



18/9/13

MS. MARGARET LIVERIS

COMMITTEE CLERK

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT  
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS,

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

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Please find enclosed my submission to:

INQUIRY INTO IMPLICATIONS FOR

WESTERN AUSTRALIA OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING

FOR UNCONVENTIONAL GAS.

KERRY GRANT



Submission to Inquiry into Implications for Western Australia of Hydraulic Fracturing for Unconventional Gas.

I would like to express concern that exploration for unconventional gas and the subsequent development appears to be going ahead without well planned and well considered regulations to protect the environment, landholders and farmers.

As our underground water is a precious, essential and finite source of water there should not be fracking or drilling on agricultural land or anywhere near underground water.

There are many concerns that need to be addressed about the impact of Fracking on the environment, agricultural production and unconventional gas mining on land values.

Once the gas and profits head offshore, the companies will not care about the damage caused and it will be too late to hold them accountable.

A report by NSW Chief Scientist highlights concerns about environmental and health effects of unconventional gas mining and calls for further studies to be performed. The report raises questions about human health, the effects on the environment and water in particular, landholders legal rights and industry regulation and COMPLIANCE.

Even if seemingly stringent regulations were to be put in place , compliance by the industry is not guaranteed and the potential damage caused by unconventional gas fracking would be irreversible.

There needs to be mandatory disclosure and hazard assessment of all chemicals used in fracking under the National Industrial Chemicals notification and assessment scheme and a ban on any which are dangerous to human health and or the environment. Accountability needs to be increased.

Although gas has become a seemingly essential world wide source of energy. I believe that allowing hydraulic fracturing for unconventional gas in Western Australia, before all the implications have been fully investigated and safeguards put in place, would be a grossly irresponsible act by the W.A. Government and has the potential to put at risk the health of people, the productivity of the land and pollution of ground water, which is the ONLY source of water in many parts of W.A.

Submission by Kerry Grant

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