

## **Uranium Mining companies in a race to nowhere**

Despite all the hype about getting a uranium mine operating in Western Australia, the Anti-Nuclear Alliance of W.A. believes that it's all talk, and a lot of investors' money being frittered away on an unwinnable contest, according to spokesperson, Jo Vallentine.

Toro Energy is hoping to get Lake Way developed, Mega uranium is betting on getting the Lake Maitland deposit up and running, BHP Billiton is talking up the prospects of proceeding with their Yeelirri deposit .... Without either regulatory or transport, or water usage frameworks in place," Jo Vallentine said. All these companies need to take a reality check.

"While the Barnett government is keen to promote any kind of mining at any cost, so many questions remain unanswered about the highly controversial mining of uranium, which everyone knows is in a different category from any other mining, because of the radioactivity involved, and potentially released, at all stages of the process.

"However, fundamental questions regarding water resources (uranium mining is a water guzzling operation ... Roxby Downs consumes 35 million litres per day!): in dry areas surrounding Wiluna, Meekatharra and Leinster, where is that amount of clean water going to come from?

"And where and how would the yellowcake be transported, to which railheads and ports to be shipped away? Kalgoorlie? Not a popular idea there, with the local mayor already having said he was not impressed with the idea. Geraldton? Is that what the nearby proposed Oakajee port is all about? A discreet railway, just for getting the yellowcake out of the state?

"And with Presidents Obama and Medvedev committing to massive reductions in the nuclear weapons count, a great deal of processed nuclear weapons grade material will be flooding the international market soon, thus lowering the price for yellowcake.

"Investors would be better served by putting their money into a certainly for the future – the renewable energy sector, rather than gambling their money on a loser," Jo Vallentine concluded.

**For more information or media enquiries please call**

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