

Dr Tom Hatton,
Chair Independent Science Panel
Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation
Locked Bag 33
Cloisters Square
PERTH WA 6850

Dear Sir,

I am a Kimberley resident and I SUPPORT hydraulic fracturing.

My name is Marcia Finger and I am an owner of Debessa Station, about 180km north east of Broome.

As a pastoralist in the Kimberley I have an interest in the current debate on the merits of hydraulic fracturing for the extraction of oil or gas and its effect on the environment. In particular I am interested in water as I require it to graze my cattle.

Please see my points below about community impacts in support of hydraulic fracturing.

GAS RESOURCES IN THE KIMBERLEY

It is my understanding that the estimated amount of gas in the Canning Basin could sustain an industry for up to 40 years. This would

In such a remote region with limited employment opportunities and industry, it would irresponsible for the inquiry to recommend and the state government to ban a process that could extract the tight gas that could sustain an industry for up to 40 years, which would create local employment and commercial opportunities.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

SOCIAL LICENCE

The oil and gas industry is welcome in the Kimberley and has contributed more to the region than environmental activists ever will.

The oil and gas industry has a social licence, whereas the activists trying to ban hydraulic fracturing are constantly misleading the public and have a negative impact on the livelihoods of local people do not.

It is my understanding that the amount of gas that is present in the Canning Basin could sustain a 40 year industry. This would provide a significant amount of long term jobs that would employ residents in an area where well paying, stable jobs are scarce.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The oil and gas industry sponsors a number of community events in remote locations that would otherwise not occur without the support of the industry. These include the Fitzroy Rodeo, Kimberly Photographic Awards, Derby Art Prize and Noonkanbah Rodeo. These events are extremely important when you live in a remote area.

The amenity and enjoyment of the areas where gas exploration occurs will not be affected. The area where hydraulic fracturing could occur is very remote and occurs in flat, featureless areas. These areas have very limited tourism potential as they are remote, do not have easy access, and are very hot so they will not affect the tourism industry. As these areas are remote they do not have any residential dwellings nearby and will not affect people living in the area.

Regards

Marcia Finger