



Environment Centre
Northern Territory Inc.



Media Release

29/11/00

Australia's international wrecking continues

Key national environment groups have today condemned the Australian Governments tactics at the World Heritage Committee meeting in Cairns, describing them as bullying and international vandalism.

“Fresh from derailing the climate change negotiations in the Netherlands the Australian Government has come to Cairns intent on undermining the World Heritage Convention and the powers of the World Heritage Committee” said Alec Marr of the Wilderness Society.

“Australian Government actions have seen intense political lobbying around key Committee concerns, including the impacts of the Jabiluka uranium mine in Kakadu. Decisions at this meeting have been delivered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and reflect the Australian Government's increasing contempt for, and misunderstanding of, international treaties and cooperation” said Don Henry of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

“We are extremely concerned that the World Heritage Committee has failed to send a clear message that mining is incompatible with World Heritage protection” said Mark Wakeham of the Environment Centre of the Northern Territory.

Gavin Mudd of Friends of the Earth Australia concluded “Environment groups have today recommitted to a strong public campaign aimed at halting the development of Jabiluka and protecting the unique values of Kakadu.”

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