

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING

Petition

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [2.52 pm]: I have a petition for a moratorium on unconventional gas extraction in Western Australia. It bears 4 002 signatures.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: This is a serious petition.

Mr C.J. TALLENTIRE: Thank you, Mr Speaker. The petition bears 4 002 signatures, and relates to an online petition that carries 40 000 signatures. It reads —

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned residents of Western Australia are opposed to hydraulic fracturing and unconventional gas extraction. We ask the Legislative Assembly to recognise the unacceptable risk to the community and environment posed by hydraulic fracturing and unconventional gas. This process risks ground water contamination from toxic chemicals, air pollution, an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, and significant health risks. It is a waste of precious water that once contaminated can't be safely reincorporated into the water cycle. WA farmers depend on ground water for their livelihood and we depend on them for our food supply. We call for a moratorium on all unconventional gas activities in Western Australia until the risks are fully understood and the industry can be proven safe.

Your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

The petition conforms to the standing orders of the house.

[See petition 298.]