



## **Media Release**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

### **Opposition to Remote Radioactive Waste Dump in WA**

The West Australia Nuclear Free Alliance welcomes the outcome of the Federal Court case to stop a proposed Radioactive Waste Dump at Muckaty Station in the NT. We congratulate the Muckaty Traditional Owners who stood up for their country. The outcome shows that targetting remote Aboriginal communities to store radioactive waste is a flawed process.

WANFA Co-founder and Koara elder, Richard Evans said "Financial incentives to store waste makes the issue political rather than scientific, the money is not worth the risk and is exploiting disadvantaged communities. We are looking after our lands for generations yet to come."

"The West Australia Nuclear Free Alliance supports calls for a science based process to find a real solution to radioactive waste. Dumping waste out of site and out of mind does not stack up. WANFA has been outspoken against uranium mining, we don't want uranium mines or waste dumps. We will support any communities targetted for a radioactive waste dump as we do for communities opposing uranium mines."

Mr Glen Cooke, Ngaanyatjarra elder said "We shouldn't be digging up uranium in the first place and we do not want a radioactive waste dump on our Ngurra – our home."

"Recent calls to store waste in our country do not have the support of Nganyatjarra communities or the land councils, these kind of statements should not be taken seriously. It is very upsetting that some people would make statements about dumping radioactive waste in our country at all, but it is really upsetting that they would talk to the media before talking to the community."

"We will fight against any plans to store radioactive waste in our community and we will support other communities in WA if they are targetted. It is not right that our communities and our homelands be considered, where the people in the cities will forget about it like they forget about us," concluded Mr Cooke.