

Angela Carpenter



1 February 2018

Dear Justice Pepper and other Panel Members,

RE: SUMMARY OF DRAFT FINAL REPORT

I have read the Summary of the Draft Final Report into hydraulic fracturing in the NT.

A lot of risks have been addressed. Something that is a concern is the number of wells that could be drilled over 25 years: potentially 1000 - 1200 wells on 150 well pads.

Over the last 40 or 50 years an average of 4 or 5 wells per annum have been drilled in the Territory as you have shown on Map 2, page 14. The average of 1000 - 1200 wells over 25 years is 40 or 50 wells per annum.

A sudden 10-fold (or more) increase in well drilling activity would undoubtedly come with compromised regulation and industry standards as it would be difficult to source sufficient expertise, particularly on the regulation side.

Therefore, a cap on the number of wells per annum is important. The number of wells per annum should grow slowly, if at all, to allow industry and regulator expertise to grow with it and the cap should be transparent.

Regards

Angela Carpenter