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

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

Nathalie Haymann

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GAS FRACKING SENATE ENQUIRY WA STATE PARLIAMENT

The following submission refers principally to the Mid West coast and the Northern Perth Basin.

Additional Terms of Reference for a full enquiry would ideally include impacts of climate change; groundwater contamination; cumulative effects on human health, farming land, natural ecosystems and social impact.

HOW HYDRAULIC FRACTURING MAY IMPACT ON CURRENT AND FUTURE USES OF LAND:

National Parks and Nature Reserves along the coastal Midwest region of Western Australia stand to be impacted by the practice of unconventional horizontal hydraulic shale gas fracking.

Westranch Holdings, subsidiary of Norwest Energy, applied for Petroleum Exploration Permit STP-EPA-0064 under the Native Title Act on 31 October 2012 in the Northern Perth Basin (**Norwest Energy Oil & Gas Exploration Tenement of the Northern and Central Perth Basin STP-SPA-0013**).

If granted, activities will impact on Lesueur National Park, Drovers Cave National Park and Leda Nature Reserve. Beekeepers' Nature Reserve and Nambung National Parks would be affected in their entirety. The Permit cuts through Wangarren and Nilgen Nature Reserves and the whole of Lancelin, Edwards, Wedge, Green, Whitell, Buller, Cervantes, Favorite, Sandland, Fisherman, Lipfert, Milligan and Snag Islands, part of Boulanger Island, North Ronsard, Ronsard, South Ronsard, Red Rocks and part of Inner 7 Foot Rocks, all subject to the application. Threatened ecological communities and declared rare fauna sites are registered in these areas, with the majority being associated with Beekeepers Nature Reserve and Lesueur National Park.

