

23 February, 2018

To the Fracking Inquiry Panel,

Fracking Enquiry Panel – Presentation

KMSA [Katherine Mining Services Association] are a group of service providing businesses that support all sorts of industries and we always welcome new, safe, economic sustainable industries in our region to apply our trades and services too.

The Katherine Region has a shrinking economy that needs to be turned around to support the Developing the North initiative and create real jobs for the present working resources and our youth to follow.

The concern of a negative impact on skilled and unskilled labour is absurd, we should be striving to the opportunities that are available to us. We can only see a positive impact on job opportunities, that operate 365 days a year verses the FIFO, seasonal opportunities that we are concerned about negatively impacting.

The concern of a negative impact on our infrastructure and the pressure applied will turn to infrastructure up grade because they become viable.

Co-existence of all industries is what KMSA is promoting to allow opportunity to rise to the top. We feel that we are underutilizing both the land and our labour resources, which is supported by the high unemployment rate in the NT at present.

KMSA supports all recommendations 13.1 – 13.10 of the Summary of the Draft Final Report. These are all initiatives that we as a volunteer association have been a part of in some form or another.

My own business Crowhurst Goodline is a true example of a company that has been impacted by the Moratorium, with a drop of staff by 75% not all of this is attributed to the oil and gas industry downturn, but our income from an industry that we have serviced for 6 years has reduced to zero. I am glad we have a broad range of industries that we service as at some occasion they all have their down turns.

Conclusion:

KMSA's is still of the opinion that the decision process be made from the science and fact mentioned rather than the emotional material. This should provide the whole of the NT Community with the tested and explored outcome.

Community Consultation

Discussion regarding "Local Content in the Onshore oil & Gas Industry"

KMSA would like to submit that a Local content initiative be applied to the Oil & Gas Industry for Northern Territory Business sector across the board. This should be applied & monitored by a Local Content Advocate. The application of a local content initiative will in turn develop local businesses to the Oil & Gas Industry regulatory requirements.

Geoff Crowhurst
Chair
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