

fracking inquiry

From: Liz Logan <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 February 2018 2:47 PM
To: fracking inquiry
Cc: chief.minister at nt.gov.au; minister.fyles at nt.gov.au; minister.vowles at nt.gov.au; minister.moss at nt.gov.au
Subject: Written submission on the NT Fracking Inquiry draft Final Report

Dear Justice Pepper and Panel,

Please do not allow fracking in the Territory. I thank you for the opportunity to provide written feedback on this draft

I am just a regular mum with a young family in the Top End. Nothing should be done that comes with a risk to our previous water resources. I am dead against this i spoke to the Santos guy at the Freds pass show asking him to explain the process as i was concerned but wanted to be informed. He prettied it up and washed over the part about "then we flush the hole with liquid solution mostly water' He could not comfort me the more he tried to lighten the effects of this so called harmless solution being pumped down "seald holes completely safe" only inches from our life blood of groung water. Big develpoers or multicorp companies always more concerned with making the quick buck and sorting the carange later. Well this cant be fixed if something goes wrong no matter how much we sue and they attempt or are forced to reparate. **THE RISK IS TOO HIGH. I SAY NO TO FRACKING.** please listen to the people of the Territory not the big money driven consortiums. Sometimes we regular members

of the community doing regular jobs paying taxes and struggling with bills are also concerned with the big things too and not blinded by the sigle view of create jobs and money at all costs.

I agree and fully support the land owners such as Daniel Tap in their opposition to fracking in our great top end.

I appreciate that the Panel's report makes many important recommendations in the face of the 115 risks identified.

The Panel has made 19 recommendations relating to the NT's water resources. The draft report acknowledges that risks remain, even with these recommendations.

Groundwater is critical in the Northern Territory. It is allocated for our residential needs, existing industries and environmental flows. Many high yielding aquifers within the NT are close to their full allocation already. Many are under pressure from resource development (page 105).

The draft Final Report outlines significant knowledge gaps for groundwater, biodiversity, landscape and health impacts. These gaps need to be rectified and baseline studies completed. Appropriate no go areas must be legislated and in place before exploration fracking should be considered.

Many exploration activities are virtually identical to production activities. Chemical use, high pressure hydraulic fracturing through aquifers, water use and associated risks are involved. Any regulatory changes should apply to all stages of gas development.

The draft Final Report shows Origin energy identified exploration and appraisal could include 8-16 wells and 24-48 wells for delineation (page 167).

Origin alone could drill and frack up to 64 wells across their tenement, all before critical improvements are made to the regulations.

With fracking companies combined, we could have a situation in the NT where there are over a hundred fracked gas wells across the landscape. That's all before production, without key law changes or baseline studies complete.

Critical studies identifying no go zones will difficult to achieve in an area already littered with fracked gas exploration wells.

I support the swath of new regulations and legislation required to try and protect landholders and water. However, that work needs to happen before the oil and gas industry is permitted to start fracking in the Northern Territory again.

The below critical recommendations must be improved and work completed BEFORE EXPLORATION fracking takes place.

Recommendation 5.1 (Enforceable code of practice for abandonment of onshore gas wells)

Recommendation 5.6 (Wastewater management framework)

Recommendation 7.1 (Water Act amended for shale extraction licence and payment for water)

Recommendation 7.4 (Strategic regional environmental and baseline assessment (SREBA), including a regional groundwater model, be developed and undertaken)

Recommendation 8.4 (Fire management plan and 10 year baseline assessment)

Recommendation 9.2 (Code of practice be developed and implemented for monitoring, detection and reporting of methane emissions)

Recommendation 10.1 (Human Health Risk Assessment prepared and approved)

Recommendation 12.11 (Social impact management plan) This recommendation should also be extended to allow for the legal right to say 'no' to fracking.

Recommendation 14.1 (Design and implement a full cost recovery system for fracking regulation)

Recommendation 14.16 (Legislation to regulate seismic surveys, drilling, hydraulic fracturing, and well abandonment)

Recommendation 14.18 (Fit and proper person test)

Recommendation 15.1 (Strategic regional environmental and baseline assessment (SREBA) undertaken and no go zones implemented)

In the NT there is a saying, "Once you frack you can't go back." Exploration fracking is no different. The studies, legal improvements and no-go zones suggested by the panel are critical. They must be actioned before any further fracking exploration.

Let's not wait until the production phase to put in place critical new regulations and laws. We must avoid delays to the protection of the Northern Territory's water, landscapes and people.

Thank you for considering my feedback on this critical matter for the future of the Northern Territory.

Yours sincerely, Liz Logan Herbert, Northern Territory, 0836, Australia

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