

2.1 The sole reason that Uranium Mining occurs in Australia, is that it has been forced on this country by vested interests, taking these important decisions out of the hands of the people. It is easy for places like Roxby Downs (Olympic Dam) to hide behind its walls of secrecy and security....make no mistake, it is not by the will of the Australian people that this mine exists, but, by actions of stealth and corruption of Corporate Entities and Complicit Government Representatives. American funds forged the means to establish this 'Joint Venture', with the Head Representative of Getty Oil and the American Defence Chief being present in the ALP Conference in 1983, presumably to witness the decision to allow Roxby to proceed. Too often, we have seen in this country, where the desires of Corporations have led the way in developing Projects that are suitable to their needs, and, where this country and its resources are the target of both National and International manipulations, for them to achieve their aims. Decisions are often based on not what is best for Australia (the land and its people), but, how another Business Venture can make a profit for themselves and to push the agenda that they are following. The Australian People have maintained the decisions to refuse to allow activities of Conversion, Enrichment, Fabrication, or Reprocessing to occur or be possible in South Australia (S.A.), just as Uranium Mining was never wanted or needed. Politicians who have bowed to the will of Financial Giants think that these measures can solve our own financial issues. In truth they are only digging us deeper into Ecological and hence, Financial Ruin.

2.2 Costs to the Government, to the Environment and to the People of S.A. make it unfeasible to consider these options. With stringent measures of cost-cutting occurring right across the country, how can this Royal Commission justify countenancing these proposals? Who is pushing this thrust towards endorsing the Nuclear Industry?

2.3 The ban on processing Radioactive Materials must remain intact. The costs are too high and the risks too great. Historically, the rhetoric which surrounds safe-guards and protection of the environment are paper promises, but, meaningless in reality. The first shipment of Copper Concentrate (containing radioactive substances) from Roxby Downs to the Ports in Adelaide, was witnessed to be leaking. This was ignored.

When the Tailings Dams at Roxby Downs (Olympic Dam) were known to be leaking, the EPA decided that this issue was irrelevant as the leakage would flow back into the Mine. The EPA ignored the fact that this highly contaminated water would then be dispersed into the North/East Flow, eventually entering the underground drainage system of Lake Torrens. When tested, these regulatory arrangements consistently prove to be worthless. Over the years how many Regulatory Agreements have been breached with negligible response? How can we know when all the relevant information is shrouded in secrecy?

2.4 This is all speculation. The only existing facilities are Mine Sites, so, what is the true agenda for establishing this Royal Commission? Planning for an industry that is not wanted or needed in Australia, and then asking for comment on those plans, seems like a back-door way of misrepresenting the will of the Australian people to suggest that there is now support for the Nuclear Industry and that the laws should be changed. This is not the case! Australia has suffered the direct consequences of Nuclear Weapons Testing and the Mining and Milling of Uranium. In every State where this has occurred, long-term land degradation, contamination of air and water and social disintegration are the legacy of the Corporate/State partnerships that have allowed these actions to be taken. There have to be other means towards resolving the provisional issues that are not doubt constant challenges. It is our responsibility to ensure a clean and unfettered future for the people of S.A. and the Nation.

2.5 It is not viable for S.A. to become more heavily involved in the Nuclear Industry, as there is no reason to support the notion that our already limited involvement is without inherent problems. We

have no solutions for the disposal of the waste that already exists in Australia, and, there has been continued resistance in every State for the establishment of a National Repository. This is a clear message to all Governments that the Australian people do not want a Nuclear Industry in this country.

2.6 All Nuclear Facilities create Radioactive Waste. There is no 'best practice' in industries where the production of by-products that are hazardous and require isolation is an inherent aspect of the development. All production sites of the Nuclear Industry become 'Sacrifice Zones'.

2.7 The Community has said "No" to developing Nuclear Facilities in Australia. To ignore this fact is to take away the rights of the Australian People to be able to live in a land free of contamination. We already have suffered the hidden and unquantified consequences of Nuclear Weapons Testing and the Mining and Milling of Uranium. We have also learnt from the Testimonies of people who lived in the Far North of S.A. during these periods...the "Grey Cloud" or "Mist" to which they refer and how they say that "the old people at Marla died some months later"of how "the babies were taken out to the bush and buried". These are the stories that we here from the Old People's Voices.

2.8 Come clean with the information we already have. Reveal all data to the Public, so that truthful evaluations can be made. The rise in incidences of Cancer over the decades needs to be assessed, not in isolation but with recognition of the exposure to Radioactive Materials that has occurred in S.A.. There can be no real Health Safeguards developed while the issues are never openly or truthfully assessed and are relegated to the rhetoric of biased Environmental Impact Statements. Unlike Asbestos, that can be readily linked with a particular disease, contamination from a Radioactive Source and the link to the resultant illness is much more difficult to establish. Malignancies may occur in various forms, in various parts of the body and over a variable time frame. No doubt other factors are linked with the development of these diseases, yet a truly reflective Health Analysis for the people of S.A. suffering such illnesses, must include testing for the detection of Radioactive Contamination. From the Spencer Gulf, the Maralinga Lands, Roxby Downs, Beverley, Lake Frome, Nepabunna and Honeymoon plus all their respective Environs....this is the tip of the iceberg. All these areas have been directly exposed to possible contamination of the land, the air and the water and it stands to reason that along any of these pathways Human Contamination with Radioactive particles may have occurred. A costly exercise? The Nuclear Fuel Industry is a costly enterprise. Since the unfolding of the events of Fukushima, we as a nation must recognize that the potential for contamination of our Marine-life is extremely high. Acknowledgement, investigation and monitoring of this threat is imperative. The Nuclear Industry must be accountable, and, any growth of this sector will necessarily exacerbate an already out-of-control situation.

2.9 Evidence collected over the past 32 years attests to the overall depletion of the Mound Springs in the vicinity of the Roxby Downs (Olympic Dam) Borefield. The decrease of water flow from these Springs reflects a decrease in pressure from the Great Artesian Basin (GAB), directly as a result of the loss of volume. Some Springs closest to the Borefield have almost ceased to flow, with the resultant loss of biodiversity which is important to the ecological sustainability of this unique region. Loss of volume has significance for the G.A.B. in total and all those regions that overlie or depend on G.A.B. water. Roxby Downs (Olympic Dam) is situated on a significant Fault System, that is being further destabilised by the activities of Mining and Milling of this ore-body. The Environmental Impacts that have occurred since the early 1980's have never been fully evaluated. To the North the de-pressurising of the G.A.B. has also directly impacted on the stability of the ground overlying the aquifer and the stability of Fault Systems that are a major feature of this landscape. To entertain any ideas of further impacting on these systems is dangerous and unjustifiable. The ecology of the Beverley Mine is equally under threat with the toxic and radioactive contamination occurring in the underground waters, which have direct flow into the surrounding country through Springs and

Bores to neighbouring communities. There is no question of adding any additional Nuclear Fuel Cycle burden on either of these existing sites.

2.10 This is a very broad question with little relevance to S.A., as most of the further processing described in this paper has never occurred in S.A.. There is no room for error with Nuclear Materials, so, the lesson to be learned is to LEAVE IT IN THE GROUND!

2.11 The inland areas of Australia have remained accessible to people, that is up until the last 30 years or so, when many of the traditional rights of passage through the country were changed. For Indigenous People this has altered the way in which they have been allowed to interact with the lands in which their heritage lies. For Non-Indigenous Australians, the inland regions remained still as Common Land, leased by the Pastoralists, but still accessible to the general population. This is no longer the case. While access can still be granted by the Landholder, it also can be denied. Now we see vast areas of S.A. in the hands of Corporate Entities whose leased lands are now bereft of people or community or any natural enterprise, since they have taken over country simply to control and secure their own interests. There is loss of freedom, loss of a sense of natural life in areas that have been overtaken by the Nuclear Industry. By their very nature these facilities require detachment from the natural world, to be under lock and key, and, to remain secured from all that might prevail for unimaginable periods of time. Gradually our country is becoming more segmented and privatised by various growing Corporate Interests, including Mining, that see vast areas taken away from Natural Human Contact. For a country that was once inhabited up-hill and down-dale from one Coast to another, the great inland areas are becoming devoid of people and community. We don't want dangerous, dirty facilities that are controlled by unscrupulous entities who pursue dangerous ideas. By creating a future for S.A. where the land-based activities are focused on productivity that is complementary to the country, is a far more sound basis on which to rely.

2.12 In a largely de-stabilizing world, climatically, socially and politically, there are no guarantees.

2.13 It is not about financial modelling or future projections when there is no authority to be proceeding with this venture at all. What is the financial cost of hosting this Royal Commission to an already encumbered State?

2.14 S.A. will continue to thrive in a Clean Environment free of the heaviness of the Nuclear Industry. It is a constant challenge in the driest state on the driest continent, but, the means are there if we have the will to find real solutions....not continuing to prop up a dirty and disastrous industry. Close Roxby Downs (Olympic Dam), Beverley and Honeymoon. Give the land back to the people who will work together for the future safety and well-being of the people of S.A..

4.1 No. The underground Geological Feature known as the Arcoona Quartsite Aquifer that overlies the Olympic Dam Project, precludes that mine-site from being suitable for the Underground Storage of Nuclear Waste of any level. Historically, the waters from that Perched Aquifer have seeped through the walls and ceiling of the underground drives at Olympic Dam, necessitating continuous pumping to the surface of this contaminated water. Any significant rain event proportionally re-charges this Aquifer, and, any major rain event completely re-charges the Aquifer. Any thought of back-filling the drives under Olympic Dam with Radioactive Waste, is lacking in a deeper understanding of the water movement in the area. This is typical Geology for much of South Australia (S.A.), given that most towns above the Goyder Line are reliant on Bores for their supply of water. Fractures and Faults that are present across these regions are also prohibitive factors for any Storage of Nuclear Waste. These are well-documented objections, brought to the Government by the People in very recent history, and, that caused a halt to any prospect of building such a facility in S.A.

4.2 There are no plans to build a Radioactive Waste Facility in S.A., nor is there any authority which would enable it to do so.

4.3 The Australian People have completely rejected any notion of providing Waste Disposal or Storage of Nuclear Materials for any other country. We are unable to solve our own Waste issues, let alone providing solutions for other irresponsible countries. Should any Trade Agreements ever include accepting such Waste, it will be in complete defiance of the Australian People and any claims of being a Democratic Country will seem to be a lie. Governments are the Representatives of the people and not an authority unto themselves. The fact that these questions are even being asked is a grave indictment on the S.A. Government and the Commonwealth, who presumably are the entities who have authorised this Royal Commission.

4.4 There are no benefits for the people of S.A., just more "Sacrifice Zones".

4.5 "Best Practice" is an inappropriate phrase when applied to the establishment of a Nuclear Waste Facility. There is a clear confusion in the minds of people who think that they will be able to personally vouch for the safety and security of tonnes of toxic radioactive waste long into the next millennium. The contamination that we see today as a result of the Nuclear Industry would be broadened to the depths of the deepest aquifers, permeated throughout the landscape and escaping to the sea. The world will know S.A. by its deadly trade, its wines will not exist.

4.6 Security of facilities that have to house Radioactive Wastes for hundreds of years and longer is untenable.

4.7 How do you possibly think that the Community will ever agree to this impossible notion. The fact is that the Nuclear Industry has dug itself into this hole and there's only one way to get out of it...shut it down!

4.8 No measures will be taken in design and siting that can safeguard against breakdown of containment of Radioactive Wastes over such a long period of Earth's history. To say that you can guarantee the protection of Human Health across the eons is a lie.

4.9 To claim that there will be no adverse consequences for the environment is also a lie. This is what you are claiming when you say that you can contain these wastes in a safe and secure manner, indefinitely.

4.10 The risks of Transporting Radioactive Wastes across the country and across the world are insurmountable in a world that can't even properly manage regular toxic waste.

4.11 There is no amount of money that can recompense the loss of our country and our heritage. It is ludicrous to be talking about aspects of the Nuclear Industry like we would discuss just another business model. This is the future of our country that is being reduced to a ridiculous level of insignificance with the ways you address these issues.

4.12 Of course other aspects of the economy will be compromised by any such proposals. The intrinsic value of S.A. being a clean and free land will be gone and in its place a dead end. "IRANTI WANTI"!