

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am a registered nurse here in WA and, have recently become a first-time grandmother. And it is with the strength of these two most important aspects of my life that I write to you regarding the proposal to commence Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation here in WA by exploration companies.

Having read widely on this topic, I can only conclude that the risks to both health and wellbeing and to the environment make the prohibition of such a practice here in Western Australia (WA) the only real option. I would like to refer to the *Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking (Unconventional Gas and Oil Extraction). Fifth Edition March 2018*. Not only does the practice of Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation pose dangers to physical health, as outlined in sections 3, 4, 7 and 8, but to the wider issue of public health in general and to those potentially vulnerable or at risk such as women, children and local communities in the already isolated reaches of WA. Further to these concerns, I would like to emphasise the risks associated with damage to this finite resource we call our home - the planet. Sections 2, 6, and 13 summarise grave concerns I have, and back this up with the science, that the damage caused to the environment may well be irreversible. Repeated fracturing of any surface will over time weaken it and eventually permanently break it, contamination of our precious water resources will make it scarcer and contamination of the air we breath will have long lasting consequences.

All this damage when there are renewable alternatives available that will not damage and poison both life and the environment needed to protect, nurture and enhance life for generations to come is inconceivable to me. I am not a scientist, but it is not difficult for me to see the damage that is and will be done if the practice of fracking is allowed here in WA.

I hope good judgement prevails and the practice of Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation is banned from taking hold here in WA.

I thank you for your time in reading my letter,

Pamela Bell