A SNAIL-MAIL "cut + paste" — URGEN

TO:

The Committee Manager
Joint Select Committee on the Transportation and Storage of Nuclear Waste
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Committee Manager,

I/We are writing on behalf of Blue Mountains Nuclear Free Zone Group

Our group is made up of a broad range of concerned mountain residents who have grave concerns about nuclear waste being transported through our community and the potential for the storage of waste in New South Wales.

Some of the reasons for my concerns are set out as follows:

covering safety, health and social impacts and peoples rights to be fully informed of the issues:

1. The highway through the mountains has a long record of trucks overturning which increases the risk of contamination to people and water systems for many years

2. Moving nuclear waste from one location to another doesn't solve the problem ? it merely passes the problem to another community 'out of sight, out of mind'

3. There's no adequate disaster plan. The New South Wales Fire Brigades Employees Union is opposed to the transportation

4. Do we want nuclear waste going through a World Heritage area with its potential to endanger habitats permanently and effect mountains ecotourism?

5. There's no obligation to inform local authorities about the transportation, so how can local emergency services be prepared?

6. Aboriginal communities are opposed in particular about the waste being dumped on their lands and the potential for stored waste to leak and affect underground water which is vital to the survival of everything and everyone

7. Aboriginal people have suffered enough from nuclear testing in the 1950's

8. Above ground storage on site is worlds best practice

9. Why is a new nuclear reactor being proposed at Lucas Heights when there's a world glut of medical isotopes produced in Canada? Is the purpose of this new reactor to eventually build nuclear weapons?

Thankyou for reading and attending to this urgent submission!   yours sincerely

27/7/03