

## **Trust in an independent and expert Environmental Impact Statement within the process or a newly invented government led committee?**

**18 June 2008**

***Why isn't the government using the statutory processes available to call for a detailed investigation of all the environmental impacts? Calling for an Environmental Impact Statement is already available within the planning process - the same process this government has asked us all to abide by and trust in.***

***Why does this government need to suddenly create a non-statutory health committee to look at health impacts?***

Canberrans for power station relocation Inc. (CPR) see the government's offer to set up a committee (with no particular powers) as only a small step towards the government finally acknowledging CPR's valid reasons for requesting a full independent and expert Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

CPR's message is simple and clear – there are damaging health and harmful environmental impacts attached to this site – move the power station to a safe place so residents may enjoy the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and a diversified economy.

The community's call for an independent and expert EIS especially in light of ACTEWAGL's previous questionable standard of reporting and lack of community consultation should be measured against a range of principles, including dialogue with those affected.

So far the Consortium has not been able to show what the positive community and environmental benefits will be. There is no explanation (other than unqualified motherhood statements) of where and how any benefits will flow to anyone but themselves – thus far it appears all the negative costs flow to the community.

CPR asks for a full independent Environmental Impact Statement under the very process the consortium has worked hard to remain in - the Land (Planning and Environment ) Act 1991 in which we will have the opportunity to participate in the instruction and detail of addressing those concerns.

We remind ACTEW that it appears to us to be in dereliction of its duties under the [Territory Owned Corporations Act](#) specifically part 2 section 7 which also calls for an EIS alongside any development ACTEW is involved in, of this scale and with this potential negative environmental impact.

**Release ends**