

Jula Mallaby

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March 18th, 2018-03-17

This is a submission to the Independent Scientific Panel Inquiry

I am a Mental Health Support worker, also a deeply concerned community member. I have been passionate about health for over 40 years and take responsibility for my own physical and mental health as best I can and support others to do similarly.

I am writing this submission as I have been aware of the findings of the effects of the Fracking industry for over 10 years and believe unconventional gas mining and fracking to be harmful to health.

I strongly believe that fracking poses significant threats to air, water, health, public safety, climate stability, seismic stability, community cohesion, and long-term economic vitality. There is no evidence that fracking can operate without threatening public health directly or without a dangerous impact on climate stability. (Concerned Health Professionals of NY and Physicians for Social Responsibility)

Fracking threatens drinking water:

Water and chemical use and wastewater production from fracking places W.A.'s vital water resources at risk from contamination and depletion. Being one of the driest places on earth, decreased rainfall in southern W.A., we are under a growing pressure from a lack of fresh water. Putting our groundwater at further risk for a short term is not wise.

Aquifers can be contaminated by fracking: through water seeping from leaking wells, from faults induced by fracking, from surface spills of produced water involved in the fracking process and contaminated water from the gas source per se.

I urge the inquiry to make a recommendation to permanently ban fracking and all unconventional gas mining in Western Australia.

Jula Mallaby