

From: Col
To: [fracking inquiry](#)
Subject: Fracking
Date: Friday, 17 March 2017 3:15:43 PM

There have been numerous reports across the country of fouled tap water; it is a fact that some of the tap water has even turned bubbly and flammable, as a result of increased methane. Well blowouts have happened, and they are a complete hazard to the environment. The companies involved cannot be trusted, and roughly one in five chemicals involved in the fracking process are still classified as trade secrets. Why is this? Are those companies withholding this information because it is detrimental to their cause?

A small proportion of people shoulder the burden and downsides, with no real compensation for this intrusive new industrial presence. Fracking is hugely water-intensive. A well can require anywhere from two- to 20-million gallons of water, with another 25 percent used for operations such as drilling and extraction. It can impact local water sources. If fracking was permitted in the Roper River area (an area earmarked for this fracking process) can you imagine what it would do for the properties that rely upon this water for their stocks of cattle. It is without doubt that the watercourse will become polluted, with the nett effect of that water flowing downstream and thereby contaminating the entire system. The stocks of fish and prawns would be decimated in this system, and likewise in every other system where fracking is permitted. The big, heavy trucks beat up our roads over hundreds of trips back-and-forth along already congested roads and tracks. Are they going to compensate the government for road repairs and maintenance, or will there be another sweetheart deal such as the Inpex fiasco, where they were given land – free land – and other under the table deals. Have they contributed to road maintenance for damage caused by their heavylift trucks etc. I think not.

I am opposed to fracking, and my objection will be reflected at the polls if you permit it to proceed.

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