

From: FREDERIKA SALTMARSH
To: [fracking inquiry](#)
Date: Sunday, 30 April 2017 11:47:03 PM
Attachments: [Hyd Frac Inquiry.docx](#)

Please find attached response to Hyd Fracturing Inquiry

Regards
Mrs F Saltmarsh
Concerned NT Resident

Feedback – Hydraulic Fracturing Inquiry – six parts

Intro.....fracking (or cracking) ...the drilling process

1. Wherever drilling occurs, there are risks. Particularly when perforating aquifers with high powered drills at 10,000 psi accompanied by forceful injection at high speed of injection fluid made up of sand, water and chemicals

Any person, scientist or not, can see this is not healthy for the environment. Gas is trapped underground for a purpose. It can be compared with a shock absorber in a car, the gas fills a void, take it away and you will have problems. Released Methane is more polluting than carbon dioxide, not what we need in these times.

I understand the Fracturing Inquiry is investigating risks to our land, water, farms, cattle industry, horticulture, fishing and tourism

Let us be real now and say, of course there are risks, but, are we prepared to take them? Do we not have enough gas production offshore? The risk is far too high to undertake this shaky industry.

Risks

Aquifers – how do you fix a polluted aquifer.....you cannot

Soils – degradation of soils due to clearing, leakages, spills, drilling

Fauna – displaced and often killed in the process... example...magpie geese landing in frack wastewater ponds, native animals drinking this wastewater

Cattle – feeding and drinking from a tainted landscape – poor meat quality, sickness and in some cases, death

Climate Change – Methane...released into the air...more toxic than carbon dioxide

Flora – destruction of flora for roads, well pads, pipes, ponds

Human Health – chemicals used in fracking have been traced and found to cause a number of illnesses, headaches, rashes, nosebleeds, cancer.....not worth the risk

Bushfires – how can this possibly mix with fracking – networks of pipes are accidents waiting to happen with Australia's bushfires

Frack wastewater tankers - hundreds of them, have been known to dump wastewater wherever they can, they cannot return empty!

Wastewater ponds – an evaporating nightmare, a death trap for wildlife, leaking liners

Water – we are talking GIGALITRES here!

Monitoring pipes, maintenance, flowback, drilling, flaring, leakages, ponds, not to mention the noise, lights, trucks, infrastructure, workers.....

2. Countries that have banned fracking (either fully or partly, please note info may have changed at this stage)

Switzerland
Spain
Austria
South Africa
France
Bulgaria
Ireland
Aotearoa (New Zealand)
Nova Scotia
Québec
Parts of New Mexico, New York, Maryland

3. Squeezed by gravity: how tides affect the groundwater under our feet – a set of articles by various scientists-please copy & paste link

http://theconversation.com/squeezed-by-gravity-how-tides-affect-the-groundwater-under-our-feet-74928?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20April%206%202017%20-%207%201355384&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20April%206%202017%20-%207%201355384+CID_e7442a470fa6cef38227f525d13fc21b&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Squeezed%20by%20gravity%20how%20tides%20affect%20the%20groundwater%20under%20our%20feet#republish.....Brilliant articles by Scientists – the water beneath our feet – lets learn about it and look after it!

4. As groundwater extraction increases across Australia, the need to protect water sources is heightened, more so in a dry continent like Australia. Studies released by NASA show declines in groundwater sources globally.....

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/derek-eamus/6556690>

5. Doctors for the Environment

The Inquiry's Terms of Reference also failed to consider opportunities for renewable energy development. NT's high levels of solar intensity mean that the region presents exciting opportunities for solar energy, including both small and large scale generation. Likewise, the huge subsidies that NT government provides to facilitate gas export through Darwin were also outside the scope of the Inquiry. These [subsidies offset almost 80%](#) of the industry royalties. To assist in building public support for fracking, NT Government has launched an advertising campaign "[Oil and Gas: It's for all of us](#)". Ironically, NT oil and gas are mainly exported, and recruitment is seeking interstate and international labour. Why this industry is "for all of us" is uncertain. It will certainly not be for all of our grandchildren.

Doctors for the Environment Australia is grateful to be heard by the NT Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing. We would like to see a long-term view of energy and economic options. A bigger picture is needed to work out where our energy future should be.

DEA considers that current assessment, monitoring and regulation of unconventional gas activities are not adequate to protect the health of current and future generations of Australians. There is no requirement for health risk assessment prior to projects occurring.

Both DEA and the [Australian Medical Association](#) have called on Australian governments to ensure that unconventional gas projects are subject to rigorous and independent health risk assessments.

6. "We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one".....Jacques-Yves Cousteau AC was a French naval officer, explorer, conservationist, filmmaker, innovator, scientist, photographer, author and researcher who studied the sea and all forms of life in water. He co-developed the Aqua-lung, pioneered marine conservation and was a member of the Académie française..

Please make Mining Companies answerable to the Water Act!

Please give landholders the right to say "No! if they do not want drilling on their land!