

Ms Margaret Liveris
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on environment and Public
Affairs Legislative Council
Parliament House
GPO Box A11 PERTH WA 6837



17th September 2013

Dear Margaret

Fracking will have a devastating impact on the WA environment and on the health of Western Australians.

Scientists and doctors around the world have pointed to the serious risks associated with shale gas fracking. Chemicals used are known to be toxic causing skin, respiratory, liver, kidneys and nervous system damage. It can cause even more serious problems such as impacts on bone marrow causing anaemia and cancers such as leukaemia or lung cancer while others can affect the growth of children, even at very low levels of exposure.

Western Australia's water resources are scarce. Unconventional gas activity carries a serious threat to ground water contamination, surface water pollution and depletion of ground water aquifers.

Fracking will pollute our air. An inevitable by-product of fracking is high levels of atmospheric pollution, documented to increase the risk of cancers, neurological diseases, asthma, various lung diseases, headaches and the irritation of the throat and eyes.

While other activities such as mining and minerals processing require 'Operating Licences' to control pollution, shale gas fracking is currently exempt from the requirements.

We need a moratorium put in place to stop shale gas fracking until the industry can assure us that contamination of your aquifers will not happen...ever.

Please.... Consider the safety of our clean drinkable water, without it, we have nothing.

Yours Sincerely,

Alison Farmer