

Coalition for a Nuclear Free Australia



The Honourable Steve Bracks
Parliament House
MELBOURNE 3000

I write in response to your comments that you would welcome nuclear warships to Melbourne

I am strongly opposed to the docking of nuclear powered warships whether they be from the US, France or anywhere else. Many large cities such as New York have banned their own nation's nuclear ships from their ports for health and safety reasons. I am dismayed by the prospect that ships that have been deemed too dangerous by communities in their own countries may soon be arriving in Melbourne.

Nuclear powered or armed ships pose a significant risk to the health and safety of all Victorians. A nuclear meltdown could have catastrophic effect on the Victorian population. Even a relatively 'minor' leak of contaminated water would have serious implications for Victoria's people, environment and industries.

The incidences of accidents and near misses involving nuclear powered and/or armed warships are legion. Just this year the British Submarine HMS Tireless came within minutes of a meltdown while on a peacetime exercise in the Mediterranean Sea, which would have rivalled Chernobyl.

For many years I have been glad to live in a state where these dangerous weapons of mass destruction were not welcome by the community. With the recent election of your Labor Government and its stated policy of being committed to a Nuclear Free Victoria, I believed this was one environmental/health issue which would not need to be addressed for at least the next few years.

Many Victorians voted ALP at the last election because of your party's stated environment policy. I am certain that many feel as betrayed as I by this complete about face on so important an issue.

I urge you to reconsider your welcome of nuclear warships to our port, and in so doing show a genuine new style of leadership, one that stands by the policies and promises made to its constituency.

Yours Sincerely,

_____ Signature

_____ Date

_____ Street

_____ Suburb

_____ State and postcode