Yet, as the Age reported on 8th July 1981, Mr Fraser is satisfied that despite some "noise" about uranium development and nuclear policy in Australia "the (pro-nuclear) policies have been going along in a steady way."

The community campaign for a nuclear-free Victoria must now enter a new phase. We can no longer accept assurances that there is "no possibility of a nuclear power station being constructed anywhere in Victoria in the near future" (Premier Hannah 12th July 1980). We must demand a new direction for Victoria's industrial development which clearly rejects the nuclear option.

Concerned citizen action that brings about these changes in policy is what will stop Victoria going nuclear!

Building A Nuclear Free Victoria

The Movement Against Uranium Mining, as part of this new campaign, has launched a Declaration for Nuclear Free Victoria which calls for:

- A revised S.E.C. Charter prohibiting the development of nuclear power
- Government funding for a wide ranging public debate on short and long-term transport and energy needs
- A co-ordinated energy policy based on energy conservation, the rapid development of renewable energy sources, particularly solar power, and positive encouragement for energy industries which are job-creating and environmentally safe
- Extensive upgrading of public transport together with a vastly improved system of access to neighbourhood and local centres

Over the next twelve months we will be challenging the Victorian Government's misguided policies. In particular we will be opposing the energy-guzzling Alcoa smelter at Portland, the proposed coal to oil industry, and the general mismanagement of electricity generation in this State by the SEC.

For our part, we will be pressing for an alternative development policy which can be expected to improve the living standards of all Victorians but without the frightening prospect of a nuclear future.

* Copies of the declaration are available on request from M.A.U.M.

Will you join us in these constructive tasks?

☐ I wish to become a member of M.A.U.M. ☐ I wish to join group
I wish to become a member of M.A.U.M.
NAME ___________________________ TEL ___________________________
ADDRESS ___________________________
AMOUNT ENCLOSED $____ (10 per year, $4 for student/unemployed)

Published by the Movement Against Uranium Mining, 201 George St, Fitzroy 3065 (Tel 419 1467).
The Push to Nuclear Power

Well, what is to stop this State going nuclear? Unfortunately — if the present State Government has its way — not very much.

The Government's preparations for the introduction of nuclear power in Victoria are well documented.*

Let's look at some of the facts.

When?

A number of authoritative sources have made predictions as to when the first nuclear reactor is expected to be operating in Victoria. All the dates range from 1990 to 2005. Here is a selection:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected year of reactor operation</th>
<th>Authority (and year prediction made)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995-2000</td>
<td>Mr Dick Urquhart, head of SEC research (1976)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Prof. Lance Endersee, head of the influential Institution of Engineers Energy Policy Task Force (1977)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Prof. Stuart Butler, head of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission Lucas Heights Reactor Research Station (1979)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It takes about 15 years from the first decision to the point where a reactor is ready to operate. As the Premier of Victoria, Mr Lindsay Thompson has pointed out: "If there was a need for Victoria to go nuclear in the 1990s, there would need to be planning for such a decision now."

Where?

It has been revealed in Parliament that the SEC has investigated many areas of Victoria for suitable nuclear reactor sites. Sites in Gippsland, Westernport, Port Phillip Bay and the western lakes near Colac have been considered. The most likely choice seems to be one of a number of sites near Portland. Recently on 24th June 1980, the Age newspaper revealed that the SEC had hired consultants from the United Kingdom Electricity Generating Board to do a detailed economic cost and siting study for the establishment of nuclear power in Victoria. The Portland region was one of the main areas of study.

How?

One of the recent decisions by the Federal Government to assist was to transfer control of nuclear matters to the States. This will open the way for the Victorian Government to legally commit the State to nuclear power.* See Victorian Nuclear Countdown by Philip Sutton (published from M.A.U.M. $1.95 a copy including postage).

But Do We Really Need Nuclear Power?

Of course not! We need only remember the Three Mile Island disaster, the numerous other reactor accidents, the unresolved problem of radioactive wastes, the mounting hazards of nuclear proliferation, the prohibitive costs of nuclear power.

In any case we have enough coal to last for hundreds of years provided it is not wasted. Yet the Government and the SEC have plans to use up our best and cheapest coal, not in 500 years, but in little over 50 years! This Government is desperately trying to get on to the 'resources boom' bandwagon regardless of the costs. Its main hope is to export most of our cheap brown coal by converting it into oil or by using it to make aluminium.

ALCOA + Coal-to-Oil = Nuclear Power

The link between these energy guzzling industries and the push to nuclear power is once again documented in official sources. The Government's 1977 Green Paper made it clear that if coal to oil conversion goes ahead then, for economic reasons, the Government is likely to want to generate electricity from nuclear power. The connection between the aluminium industry and nuclear power was made by Prof Butler of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission in August 1980. He said: "If we are to have a nuclear industry, we should make an effort to make relevant use of this industry and stimulate diversification of the economy."

Clearly, the present Liberal Government is trying to build the demand for nuclear power into the heart of Victoria's energy policy.

Opposing The Nuclear Push

The majority of Australians and Victorians are opposed to the development of a nuclear power industry here (in Australia 96% are opposed, and 34% in favour according to Australian Public Opinion Polls, 1979). Not only that; two major political parties, the Australian Labor Party and the Australian Democrats are strongly opposed to the building of nuclear reactors in Victoria.