From: Monica & Dean To: <u>fracking inquiry</u>

Subject: Fracking Inquiry NT .. comment from Alice Springs resident

Date: Wednesday, 1 March 2017 6:29:03 PM

Hello, my comments to the Inquiry's Expert Panel are as follows:

- 1. Should final decisions such as Fracking or No Fracking rest with people who either:
- (a) have no intention of residing in the NT, in particular, Alice Springs.
- (b) are only residing in the NT and/or Alice Springs short term i.e. less than 20 years from now!

Local long term residents will always be the people who are left to deal with the 'aftermath' of decisions which affect our land, waterways, communities and climate.

Refer decisions made in recent times in Australia regarding coal/uranium/forestry/explorations and mining where large scale contamination has resulted in permanent ongoing damage to the surrounding environment.

- 2. Economic decisions are always variable. Jobs will come and go, but environmental damage will always be there.
- 3. NO ONE, especially those whose business will generate \$\$\$\$ in their own pocket, can say that the risk(s) of Fracking is minimal.

Again, refer decisions made in recent times in Australia regarding coal/uranium/forestry/explorations and mining where large scale contamination has resulted in permanent ongoing damage to the surrounding environment.

4. If Fracking does go ahead and it contaminates our underground water supply to the point of being un-usable, can the coastal regions of Australia sustain a sweep of 'inland residents' relocating to their regions. Where will tourists etc., draw their water supply and other provisions from when they travel through NT?

Sound far fetched? Maybe, but can decision makers really guarantee it's not!

Monica O'Connor



(Resident of 25 years)