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To the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee.

Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018.

Dear Social Policy Scrutiny Committee.

I am writing this submission as a concerned Territorian, in regards to the Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018.

With limited time to read and respond; Please consider this submission and its content.

The amendments of this Act were requested by the oil & gas industries, as a priority for onshore and offshore gas; as stated at the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee 10/9/18, by Michael Tennant, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation CEO.

The Fracking Inquiry Panel Recommendations were implemented to minimise the risks and to ensure the safety of the waterways, Aquifers and land.

After submitting, attending and following the Fracking Inquiry Panel and the 135 Recommendations to mitigate the risks, it is noted that the recommendations are not all implemented in the latest changes in the Acts.

Part 1 section 2 of the Act: All radioactive material, waste produced from exploration, producing, recovery operations or maintenance of a pipeline in the Territory; produced or transported from petroleum or other energy producing products; should All be classified as 'nuclear waste' and *should not be exempt*.

Part 4 section 15 (2) Penalty Units. The Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Act needs increased Penalty Units to be applied for Offences.

Higher penalties are to deter companies offending and to ensure the Industries use proper care and management and to prevent illegal drilling or re-injecting waste pollution/contamination anywhere on the site and into waterways and Aquifers.

This should include the use of proper care and management while transporting waste.

Other States in Australia have higher penalty units.

As is; 500 penalty units is only \$77,000. The penalty units should be at least \$1,000,000.

Application to Mining & Petroleum Activity

Should specify Fracking and including UCG-Unconventional Coal Gasification = igniting coal underground to release gas.

Millions of litres of toxic waste water/chemicals used by these industries, needs to be stored, transported and disposed of correctly. Waste water should not be left on the mining site as it could cause pollution/contamination within the site.

Waste water that remains on the mining licence site could pollute/contaminate Pastoral water bores and cultural water sites. Sites cover many kilometres of land.

Polluted/contaminated waste water should not interfere with any waterways, Aquifers, water bores, pastoral or other, while in the course of carrying out mining or petroleum activities, on or off the site.

Waste water should not be stored in dams or re-injected into the ground, nor in any waterways, but should be put in an enclosed container for transportation to a treatment plant; while in the course of carrying out mining or petroleum activities.
Should add the words 'Contaminated' waste.

Should also include the words 'prevent pollution or **contamination of the water quality** in the bore' and including Disposing waste directly or indirectly into ground water while carrying out mining & petroleum activities.

Legality to manage/stop risks that threatens human rights, natural sustainability and biodiversity, should also be implemented in this Act.

Clean, quality, uncontaminated Water is necessary for the survival of people, food sources and land.

Waterways should not to be put at risk by pollution or contamination by the mining, petroleum, Fracking industries. There are no social or economic benefits to the Territory.

The pollution/contamination that will impact NT Waterways & Aquifers, the waters quality, quantity and sustainability, will be a catastrophe and impossible to fix.

It is detrimental the Bill ensures that the purpose of the Act is to 'protect the safety, health and wellbeing of Territorians, the water and the land.

regards,

Heidi Jennings