

**From:** Colum Corless  
**To:** [info@frackinginquiry.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@frackinginquiry.wa.gov.au)  
**Subject:** Independent Scientific Panel Inquiry  
**Date:** Sunday, 18 March 2018 8:13:00 PM

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18<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dr Hatton and Panel members,

I have thirty five years' experience in the development of oil and gas fields both in Australia and internationally. As a professional engineer I would not support a practice that was either unsafe or bad for the environment.

The risks with hydraulic fracturing are well understood. As with many previous inquiries the practice has been found to be safe if properly regulated. Based on my experience I believe the current regulatory regime is sufficiently robust to ensure the reduction of risks associated with hydraulic fracturing to as low as reasonably practical.

It is important that we do not deny training, jobs and education opportunities to communities that support hydraulic fracturing. I urge the Panel to adopt a factual and evidence based approach on the issues identified in your terms of reference. I also urge you to be mindful of attempts to hijack the science debate by self-interested groups making misrepresentations, spreading untruths and seeking to move it to a political debate.

Yours sincerely

Colum Corless