

From: deidre olofsson
To: [fracking inquiry](#)
Subject: To Justice Pepper
Date: Tuesday, 13 June 2017 6:41:02 AM

Dear Justice Pepper,

I'm writing to express my concern about your appointment of ACIL Allen as economic advisors to your inquiry into fracking in the Northern Territory.

In your work with the NSW Land and Environment Court, you may recall the matter of Hunter Environment Lobby Inc v Minister for Planning and Infrastructure ([2014] NSWLEC 129) which related to my community of Camberwell and the proposed extension of the Ashton SE Open Cut mine. ACIL Allen Director Jerome Fahrer gave evidence for the mine in that case, evidence which in our view heavily overstated the economic benefits of the mine and downplayed environmental consequences. ACIL refer to Dr Fahrer's expert witness appearance [on their website](#) as "expert witness litigation support for Ashton Coal".

In her judgement on the matter, Justice Pain noted that ACIL "did not address the requirement specified in the [Director General's Requirements - DGRs] and the Department [of Planning's] Guideline of quantification of the economic benefits to the State of NSW", a failure she described as "regrettable". She noted that the shortcomings of ACIL's analysis were only "'cured' in the course of joint evidence".

ACIL have gone on to work for many other mining and gas companies including Adani, New Hope and Santos. In my view their work has generally promoted the interests of mining and gas companies over those of farmers and communities. I recommend you apply close scrutiny to their work and seek outside advice on its veracity.

Regards,

Deidre Olofsson