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**Subject:** Re: Submission to Fracking inquiry panel  
**Date:** Sunday, 18 March 2018 3:56:49 PM

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Dear Panel Members,

I am a concerned Australian Citizen living in Perth Hills since 1986. A health background in Nursing and Midwifery, I have worked in WA and the UK in these professions for 33 years including community midwifery and health education. I have worked in areas with chronic health problems associated with industrial practices in the mining area of South Wales, UK and the Midland area, WA. I have nursed and provided care and support to sufferers and their families of conditions such as asthma, Lung disease, Kidney disease, Cancer and chronic ill health such as autoimmune disease and multiple chemical sensitivities.

There is now overwhelming scientific evidence that the large scale, industrial development and practice of the unconventional gas extraction method constitutes an unacceptable public health risk to the immediate and wider community as evidenced by the **Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking**. This was compiled by the Concerned Health Professionals of New York, and is a fully-referenced compilation of the evidence for the risks and harms of fracking that brings together findings from the scientific and medical literature, government and industry reports, and journalistic investigation. The latest version released just three days ago, contains over 1200 papers, and can be downloaded from [concernedhealthny.org/compendium/](http://concernedhealthny.org/compendium/).

These risks can **not** be **minimised** or **mitigated** due to the very nature of the industry and the chemicals involved and released through the fracking process both above and below ground. This is then further compounded by the sheer scale of the industry that will be necessary for CSG to be financially viable.

We already have a health crisis in our remote area communities where successive State Governments have failed to secure safe drinking water. This has been highlighted by the **PhD** work of **Dr Jeffries Stokes** in WA into the level of nitrates, heavy metals and uranium in the drinking water of these communities. This report, including the number of children suffering from kidney disease, was released in 2017 and aired on the ABC news, radio national and SBS news.

The CSG industry itself claims this would only be a thirty year 'transitional' source of energy' but to risk our Health, our Water, our Agricultural Land, our Biodiversity and our Bush Land, and to jeopardise our ability to transition into a healthier, sustainable and restorative future on yet another 'boom/bust' unsustainable industrial solution makes no Social, Ecological or Economic sense. We are already heavily committed to and invested in the conventional oil and gas industry in this State which over the years has also come with a heavy cost to our health and our environment. Hence the world wide focus on transitioning into cleaner practices for our future.

Please listen to our scientists and all the decades of research conducted into this industry and its practices and execute the Precautionary principle as called upon by the Australian Medical Association and 28 other professional health bodies around Australia.

I would like our Government to take preventative action in the face of uncertainty.

The CSG industry, not the community, is required to demonstrate its safety which it has clearly failed to do.

I would like our Government to explore and invest in a wide range of sustainable energy alternatives: wind, solar, hydro etc so we can transition effectively to a sustainable, renewable future and meet our Paris agreement of reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

I would like our State Government to legislate to ban fracking in WA.

Yours Respectfully,  
Ceri Kately

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Sent from my iPad