

**Submission
No 21**

INQUIRY INTO URANIUM MINING AND NUCLEAR FACILITIES (PROHIBITIONS) REPEAL BILL 2019

Name: Mr Logan Smith
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Logan Smith

**Submission to the Inquiry into the Uranium Mining and Nuclear Facilities (Prohibitions)
Repeal Bill 2019**

Dear The Honourable Taylor Martin MLC and the Committee,

My name is Logan Smith, I hold an RMIT Bachelor of Civil and Infrastructure Engineering and a UNSW Masters in Engineering Science – Nuclear. I am currently working in the construction industry but I represent myself, and my podcast in this submission. The NSW state enquiry into lifting the prohibitions on nuclear technology in the state are very welcome.

Having briefly read the NSW prohibitions, it appears to mirror the federal legislation with the inclusion of a ban on mining for uranium, and that any allowable nuclear facility only be constructed and managed by the AAEC (Now ANSTO).

Australia has been mining uranium since 1954. In 1977 the Ranger Uranium Environmental Enquiry reported that the hazards associated with uranium mining, if properly regulated, are not sufficient to warrant outlawing the practice. It is astonishing that over 40 years later, we still have prohibitive legislation at the state level to this effect.

Australia has a long history of mining, one that is stained with many offences. This is not specific to uranium, but for all mined commodities. The nation has learned from these past mistakes, and will continue to learn. The prohibition against uranium is no longer warranted in 2019 and should be repealed.

Furthermore, restricting building and operating 'Nuclear Facilities' solely to ANSTO does not fit with a free society. Private enterprise should be allowed to develop this technology (Within the bounds of government regulation). Additionally, many universities abroad own and operate research reactors, our universities should be afforded the same opportunities.

We no longer live in the cold war and humanity has only scratched the surface of what nuclear technology can offer. Shackling ourselves to outdated legislation does not serve Australia's interests.

I'm leaving this submission short as these points reflect what I believe the NSW inquiry offers beyond those presented by the federal inquiry. If the NSW inquiry would like more of my input on other aspects of nuclear technology, please review my submission to the federal inquiry.

I thank you for the opportunity to be heard in this inquiry, and am eager to read the final report. I can be contacted via the above channels regarding this submission, should the inquiry desire it.

Regards,

Logan Smith

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Host of Going Fission Podcast