

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

From: Leonie Stubbs
Sent: Tuesday, 17 September 2013 4:57 PM
To: Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Subject: Submission Gas Fracking in Western Australia

To whom it may concern

I wholeheartedly support this enquiry into gas fracking in Western Australia and would ask that you take my concerns into account with regard to the enquiry.

I believe that the precautionary principle should be front and centre when we are putting at risk the two most important resources to enable life to continue - water and food, and gas fracking puts both of these at risk. There are countless stories of polluted water in Canada and the United States. Why in the world would we put our water supply at risk for a short lived supply of energy in a country that has been blessed with renewable sources of energy. It is sheer madness and if it is not stopped then citizens in the future will look back in amazement at our stupidity. It risks land on which food can be grown and in the Kimberley it risks ecosystems which are home to a number of rare and threatened animals.

Gas fracking appears to contribute to climate change to the same extent as coal. Why would we invest in a dirty energy source when we have the opportunity to develop clean energy for the future by investing in a diverse range of renewable energy processes.

Our governments no longer have the resources or apparently the desire to manage the risks involved with this industry, and self-assessment for this industry is not desirable as there are too many risks that include groundwater pollution, loss of ecosystems, loss of farming land, loss of amenity for farmers in the form of unsightly derricks dotting their land and an increase in greenhouse gases.

I consider that the risks far outweigh any gains for West Australian citizens.

Yours faithfully,

Leonie Stubbs