

**Submission to:**  
**WA Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation in WA**

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I am a concerned community member being concerned that fracking for gas will be allowed in WA. Fracking for gas should be banned all over WA.

My main concerns are about the environmental risks in regard to the impact on agricultural land and the water table. Mining has already greatly affected the Australian landscape by industrialising it instead of having our own natural landscape eg this can be seen just from the road when travelling east from Kalgoorlie.

The world is already concerned with lack of fresh water suitable for consumption eg Capetown and fracking is an extremely water-intensive practice that also produces contaminated wastewater (1, 2). This can then affect our water supplies for agriculture and human consumption (3, 4, 5, 6, 7). This is particularly applicable in Carnarvon [which supplies a high percentage of WA's produce) where the farms are dependent on the underground water supply from the underground river.

Although the industries tell us that they will create jobs and revive our ailing rural economies this is not true as can be seen from existing mining companies that already employ mainly FIFO workers. A major proportion of mining profits in Australia go to overseas shareholders. In Australia most of our gas is exported overseas, resulting in expensive gas prices in Australia. (1)

The Government should ban unconventional gas mining immediately to avoid the negative impacts on our environment which can be long term.

## References

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[http://www.lockthegate.org.au/about\\_shale\\_and\\_tight\\_gas](http://www.lockthegate.org.au/about_shale_and_tight_gas)  
See also  
[https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/lockthegate/pages/2192/attachments/original/1471410056/Shale\\_and\\_tight\\_gas\\_fact\\_sheet\\_updated\\_July2016.pdf?1471410056](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/lockthegate/pages/2192/attachments/original/1471410056/Shale_and_tight_gas_fact_sheet_updated_July2016.pdf?1471410056)
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3. Estimates of the amount of gas in WA. <http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Petroleum/Shale-and-tight-gas-exploration-19990.aspx>
4. List of wells recently fracked in WA <http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Petroleum/Recent-activities-involving-18011.aspx>
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[https://www.acola.org.au/PDF/SAF06FINAL/Frogtech\\_Shale\\_Gas\\_Geology\\_and\\_Risks%20Jan2013.pdf](https://www.acola.org.au/PDF/SAF06FINAL/Frogtech_Shale_Gas_Geology_and_Risks%20Jan2013.pdf)
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7. Research into the health of families living in the gasfields of Queensland by GP Dr Geryl Carron in 2015 and again in 2018.  
<https://independentaustralia.net/life/life-display/csg-is-destroying-the-iconic-darling-downs-along-with-residents-health,7792>  
<https://www.dontfrackwa.com.au/2018/01/10/gasfield-air-pollution-linked-to-poorer-health-in-se-qld/>