

Rose Holdaway

September 17 2013

To the Environment and Public Affairs Committee of the Legislative Council of WA

The Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC, the Hon. Stephen Noel Dawson MLC, the Hon. Brian Charles Ellis MLC, the Hon. Paul John Brown MLC, the Hon. Samantha Helen Rowe MLC

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

It is with great concern that I make this submission.

I strongly believe that we should not allow the practice of shale gas fracking in WA.

The practice has proven to be environmentally destructive and threatens to pollute our precious ground water and air quality.

The process uses toxic chemicals that remain in our water and in the earth.

Gas fracking wells are subject to leakage.

The practice uses huge amounts of good water in the process, already in dubious supply.

There are no methods to adequately deal with contaminated water.

The practice disturbs and destroys farmland and farming industries.

The practice destroys native reserves and national parks.

The process can contaminate neighbouring properties.

The practice has not proven to be safe. The practice has proven to be unsafe.

The practice is damaging to public health.

I don't trust the State Government to handle this.

I don't believe the operators know enough about the science of what they are doing and are able to take adequate precautions and do things safely and mitigate all damage.

Consequences and repercussions are severe and long-reaching.

The process has been found to be destructive to the environment and to people's health in America already. And in Queensland. We should learn from this.

Most people who know what the process is, do not believe this is a safe practice. The only reason it is slipping under the radar is that a lot of people do not yet know or understand what fracking is.

Decision makers now, will be held accountable.

Once the process is underway the growth is exponential, so by the time the repercussions are felt, it is too late to stop the destruction.

Freehold landowners have no rights over their own land.

The water, which is wasted and contaminated, belongs to all of us.

The gas fracking companies do not pay for the water. The gas fracking companies will not be able to compensate us for the ruined water.

Once the resource is destroyed or gone, it is too late.

West Australians need to be well informed so they have an opportunity to object.

Gas fracking threatens delicate ecosystems.

Gas fracking is a hugely destructive process for short term gain.

We do not need shale gas. We have enough natural gas. And we should be concentrating on renewable energy systems.

Shale gas fracking will not improve our domestic gas price.

There are too many unknowns to allow this to proceed.

I make these points with the greatest conviction

Yours sincerely

C R Holdaway