

To: Manager, Environmental Impact Assessment Branch, Planning SA.
136 North Tce, Adelaide SA, 5000

Name _____

Address (inc. state & p/code) _____

As a West Australian, I have recently become aware of my state government's intention to allow uranium mining in my state. I have also been shocked to learn of the ease with which uranium mining has been allowed to expand in my neighbouring state of South Australia. I wish to register my opposition to this proposal.

Public submission on the proposed development of the Honeymoon uranium deposit

I strongly oppose all uranium mining as it is the beginning of the nuclear fuel cycle, and so is responsible for

- Radioactive waste, which may cost millions of lives in future generations
- Nuclear accidents, which spread cancer to millions
- Nuclear weapons, which are capable of ending life on earth

Direct impacts of the proposal

Acid in-situ leach mining (ISL) process creates long-lived radioactive wastes and the serious risk of unpredictable leakage of radioactive acid solution. There is no safe storage for these wastes, whether they are injected into the groundwater, dumped into trenches or disposed of in deep burial.

Downstream impacts of the proposal

● The consequent enrichment of the mined uranium for use in nuclear reactors involves the creation of enormous quantities of Depleted Uranium (DU) waste which is deadly for millions of years. It has been used in recent wars in Iraq and the Balkans and will cause deaths through contamination for many generations to come.

● **Use of Australian uranium in nuclear reactors.**

Nuclear reactors, which have been clearly shown to be accident-prone, produce highly radioactive wastes for which there are no safe disposal methods as US, UK, German and other governments are currently finding out. (It is for this reason, Pangea would like to organise the dumping of such wastes in Australia – on the other side of the world from the powerful nuclear nations.)

● **Use of the plutonium derived from our uranium, for nuclear weapons.** Despite our Safeguards agreement Australian uranium is being used for the production of nuclear weapons. Most of Australian uranium is sold to the US, UK, France - all are nuclear weapons countries.

The proposal also violates principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) which Australia is committed to by treaty (ANZECC) with New Zealand. These principles are

a) Precautionary Principle: If there is a risk that an action may cause damage, even though this risk has not been fully proved, this action should be avoided if possible.

c) Intergenerational Equity: The Honeymoon proposal means profits for a few years but possible death and disease for millions of years. This is obviously grossly unfair on future generations.

I therefore request that our state and federal governments act quickly to outlaw uranium mining forever.

As well as helping to prevent all the problems outlined above, this action will help hundreds of thousands of young Australians who reveal, in survey after survey, their despair and cynicism about the world their elders are handing to them.
