

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY INTO HYDRAULIC FRACTURING IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



Department of Environment and
Natural Resources Submission #473

Joanne Townsend
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
PO Box 496
PALMERSTON NT 0830

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Townsend

RE: HYDRAULIC FRACTURING INQUIRY – INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to the *Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing of Unconventional Reservoirs in the Northern Territory (the Inquiry)*, which was established by the Northern Territory Government under the *Inquiries Act 1945 (NT)* in late 2016 to investigate the impacts and risks of hydraulic fracturing of onshore shale gas reservoirs and associated activities on the environmental, social, economic and cultural conditions in the Northern Territory.

The Inquiry seeks the assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in accessing the following maps and information:

- a) Provide an indicative Fire Management Zone Risk and Hazard map, equivalent to those developed for the National Bushfires Mitigation Program, for the area including the Beetaloo Sub-basin. Please also provide a map for the equivalent area showing related fire history.
- b) Provide the outcomes of any public consultation administered by Bushfires NT where development associated with on-shore petroleum activities including exploration was raised as a risk factor for changed fire regimes in the Northern Territory. Where possible include detail regarding the consultation process, including location, attendees and intended products and management outcomes.

In order to meet current reporting timeframes, could I please have your response no later than **25 September 2017**. Please also note that your response will be published on the Inquiry's submission library. To the extent your submission includes confidential information that should not be publicly disclosed, please identify that information and explain why it is confidential.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping strokes that form a cursive, somewhat abstract shape.

THE HON JUSTICE RACHEL PEPPER
Chair

18 September 2017