

# Peace Walkers Against AUKUS

WOLLONGONG TO CANBERRA  
MARCH-APRIL 2024



Eurobodalla Council  
PO Box 99  
Moruya NSW 2537  
council@esc.nsw.gov.au

8 April 2024

Dear Eurobodalla Council,

Over March-April, Peace Walkers Against AUKUS, are walking in honour of the late Uncle Kevin Buzzacott, as part of the first anti-AUKUS protest march and one of the first anti-nuclear walks on the east coast of Australia.

We are walking from Port Kembla (one of the possible locations for the AUKUS deal's nuclear submarine base) to Canberra, to voice our opposition to this dangerous military alliance. We are visiting communities along the NSW South Coast, to speak to people about the impacts of uranium, nuclear weapons and how to promote peace.

We are extremely concerned about future proposals for nuclear submarines in South East Australia, including the impacts for the local naval base. We started our walk at the Australian Nuclear Free Alliance national conference in Wollongong, and have walked through the Illawarra/Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama and Shoalhaven Council areas over the past two weeks. All of these local councils have signed up to the ICAN Cities Appeal – a global call from cities and towns in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Eurobodalla Council is the first area of the walk where this Cities Appeal has not been ratified.

We note that in June 2021 the Australian Local Government Association unanimously passed a motion declaring *"The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons."*

On behalf of the Peace Walkers Against AUKUS, we call on you to back this global call to support the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by moving this motion in your Council. The motion text reads as follows:

*Our city/town is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world. We firmly believe that our residents have the right to live in a world free from this threat. Any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment.*

*Therefore, we warmly welcome the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by the United Nations in 2017, and we call on our national government to sign and ratify it without delay.*

We have been talking to people in your electorate on the South Coast this past week about this proposal as we have walked, who want us to pass on their opposition to nuclear weapons, waste and energy.

We are especially concerned about the Federal Government's current legislative proposal that would enable the Australian Navy to manage and host nuclear weapons waste from other countries, completely sidestepping our usual Australian regulatory frameworks for nuclear materials. Echoing concerned residents in your electorate, we also urge you to raise your concerns about AUKUS and nuclear submarines on the NSW South Coast with your local federal MP Fiona Phillips, as well as Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles.

We would be please to discuss this issue in greater detail. Our contact email address is [info@beyonduraniumcanberra.net](mailto:info@beyonduraniumcanberra.net), and you can call us on 0494 092 904.

You can find out more about the Peace Walk Against AUKUS at <https://www.beyonduraniumcanberra.net/peace-walkers-against-aukus-2024.html>.

Yours Sincerely,

Shahraz MARTIN

Peace Walkers Against AUKUS, March-April 2024

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