

## **Environment and Public Affairs Committee**

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**From:** Dr Valerie van Loggerenberg  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 September 2013 5:34 PM  
**To:** Environment and Public Affairs Committee  
**Subject:** Cracking in the Kimberley is wrong

Dear Committee

I don't know a lot about the technical side of mining and fracking. I do know that as a teenage migrant the first time I went into the mining north of WA I was shocked by the damage I could see the mines do. I'd spent days in the wilderness, sleeping under the stars and swimming in water holes after climbing through gorges. It was fabulous. Then we went to see a mine, and I saw land stripped and barren, with no apparent thought for the future.

It's of serious concern to me that the planet is not living sustainably. I know that now mines have rehabilitation plans once they leave, although I'm yet to see any mining site returned to true wilderness. My concern with fracking is that it damages the environment in a way that means rehabilitation is simply not possible.

Please consider that in future Eco tourism might be one of the few sustainable industries in Australia. Mining, heavy industry, production of goods and cars, all of these industries are limited and coming to an end. If we want to have a good lifestyle into the future, we need viable industries.

Destroying pristine land areas not only wrecks the environment but it removes the opportunity for a viable tourism industry in the future. Please say no to fracking.

Thank you,

Dr Valerie van Loggerenberg  
Psychologist