelirrie and Kintyre, the two largest deposits in Western Australia have been shelved; the Kakadu uranium miner Energy Resources of Australia has lost over \$180 million and, most significantly, BHP Billiton the world's largest miner has walked away from its long held plan for a massive expansion of the Olympic Dam mine in South Australia.

In earlier correspondence with ACF (February 24, 2012) you have acknowledged that 'Uranium mining is an issue which deeply concerns many Queenslanders' and your government was elected with a 'crystal clear' commitment of having 'no plans to approve the development of uranium in Queensland'.



The LNP went to the polls with a promise that the 'parliamentary team are very, very clear that we have no plans to develop any sort of uranium mines in Queensland'.

In the shadow of Fukushima there is no compelling reason to change this clear and public commitment: this is no time to give a green light to yellowcake.

Uranium mining is a controversial and contaminating industrial activity that poses serious, continuing and unresolved problems and fails to meet key environmental sustainability criteria. It produces some of the most hazardous and long lived industrial wastes – the management of which remains an unresolved issue, despite six decades of research, funding and promises – and is the primary fuel for deadly weapons of indiscriminate destruction.

The uranium mining industry in Australia has a record of failed standards, radioactive leaks and spills, unresolved long-lived radioactive waste problems, disproportionate impacts on traditional owners and health and safety risks for workers – including incidents of uranium in the drinking water at two of the operating uranium mines.

A 2003 Senate Inquiry (*Regulating the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium mines*, Senate ECITA References Committee, October 2003) into uranium mining found an industry characterised by operational underperformance and regulatory non-compliance. It further found an absence of reliable data on which to measure the extent of contamination or uranium mining's impact on the environment.

Domestic and international radiation protection, regulatory and nuclear safeguard regimes remain under-resourced and under-performing. The 2003 Senate Inquiry found "a pattern of underperformance and non-compliance" and concluded "that changes were necessary in order to protect the environment and its inhabitants from serious or irreversible damage."

Please see the attached comments that ACF submitted last year to the LNP's Resources and Energy Strategy process that details our concerns with the operations of the uranium sector and feel free to contact our nuclear free campaigner Dave Sweeney on d.sweeney@acfonline.org.au or 0408 317 812 for any further context or clarification on these long and deeply held concerns.

Together with the wider Queensland conservation movement ACF maintains that your government should adopt the position articulated in the joint groups election position statement (Dec 2011) and:
Maintain the Nuclear Facilities Prohibition Act 2007 that bans nuclear power and waste dumping and introduce a legislative ban on uranium mining and exploration in Queensland.

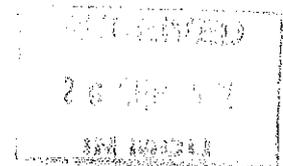
ACF urges you to act to retain both community confidence in commitments made by political leaders and the long term integrity and protection of Queensland's unique environment and to not allow or accept the current push for uranium mining in Queensland.

Yours sincerely,



Don Henry
Chief Executive Officer

cc Minister for Environment, Hon Andrew Powell
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Hon Andrew Cripps



Digitised?	YES	NO
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PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

Reference: C12/40974

22 JUL 2012

The Hon Campbell Newman MP
Premier of Queensland
PO Box 15185
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear ~~Premier~~ ^{Campbell}

Thank you for your letter of 14 June 2012 regarding the Australian Government's position on uranium development in Queensland.

The Australian Government supports the development of the Australian uranium mining industry, subject to world's best practice environmental conditions and safety standards.

We recognise the specific decision to develop a uranium mining industry in Queensland is one for the Queensland Government.

I have copied this letter to the Minister for Resources and Energy and the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities for their information.

Yours sincerely

Julia Gillard



Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: PPU / PL / 20120614

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14 June 2012

The Honourable Julia Gillard MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister *Julia*,

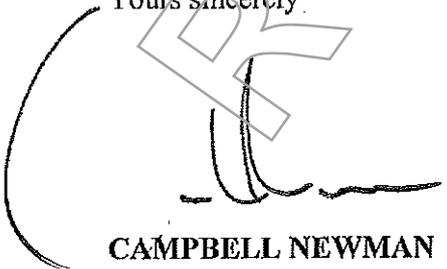
I refer to comments made by Federal Resources Minister, The Honourable Martin Ferguson MP in a speech to the AusIMM International Uranium Conference on 13 June 2012.

In his speech, the Minister stated that my Government should act to allow uranium mining in Queensland. Specifically, he said, "*The Australian government urges Queensland to take the next step and to also remove its ban on uranium mining, given that it already permits exploration....*"

I am writing to ask you to confirm that Minister Ferguson's statement accurately reflects the Federal Government's official position on uranium development in Queensland, and that you want to pursue uranium mining projects in, and exports from, our State.

Your views on this matter would be appreciated and will guide our future policy stance.

Yours sincerely



CAMPBELL NEWMAN