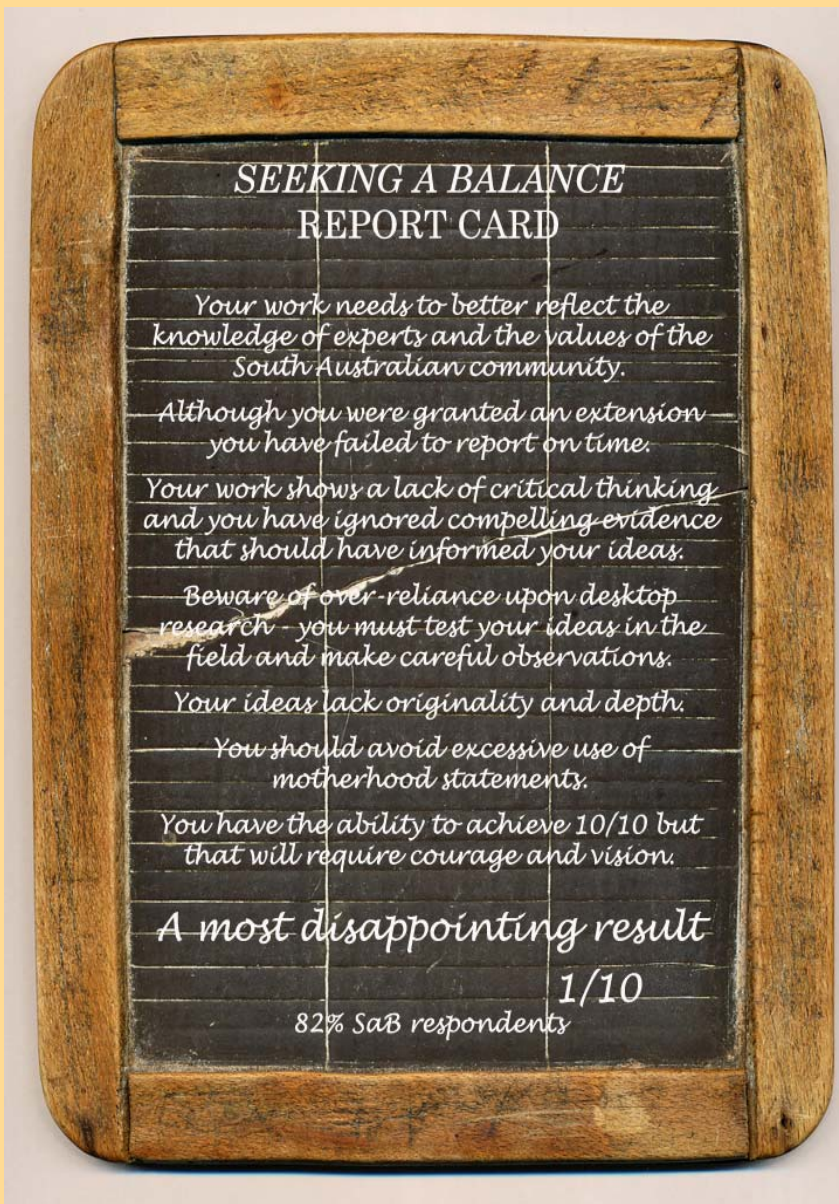


# ARKAROOLA WILDERNESS SANCTUARY



## From the ARK Update 10/10/10

### A MOST DISAPPOINTING RESULT



Exploration Lease EL 4355, held by Marathon Resources, expires today, 10/10/2010. Advocates for the protection of Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary were hopeful that 10/10/10 might herald a new era for the iconic sanctuary. Statutory protection for Arkaroola's spectacular and biodiverse landscapes from mineral exploration and mining, would have been a visionary 'Act' in this, the International Year of Biodiversity.

In late August, the Sprigg family and Chairman of Marathon Resources, Peter Williams, gave on-site presentations to the Premier and Ministers Holloway and Caica. In the same week, the leader of the South Australian Opposition, Isobel Redmond, and nine Liberal Members of Parliament spent two days at Arkaroola, also hearing from both Arkaroola and Marathon. However, although both major parties have been and seen, it appears likely that Marathon Resources will be permitted to return to Arkaroola and resume environmentally destructive exploration activities, after amendments to the Mining Act are passed in the Lower House.

Advocating the need for greater protection for Arkaroola yet unwilling to support a ban on mining and mineral exploration in the sanctuary, the State Liberals will instead seek to strengthen Environmental Class A Zoning provisions by amending the Development Act 1993. Even if they are successful, mineral exploration is likely to continue within Arkaroola's iconic mountain heartland.

The Rann Government has yet to provide the people of South Australia with a response to public submissions about its proposed new management framework for the Northern Flinders Ranges. *Seeking a Balance* was released for public comment almost a year ago. Although it has argued that additional time was required to consider the exceptional quality and detail of many of the submissions, the government does not appear to have revised its position, despite input from biodiversity experts, geologists, peak tourism agencies, local government and many other informed respondents.

It is a critical time and Arkaroola needs your support. Please use your social networks and every media opportunity to advocate for Arkaroola's full protection. Write to the Premier at The Hon M D Rann MP, Premier, GPO Box 2343, Adelaide SA 5001 or email at [premier@sa.gov.au](mailto:premier@sa.gov.au)

For more information go to:  
[www.savearkaroola.com.au](http://www.savearkaroola.com.au) or  
[www.arkaroola.com.au/breakingnews.php](http://www.arkaroola.com.au/breakingnews.php)

NORTHERN FLINDERS RANGES

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA