



## **Media Release**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

### **Secrecy on Wiluna uranium expansion under fire**

Local Aboriginal elder Mr Glen Cooke has travelled from Wiluna to attend Toro Energy's annual meeting today to highlight community concern over Toro's plans for uranium mining in the region.

Mr Cooke and another proxy shareholder, Kylie Fitzwater, have come to Perth to raise concerns about Toro's long term plans and the company's failure to communicate these to Wiluna residents.

"Toro have been talking about one project on the Lake and now we hear that they are planning lots of uranium mines from Meekatharra all the way to Lake Maitland."

"They never talked to us about that," said Mr Cooke.

"Me and my family we never wanted one uranium mine, we sure don't want seven of them scattered through that country."

"Does this mean they will put uranium on trucks from all over and bring it to Wiluna and if so what will they do with the radioactive mine waste, and where will they get the water?"

"It's just too dangerous. This is people's homes, not just in town but we live all over and love all of that country. That place is a very special place – for all men North to South, East to West. It's too important to muck it up, once it's broken it is broken forever, we could never get that back."

"We don't need this uranium; people in Japan don't want it – not after Fukushima. Toro need to leave it in the ground where it belongs." Mr Cooke concluded.

Kylie Fitzwater, who has family connections to Wiluna, said "we were already worried about 9.1 million tonnes of radioactive mine waste being stored on the Lake bed – now this could be doubled. We've been worried about where they're going to get the water from – 3.1million litres a day - is that going to double too? This proposal is going from bad to worse and we're all being kept in the dark about it."

"We are calling on the State and Federal Government to stop any further approvals or development of the Wiluna uranium mine until the full project can be assessed and made public."

"The EPA has a responsibility to ensure that these uranium deposits are not developed in an ad hoc way but carefully considered based on the risk and impact to the environment. This cannot be done by chopping up a massive project into little bits."