ACMMR

ASSOCIATION OF CONCERNED MID-MOUNTAINS RESIDENTS
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30th July, 2003

The Committee Manager
Joint Select Committee on the Transport and Storage of Nuclear Waste
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

To whom it may concern,

The Association of Concerned Mid-Mountains Residents wishes to register its opposition to the transport of nuclear waste through the Blue Mountains, or anywhere else in Australia.   The Blue Mountains is World Heritage listed and has a delicate ecology.   Its main thoroughfare, the Great Western Highway, will always remain a suburban road, as it passes through residential areas and shopping precincts.   It does not have a great record on vehicle accidents.   Therefore the association regards any proposed passage of nuclear material along this road to be foolish and dangerous.   To make matters worse, the Blue Mountains community is not equipped to deal with any major accidents involving nuclear waste.

Elsewhere Australia has a rich agricultural countryside and an important ancient history.   The dumping of nuclear waste out of sight out of mind on or near Aboriginal land is contemptuous and short-sighted.   The danger of contamination of the water table, no matter what precautions are taken, always remains a possibility.   This has already occurred in the United States.   Outback Australia is just as important as anywhere else in Australia – it must remain natural and unspoiled for current and future generations. Above ground storage on site is the best practice and if nuclear is to be stored at all, this is how it should be done.

The association also opposes the building of any more nuclear reactors, at Lucas Heights or anywhere else. Not only is it specifically unnecessary, but generally human beings have a record of irresponsibility dealing with such dangerous materials.

Please consider the rights of all communities in Australia to be nuclear-free.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Julius Timmerman
Secretary, on behalf of the committee