

# SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY INTO HYDRAULIC FRACTURING IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



CSIRO  
Submission #452

Damien Barrett  
Research Director - Energy  
CSIRO

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Barrett

## 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 Hydraulic Fracturing Taskforce (**the Taskforce**) has been established in the Department of the Chief Minister to support the Inquiry.

You provided the Inquiry with information on groundwater dependent ecosystems in Canberra, July 2017 (see attached document). The Inquiry requests the following information in regards to this presentation:

1. Please provide the Inquiry the two references cited BoM 2016 and DLRM 2016.
2. Please advise when the CSIRO Beetaloo Basin Groundwater Study (Module 1 and Module 2) is expected to be completed and published.

Additionally, you provided the Inquiry with Information in Brisbane, July 2017 regarding the Hutton Sandstone aquifer in the Surat Basin. Could you provide:

3. Any reports or papers on the Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (**GISERA**) on the Hutton Sandstone aquifer.

In order to meet reporting deadlines, please provide your response by  
**28 August 2017.**

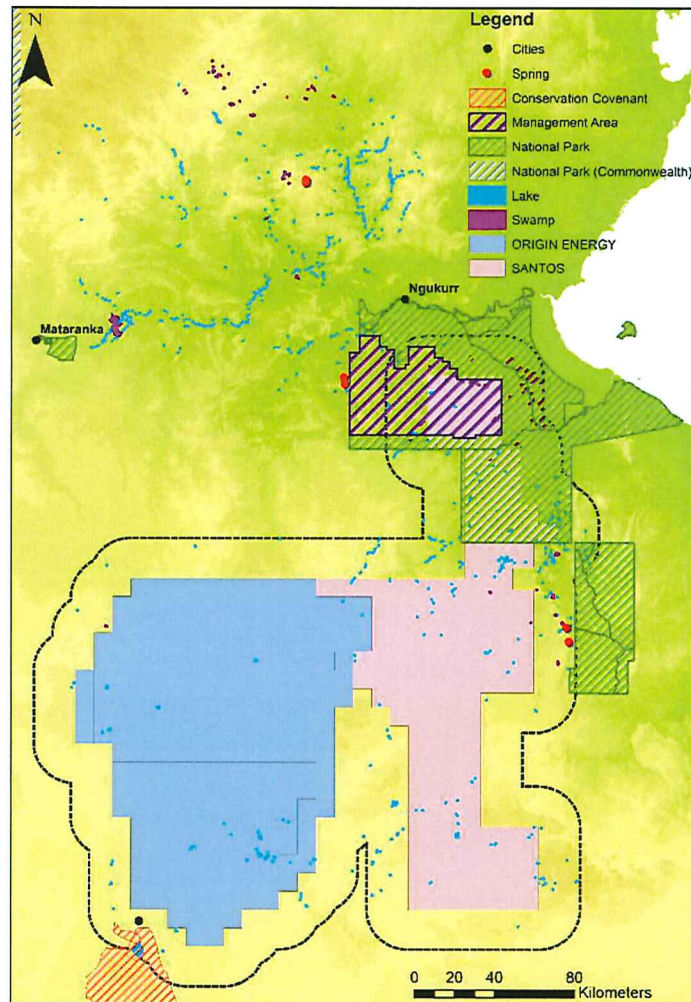
Yours sincerely

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

THE HON JUSTICE RACHEL PEPPER  
Chair  
18 August 2017

# Ecosystems

Data from Geofabric (V2) and DLRM,  
November 2016



*Location of GDE (Source: BOM 2016; DLRM, 2016)*

## Within 20 km buffer :

- Water bodies (Geofabric dataset):
  - 2 unnamed springs
  - 275 water points (pools)
  - 299 lakes
  - 51 swamps
- Parks and Reserves (DLRM dataset):
  - Limmen National Park
  - Bullwaddy Conservation Reserve
  - Longreach waterhole Protected Area
  - Lake Woods Conservation Covenant

## Uncertainties:

- Access to parks
- Accuracy of data