

## **Environment and Public Affairs Committee**

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**From:** Pat Gallaher  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 September 2013 7:41 PM  
**To:** Environment and Public Affairs Committee  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submission for Fracking Inquiry

SUBMISSION FROM PATRICIA GALLAHER. 19.9.13.

I am a retired professional (Librarian) with no children, but with a deep interest in ensuring the WA environment is not damaged for future generations.

I am a member of CCWA and several other environmental organizations and I am in agreement with those scientists who believe that fracking is not worth the risk and not necessary at this time when there are other cleaner and less risky options for future sources of energy.

I do not have the time to respond in detail to the Terms of Reference, which will not doubt be answered in detail by CCWA and other Agencies, so I would probably only be repeating comments you will have received, however I will make some brief personal comments:

### **TOR 1. Impact on current and future uses of land.**

There has been enough coverage in the media on the effects of fracking here and overseas for me to be convinced that it is an unnecessarily risky procedure which affects communities in severely detrimental ways. Farmers, Aboriginal groups and those who value our precious landscape are not confident that their lifestyles will be unaffected by the processes which are for commercial gain and not needed for our current needs now and in the foreseeable future.

### **TOR 2. Regulation of chemicals.**

Contamination of water and surface areas by chemicals used in the process is a real possibility and should not be permitted.

### **TOR 3. Use of Ground water.**

It is horrifying to think that there may be many thousands of wells needed for fracking and to provide adequate water for the process. What a blot on our precious landscape and a waste of such a precious and potentially scarce resource. The Aquifers are to future proof our water supplies in a drying climate and should be preserved at all cost not wasted for commercial benefit considering the questionable benefit for our community

### **TOR 4. Rehabilitation of fractured landscapes.**

How can fracking companies be forced to rehabilitate and monitor well sites for perpetuity? That is an impossible expectation and could be considerable health risk for future generations. It is of great concern for our future well being.

Patricia E. Gallaher,