

From: Jo Dilly
To: [Frackinginquiry Wa Gov Info](#)
Subject: Very concerned
Date: Friday, 16 March 2018 11:00:11 AM

My name is Joanne Dilly, a retired schoolteacher.
Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this inquiry.

Many years of my working life was spent in W.A.'s regions, taking in the wheat-belt, the Pilbara, the Kimberley and the Great Southern.
As a concerned citizen, I urge you to look at ALL of the available information warning you of the risks and harms of fracking, of which there are many recorded e.g.
David Monk Producer; (2017) Signing Your Life Away- Experience of Wayne Walker With Origin Energy.
Concerned Health Professionals of New York and Physicians for Social Responsibility. (2016, November 17). Compendium of scientific, medical and media findings demonstrating risks and harms of fracking (unconventional gas and oil extraction) (4th ed.)

The risks are many and they are huge, threatening the environment, our health, our agriculture, our heritage and communities. There will be a lot of information in other submissions detailing all of these concerns.

My focus is on the possible regulatory mechanisms that may be employed to mitigate or minimise risks to an acceptable level, where appropriate.

Although the industry claims that the risks associated with hydraulic fracturing can be managed effectively with a robust regulatory regime, the evidence suggests otherwise.
I refer you to the personal stories from people in Queensland and N.S.W. e.g. Landowners on the Darling Downs, Queensland. (see A Fractured Country, an Unconventional Invasion.)
See, Megan Baker Willie Creek, Queensland
Wayne Walker- Chinchilla, Queensland
Nood and Narelle Nothdurft- Living in the heart of a gas field.
Neil Stanley's story- Kogan Queensland
Greg and Joanne Vines' story- Wallumbilla, Queensland
Mitch Torres, traditional owner- W.A.

There are numerous examples across Australia that show that we don't have the necessary interest and ability in following up on infringements.
Regulatory processes are under-funded and poorly maintained as we saw with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and the report shown by Four Corners.

In April, 2017, the Australia Institute put out a discussion paper in regards to rehabilitation of minerals and resources projects as it relates to commonwealth responsibility.
Their conclusion was that the mining industry does not have a good record at cleaning up after itself.
Their recommendation was that the latest bond system has proven controversial and arguably increases the incentive for operators to abandon their liabilities to the state.
The Ellendale diamond mine, which went into liquidation last year, is reported to have been refunded \$12.1 million in bonds, paid back \$820,000 to the MRF. It's owners then abandoned the site leaving behind rehabilitation costs estimated at \$40 million.

Who would be carrying out this "robust" regulatory regime? This is a vast state. The gas wells would number in the tens of thousands, along with their waste water ponds, etc
The disturbances to all of the natural environments would also be vast.
This state is in a parlous financial state. We simply do not have the resources to be able to effectively monitor and enforce any regulations.

Thus, it would be dumping all responsibility onto our communities. Why would we put our communities through this hell? So much damage has been done already in the east. So much damage has been done here in W.A. already because people feel under threat from this industry. The exploration licenses and associated disturbances are already threatening communities, land access, individual rights and property values.

We simply cannot afford this industry.

My recommendation is to ban fracking state wide completely and from now.

The companies involved do not need to be given any sense of further entitlement as they spend more time establishing their infrastructure. in the long run, we as tax-payers will pay heavily the longer the process is drawn out.

Yours,

Joanne Dilly.