

Legislative Council



MEDIA RELEASE

14 AUGUST 2013

Inquiry into the Implications for Western Australia of Hydraulic Fracturing for Unconventional Gas

The Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs has commenced an inquiry into the implications for Western Australia of hydraulic fracturing for unconventional gas, otherwise known as 'fracking'.

The environmental effects of fracking are still being analysed by global experts in the field and the Committee has identified the following issues that it will investigate as part of this inquiry:

- a) how hydraulic fracturing may impact on current and future uses of land;
- b) the regulation of chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process;
- c) the use of ground water in the hydraulic fracturing process and the potential for recycling of ground water; and
- d) the reclamation (rehabilitation) of land that has been hydraulically fractured.

This is the first time that a parliamentary committee in Australia has inquired into the process of fracking for unconventional gas and the Committee anticipates that its inquiry will generate widespread international interest.

The Committee invites written submissions addressing the terms of reference from interested persons. Submissions are requested by 20 September 2013.

Written information about the form and content of submissions can be obtained from the Committee Office or viewed on the Committee's website at www.parliament.wa.gov.au/env. Submissions should be addressed to Ms Margaret Liveris, Committee Clerk, Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs, Legislative Council, Parliament House, GPO Box A11 Perth WA 6837, fax: 9222 7508 or email: lcepac@parliament.wa.gov.au.

Media inquiries can be addressed to Hon Simon O'Brien MLC, Chairman on 0407 190 541. Other inquiries should be addressed to Ms Margaret Liveris, Committee Clerk on 9222 7229.

Hon Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman